

14 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians

Headteacher's Newsletter 109

I would like to start this week's Newsletter with a message from Inspector Kathy Morteo, Safer Schools, in relation to the recent reporting of alleged abduction attempts in our area:

"Officers have made extensive enquiries to establish the circumstances of the alleged abduction attempts since receiving the first report on 30 April. This includes speaking to the children and families affected, checking CCTV, knocking on doors and speaking to witnesses and schools.

At this time the cases are not thought to be linked, and so far we have not found any corroborating evidence that these were attempted abductions as reported. Officers continue with their investigations.

Superintendent Andy Brittain, from the local policing team in south London, said: "I understand the concerns of parents in light of these reports and the subsequent discussion and rumour on social media. We always advise parents to be vigilant when it comes to the safety of young children, however there is nothing to suggest there is a specific risk at this time."

You will continue to see officers out and about across Bromley and I would encourage the public to speak with them about any concerns they have. I would also suggest those living in the area follow the @MPSBromley account on Twitter, which is used by officers to engage with the community.

Any alleged abduction attempt is taken seriously and thoroughly investigated, but thankfully, child kidnappings or abductions are incredibly rare."

From 17 May 2021, new advice applies to the use of face coverings by staff and pupils in schools in England. This advice is in line with Step 3 of the roadmap from Monday. I hope you agree that we have to consider this guidance in our own context, so we felt it was important that face coverings were not removed completely for staff and pupils. We have decided that it will be down to the discretion of the member of staff or the situation as to whether face coverings will need to be worn in a classroom. Pupils can still wear them in the classroom if they wish, even though the class may be able to remove them. Pupils will still be required to wear face coverings in communal areas, such as corridors. I am fully aware that there will be many parents, students and staff who have differing views, and finding complete agreement on this issue has been a challenge. We will continue to review this moving forward, especially as cases increase or decrease in the community.



May I continue to remind you if anyone tests positive following an LFD test, you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of must self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. You will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school. **Do not send your child into school while you or anyone within your household waits for the result.** You need to continue to report your result (positive, negative or void) to both NHS Test and Trace and to school. Please click on the following [link](#) to report your test result to school.



This term has seen a welcome return to competitive sporting fixtures against other schools. Cricket fixtures, both mid-week and on Saturdays, have been undertaken and it has been refreshing to see so many pupils engaged in these activities. Last Saturday saw us play against Sir Joseph Williamson Mathematical School and record victories for the Year 7, 8 and 9 teams. Cup fixtures have also been undertaken with

the Year 9 team pushing through into the next round of the Kent Cup with several fixtures yet to be played. Tennis and athletics fixtures are also on the horizon. With over 70 Year 7 students at extra-curricular training for cricket, athletics, tennis and Fives this week, the future certainly looks positive!

Thank you to everyone who entered the Senior Prefect Teams' competition based on the theme 'Community'. A selection of the entries can be seen below and we will announce the winner of the competition in next week's Newsletter.



Congratulations to Year 9 student, Alfie, who won the Norman Trotman BYMT Rotary Music Competition on 8 May 2021. Alfie performed 'Can you Feel the Love Tonight' on alto saxophone to win the competition. The event was live streamed on the evening to enable more people to watch, and Alfie also recorded his final rehearsal, which can be seen by following this [link](#).

We are pleased to announce that the second issue of the Hypertext St. Olave's Computer Science Journal is now on sale via sQuid. It is full of fascinating articles ranging from 'GPT-3' to 'Fractals'. This publication aims to give an insight into aspects of Computer Science beyond the curriculum and show the proactivity and passion that our pupils have about studying machine learning and algorithm bias. I hope parents and pupils enjoy reading the articles.



It is pleasing to know that our Duke of Edinburgh programme is gaining momentum once more. Bronze, Silver and Gold assessments are being planned for May, June, July and August. Bronze and Silver expeditions will take place locally in the Kent countryside and Gold expeditions will travel further afield to Snowdonia and the Black Mountains. Confidence, resilience and teamwork are just some of the skills young people gain by doing DofE, which can help them in life by improving their chances of moving forward in education or work. Please contact Mr Holland or Mrs Andrews if you would like more information about the various awards.

Friday 30 April was Cultural Celebration Day, which saw many pupils coming into school dressed in their cultural attire and a Cultural Acts Video was also made available students, staff and parents. The three pupils who won 'best dressed', having been nominated by their peers, were Oliver Soo from 8B, Varun Srinivasan from 11M and Aliyyah Ibitoye from 12V. Overall, the day's event raised £694 which will be donated towards Refugee Action. If you have made a donation and the cookbook has not yet been sent to the student's email, please contact jahcure.dixon@saintolaves.net.



I would like to highlight further student achievements and activities which have taken place recently:

- Congratulations to Year 12 students Isaiah Akpovwa and Korede Sanusi, who have been selected to play for Saracens U18s.
- Well done to Year 13 student, Srikar Namireddy, who has signed a one-year professional contract with Speedo following his qualification for the World Swimming Championships.

We all want our children to be successful socially, emotionally and academically, but most of all we want them to be happy. In this week's Teen Tips, they will explore how we can create environments which give children the permission to succeed without the pressure to succeed. You can register for this, which does have a cost, by following this [link](#).



Please make a note in your diaries that the Prayer Meeting for the parents and supporters of St. Olave's will take place on Saturday 22 May at 12 noon on Zoom. Please follow this [link](#) to the meeting or use these login details: Meeting ID: 865 4122 4952 Passcode: VzH4Z0

Please see the Appendices below for further Careers news from Mrs Platts, and information about reading from Mrs Martine, our librarian.

I hope you and your families have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Rees', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Andrew Rees
Headteacher

The [St. Olave's website](#) and Twitter page - [@saintolaves](#) has many more stories of student endeavour and success. Please do keep sending me news items and student successes either via colleagues or email. The email address is publicityteam@saintolaves.net. Do not forget to include all the details along with a high-resolution photo you are willing to share and have published on the school website.

If you would like to donate into the Voluntary Fund to support the development of our school and enhance learning, and you are not already doing so, please follow this [link](#) to the Virgin Money Giving webpage.

Appendix 1

Careers News

Students in Year 11 have managed to participate in virtual work experience despite the challenges of the last year. They have used the Springpod platform to search for opportunities and undertaken engineering, law, finance and management virtual experiences. The Medic Mentor and InvestIN programmes have also been popular even though they were not free of charge. Bursaries are available in some cases, so it is worthwhile enquiring. There are more opportunities coming up through the summer so please seek these out via the information posted for students on Moodle and via our website where there are links to university information websites as well.



unifrog Unifrog is currently running a programme of after school webinars covering aspects of results day, study at Dutch universities, careers in criminology, law and business as well as a masterclass in CV and cover letter writing. All students can login and also build their profile.

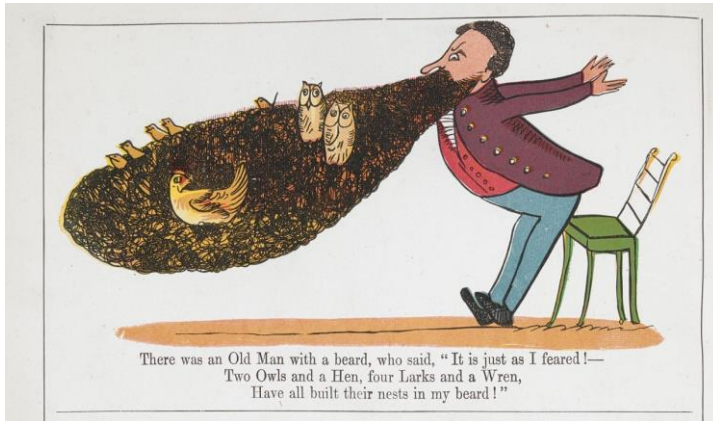
St George's, University of London, is also hosting webinars intended this time for Year 12 students. The information provided will be enhanced by the chance to ask current students about their experience of applying and studying at St George's. The Medicine application process is covered on 18



May at 4.00 to 5.00 pm. This is followed by another webinar on healthcare courses and careers on 27 May at the same time. Students wishing to register should use the link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6523400702929337868?source=CAT+B2>

A solicitor apprenticeship is offered from September this year by Manchester firm, DLA Piper. This is a six year degree apprenticeship programme leading to the solicitor qualification of LLB (Hons) in Legal Practice and Skills as well as leading on to further solicitors' qualifications (SRA) and (SQE). The application deadline is 21 May at 5pm. The apprentice will move between the firm's offices gaining a variety of experience and skills. Pro bono work, networking and social events will all be part of the bespoke apprenticeship programme. For more information and to register: <https://www.dlapipergraduates.com/uk/opportunities/>. Our Solicitor Apprenticeship is a 6-year programme providing you with the opportunity to become a qualified solicitor with a degree level 7.

Appendix 2



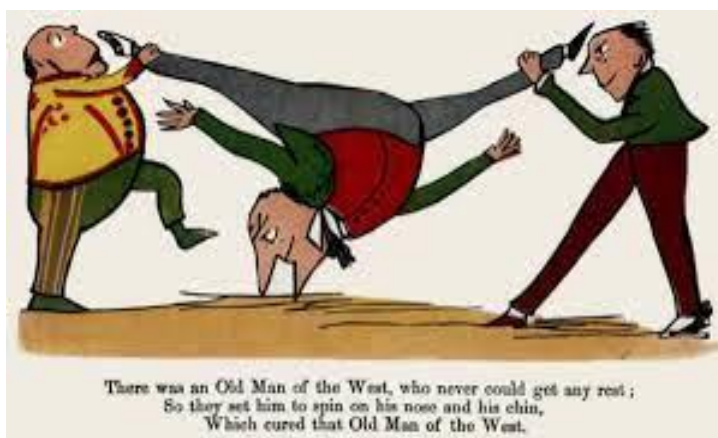
Edward Lear's *Book of Nonsense* in the year 1846.

National Limerick Day is observed annually on 12 May

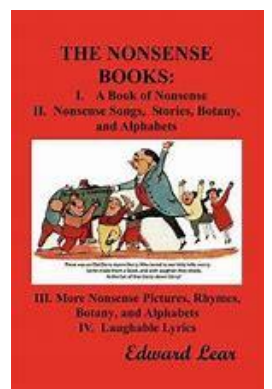
The National Limerick Day celebrates the birthday of English artist, illustrator, author and poet Edward Lear who was born on 12 May 1812.



The limerick poems were made popular by the publishing




The Limerick is basically known as a very short humorous poem. There are mostly five lines within a limerick. The first two lines rhyme with the fifth line and the third and the fourth lines rhyme together. The limericks have a rhythm which is officially described as an anapestic trimeter.





Below are some modern Limericks for you to read and enjoy:

There was a young fellow of Crete
Who was so exceedingly neat
When he got out of bed
He stood on his head
To make sure of not soiling his feet.




There once was a runner named Dwight
Who could speed even faster than light.
He set out one day
In a relative way
And returned on the previous night.


The incredible Wizard of Oz
Retired from his business because
Due to up-to-date science
To most of his clients
He wasn't the Wizard he was.




There once was a girl in the choir
Whose voice rose up hoir and hoir,
Till it reached such a height
It went clear out of seight,
And they found it next day in the spoir.



A tutor who tooted a flute
Tried to teach two young tooters to toot.
Said the two to the tutor,
"Is it harder to toot, or . . .
To tutor two tooters to toot?"



Is Algebra fruitless endeavor?
It seems they've been trying for ever
To find x, y, and z
And it's quite clear to me:
If they've not found them yet
then they'll never.



Any comments or questions, kindly email librarian@saintolaves.net.