



St Ursula's Convent School

The Weekly

Week Ending
9th July 2021
Issue Number 037



Dear Parents and Carers

The term is almost at a close and all of the assessments and exams are finished. Well done to all the students. Their teachers are now working hard to get all the marking done and the reports ready to go out before the end of term.



This week the PE department have been holding sports day events in the year group bubbles. I visited one of the sports day events yesterday and was so impressed by the organisation and the engagement of all the students.

Year 7 and 8 have had a retreat day this week, for more information please see the chaplains section of this newsletter.

We are planning more enrichment activities over the next week. The pastoral team will send details once they are finalised.

I have had communication today from a local shop to say that some students have refused to wear masks and on a few occasions have been very rude in their response to being told to wear them. The wearing of masks is compulsory in all shops and I ask that you reinforce this with your child. Please also impress upon that rudeness to the local shopkeepers is not acceptable as it brings the school into disrepute.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of the teenager who was murdered on his way home from school during this week. This is a tragic event and the Local Authority is treating the incident very seriously. The police are still investigating the murder and have asked us to remind students that there is a dispersal zone in Woolwich and that students should avoid the area. Please do speak to your child about this as it is for their safety that they should not go into the dispersal zones.

I hope you and your families remain safe and well.

I wish you all a lovely weekend and hope that you all enjoy the football on Sunday.

Catrina Hamilton
Headteacher



St Ursula's Convent School

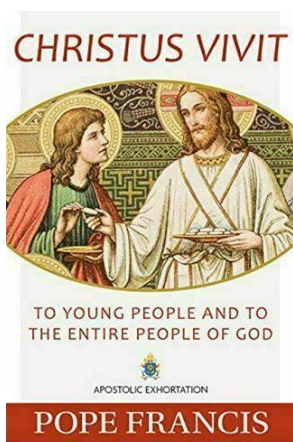
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"You are the Now of God"

(Pope Francis speaking in Panama at the World Youth Day closing Mass, 29/1/19)



"Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive!" (*Christus Vivit*)

This week Year 7 and Year 8 each had a retreat day based upon Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation to Young People, *Christus Vivit*. Despite the fact that some students were self-isolating at home, thanks to the internet and Google Meet, we were able to come together as a year group for a day of prayer, reflection and activities. Here are some of the students' feedback comments about how they felt after the day: *"I am more informed about how young people can spread the word of Christ"; "I feel a lot closer to God and more at peace with myself"; "happy and relaxed knowing that anyone can be a saint whether young or old. There is always a chance"; "I felt more alive and happy knowing God is with me :)"*



Pope Francis' prayer intention for July is for 'Social Friendship'.

"We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship." To watch his latest prayer video, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjaOjJ1oqkU>

This Sunday is SEA SUNDAY, a day when we are invited to think very especially of seafarers and to support them with our prayers and donations. Almost 95% of what we consume in this country arrives by ship. We are dependent upon seafarers, many of whom spent many months away from their families, to bring us what we need. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought extra challenges for this community, as it has for us all. Please remember those at sea in your prayers this weekend.



Stella Maris is the Catholic charity which supports seafarers, fishers and their families in the UK and abroad. To find out more about their work, click [here](#).



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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

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.



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.**



Catering News

Thursday 8th July

Wimbledon themed cakes, made by the catering team



Music News

Congratulations to Abisola Tubo-Collazos



Abisola achieved a distinction in her grade 2 violin exam. (This is the highest award you can get in an abrsm grade exam). She has made exceptional progress in year 7 and is a wonderful student to teach.

Edmund



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)



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 8th July was the final meeting of KS3 Carnegie Prize shadowing group, organised by Miss Deegan and Ms Cahalane. Year 9 chaired the meeting and pupils asked questions about each other's books and gave their thoughts about their own! Well done everyone!

Watch this space next year for more news about Book Clubs and Competitions!

Library Poster Competition!

Miss Deegan would like new posters to advertise reading and the library!

The poster must be hand-drawn – no printing!

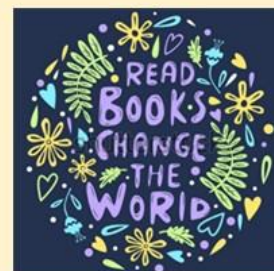
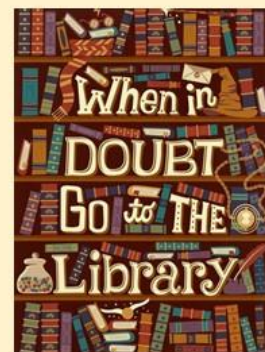
You must include 'St Ursula's Library' somewhere in your poster. You must use the whole page for your artwork!

You have the option of:

- Illustrating a catchy reading slogan for the library (see example)
- Illustrating a quote from a book (see example)
- Using different art styles and referencing your favourite books!

Be as creative as you want! It can be any art medium (felt tip, pencil, paint, collage etc.) The best designs will be used around the school and in the newsletter. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place!

DEADLINE: Monday 6th September 2021 – hand in to Miss Deegan in the library!





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>