



St Ursula's Convent School

The Weekly

Week Ending
25th June 2021
Issue Number 035



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families remain safe and well.

Well done to all students during this assessment week.

Everyone has worked hard and I am sure students in years 7, 8 and 9 will be relieved when the weekend finally arrives and they can relax. Please remember year 10 who have another week of exams.

We finally say goodbye to year 11 who are officially "off" roll after today. We hope they enjoy a lovely summer and we look forward to seeing them on results day.

I am pleased to tell you that the changes to the uniform policy have now been ratified by governors. Please see the attached policy with the changes highlighted. We will go through this policy with students in assemblies as soon as possible over the next few weeks.

Students are now able to wear the approved trousers. Please note students can only wear the approved trousers which currently are only available in Baliwoods in Lewisham. Changes to the hair policy also become effective immediately. Please also note there are no other changes to the policy other than those indicated. Our expectations have not changed and we ask that all students maintain our high standards of uniform.

To assist our on-going Anti Racist work we have had further INSET this week led by Mrs Elderfield, who works for the Education Commission. Further training for students is scheduled for Tuesday next week.

We will continue to update you on this important improvement work.

I wish you all a restful weekend.

Catrina Hamilton
Headteacher





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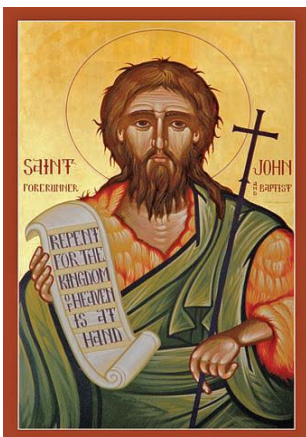
We are now in the exam season, a time when it's easy to feel overwhelmed and anxious. It is in these times when we need turn to the Lord, to fix our gaze upon Him and allow Him to calm and restore us with His peace.

A CELTIC PRAYER

*Calm me Lord as you stilled the storm;
still me, Lord, keep me from harm.
Let all the tumult within me cease.
Enfold me, Lord, in your peace.
AMEN*



There have been two notable feast days this week: Saints John Fisher and Thomas More on Tuesday and the Birthday of St. John the Baptist on Thursday. All three men showed great courage in holding firm to the truth and all lost their lives as a consequence. These saints are also examples of how to be humble and detached from worldly power, riches and influence. May we grow in faith and courage holding firm to what we know to be right and may we allow the Lord to enter ever more fully into our hearts and minds.



St. John the Baptist



**Saints John Fisher and
Thomas More**

PRAY FOR US



Accent Catering

Every year Accent do a new marketing plan for the year.
This year it was vegetables **WELL SEASONED**.
June was beetroot



IMPORTANT NOTICE

If at any point in the future your child tests positive for Covid, it is essential that you inform the school as soon as possible, even if it is after school hours or at the weekend. In the event that your child does test positive, please email:

covid@stursulas.com

This email will be checked regularly and a member of the Senior Leadership Team will contact you as soon as the email is picked up. We will have to gather information from your child about who they have been in contact with. This information is required by Public Health England, they will then advise us on the next steps.



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During the hot weather, it is important that we all stay hydrated.

Please ensure your child has a water bottle with them every day.

Notices



Attendance Reminder

Please ensure that holidays are not booked during term time.

Attendance Officer

Year 10 Summer Exam Timetable now available on the school website

<https://www.stursulas.com/curriculum/exams/>

WELL DONE THIS WEEK AND GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR REVISION!



Please remember that your child needs to have **two face masks** with them **every day**.

As a school we are **spending £ per week** giving out face masks to students who , for whatever reason, do not have a face covering. **This is money that should be spent on your child's education.**



Holiday Activities & Food Programme

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope you are well and that your child/ren is enjoying the summer term and the warm weather!



Ahead of the summer holidays, we wanted to let you know about the brilliant new Holiday Activities and Food programme which is operating in your local area. We are helping to launch a new film to promote the programme so parents know that their children can get involved in a local holiday club when the school term ends this July.

We know that the holidays can be a really difficult time for families who are struggling to make ends meet or who are juggling work and childcare. The holidays should be a time for every child to enjoy themselves rather than worrying about having enough to eat or how they can spend their free time.

That's why we're really excited about the summer holiday programmes that are being funded by the Government and will take place across the whole of England. This was recommended by the National Food Strategy when it was published last year. A petition supporting the recommendation was signed by over 1 million people.

Places on the holiday schemes are available for free to children who receive free school meals, but children and young people of all ages and backgrounds are welcome to attend. Each local programme will provide delicious, healthy meals, allow kids to get active, help them learn new things, make friends and have fun. And that is what the holidays are all about!

You can find out more by watching this new film that we've made: <https://youtu.be/KDgm8KpXAXE>

The holiday programmes are open to children of any age and are free for children eligible for free school meals. They will:

- Provide a safe and supportive environment for children
- Be led by experienced local coordinators teaming up with a range of different partners in their communities
- Serve children tasty and nutritious food and opportunities to learn about food and nutrition
- Organise lots of activities so every child can find something they enjoy - from Kung Fu and cooking to bushcraft.
- Keep children and young people happy, healthy and active
- Offer a flexible childcare option for busy parents

You can find out exactly what's available in your local area either by visiting your council's website or by searching online for HAF (that stands for Holiday Activity and Food).

We hope you and your family have a great summer with the Holiday Activities and Food programme!

Yours sincerely,

Marcus Rashford MBE

Henry Dimpleby MBE (Founder of Leon, Independent Lead of the National Food Strategy)



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2021 London Historical Stories Competition Winners

*Year 8 studied London in the 17th and 18th centuries and wrote some exciting and historically accurate stories featuring the Plague and the Great Fire of London amongst other topics. These are the winners and you can read their stories in the History department.

- 1st Prize-**Lily Goreham** 'Disastrous'.
- 2nd Prize-**Wemi Adebayo** 'The Bleeding revenge'.
- 3rd Prize-**Asia Nandan** 'Finding out a secret'.
- 4th Prize- **Nomshu-Jonathan-Jock**- 'Blanche Petronella Addington'.
- 5th Prize- **Ava Morris**- 'La Peste Bubonica'.



Ava Morris wrote a very original story full of well researched facts and vivid vocabulary that really brought the terror of the Plague to Life!

"I could see her eyes were full of tears and she tried but couldn't smile".

Nomshu-Johnathon-Jocks story was detailed and full of accurate and interesting historical detail that made it an exciting read!

"But my nightmare had come true, a few miles away from my house there was fire everywhere, the ash engulfed the air".

Asia Nandan wrote a dramatic well-presented story, illustrating the fire in great detail through a well thought out plot!

"The entire building blew up. Pieces of wood flying out at any moment. My body felt broken".

Wemi Adebayo wrote a superb thriller featuring lots of well researched and interesting characters.

"For freedom is a gift, and all those who receive it do not do so with the purest heart, innocent mind and cleanest hands".

Lily Goreham's story was a very entertaining and dramatic tale that referenced the fire in an interesting way and had an intriguing ending.

"It's finally over, the fire stopped spreading, the screams were silent and the injuries were healing".

Well done to all the winners!





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MFL COMPETITION TIME!



The MFL department has just registered with the Stephen Spender Trust for a new exciting competition.

'SST is inspired by the cultural activism of Stephen Spender, poet and champion of international literature. We celebrate multilingualism and literary translation through a range of initiatives, including our Poetry in Translation Prize and Creative Translation in the Classroom programmes.'

This new competition involves poetry once again but in a different format. This time the focus is on translation. Students get to pick a poem in a foreign language, ANY LANGUAGE, and have to translate it into English. They also need to write up a 300 word annotation to explain how they translated it and what obstacles they had.

There are cash prizes of up to £100 for each successful candidate (3 will be chosen by the judges in charge of this competition) as well as being an excellent opportunity for students to look at other languages apart from French and Spanish.

Please refer to the website for more details :

<https://www.stephen-spender.org/stephen-spender-prize/>

A google classroom announcement has gone out for students to register their interest. Closing date for all submissions is 16th July 2021.



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PAYING FOR LOST OR DAMAGED LIBRARY BOOKS

A new 'Library Fee' section has been added to ParentPay to make paying for lost or damaged library books easier for parents and pupils. This will show as "£1-£75" on your ParentPay account, this is not a charge, but simply a facility for you to enter your own amount should you be contacted by email or letter about outstanding library fees. You do not need to pay anything until you are contacted with an itemisation of the books and what is owed.

Miss Deegan is recalling all library books that are overdue. Some books have been overdue for more than one year. There are currently over 1,000 overdue books and this is hampering the running of the library. Miss Deegan will be conducting an audit of library stock over the summer holidays and if a book is overdue by more than 6 months it will be marked as lost and a charge will be issued for a replacement. Please remind and encourage your daughters to check their Oliver library loan section and return any overdue books to the designated library boxes at school.

If pupils have lost their login details they need to contact Miss Deegan on Google Classroom.



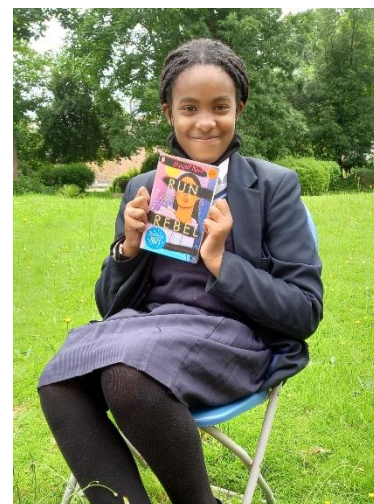
Carnegie Shadowing Book Club 2021



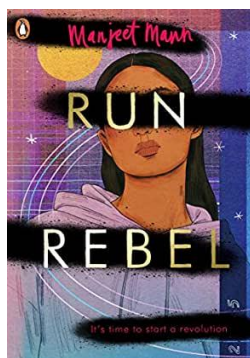
Thursday 17th was the first meeting of Year 7 Carnegie Prize shadowing group, organised by Miss Deegan and Ms Cahalane, with 7 Catherine students Anna-Belle, Shabeena, Favour, Polly, Olivia, Emma Angel, Shontelle, Michelle, and Grace K attending. The students have read 'The Girl Who Speaks Bear' by Sophie Anderson, an imaginative and unusual read. The readers discussed the opening, characters and what hooks the reader into the book. The group also discussed how the reading group had expanded their appreciation of other genres and has led to them having a more diverse reading list for the future. Overall, students showed themselves to be keen, open and discerning readers.

The next meeting on Thursday 24th June was for year 8, who are reading 'Run Rebel', by Manjeet Mann (winner of the Carnegie Shadowers Choice for 2021!). Ms Cahalane and Miss Deegan had a wonderful discussion with the group about the style of the book (in verse) and how the poetry added emotional power to the story of the main character. Well done to Nomshu for some very insightful points!

Year 9s book club for 'Clap When you Land' by Elizabeth Acevedo will be on Thursday 1st July.



There will be an whole KS3 book club meeting on Thursday 8th July 2021 where the respective book clubs will tell each other about what they read and their impressions!





Year 11 Book Returns 2021

On Wednesday 16th June 2021 Year 11 visited school in order to return textbooks and donate revision guides and uniform. Thank you to all the pupils that did so! The final date for returning all school property and making donations will be on results day on **12th August**. Payments for lost school items can be made on ParentPay under the 'Library Fee' section. If this is not possible other arrangements can be made with prior notification with the finance department.

Flash Fiction Competition!

'This is not what I expected...'

- Words: 600 max.
- Submission on Google Classroom in the Miss Deegan and Ms Cahalane by Fri 16th July 2021
- Feedback on all submissions that follow the brief correctly!

Requirements:

- An original piece of flash fiction writing no longer than 600 words inspired by the sentence 'this is not what I expected' which **MUST** be included somewhere in your piece.
- Do not cheat! Copied entries will be thrown in the bin!
- Be concise and descriptive
- Use sensory language
- Use Literary devices
- Pay attention to Structure, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation!

Top tips:

- Have your description move
- Choose one image to elaborately describe.
- Aim to have an ending - which can be symbolic or open.

PRIZES:

- Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and names/work in the weekly newsletter!



Literary Device Ideas!

Metaphor
Simile
Rule of three
Repetition
Alliteration
Sibilance
Assonance
Oxymoron
Structure
Sensory language
And many more...



Read eBooks online!

While pupils are at home or on the move they can still access hundreds of eBooks online with our ePlatform! They can search them easily through our Oliver Library System and then be redirected to ePlatform to login and read!

Oliver Library System

<https://stursulas.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/news>



ePlatform Ebooks

<https://stursulascs.eplatform.co/>



An instruction manual on how pupils can access the eBooks through Oliver, or just login to the ePlatform directly is in their Library Google Classroom. Pupils can obtain lost login details by messaging Miss Deegan in Google Classroom. There are over 1,000 eBooks to choose from!

All the links needed are here!:

<https://padlet.com/stulibrary/klnusczmsjdv3qta>

DOWNLOAD THE EPLATFORM APP FOR MOBILE READING!

In addition to the ePlatform website, pupils can download the ePlatform eBook reader as an app to their device and read on a tablet, smartphone or mobile computer! There are even options to download and read offline!

<https://stursulascs.eplatform.co/help/apps/eplatform-app>