

ST IGNATIUS NEWSLETTER

10.10.2025



'Achieving our best by learning together and serving one another with Christ by our side'



KS2 Grandparents' Afternoon

Dear Parents / Carers,

Well, what a way to end a week at school. We have had the most wonderful afternoon welcoming grandparents from many of our key stage two families. For those who have not been able to get a place this time, we will prioritise you next year. We had an afternoon of tea, cakes, and presentations from every year group. It was truly a very moving and special afternoon. Thank you to all those who have supported to bring this together. Thank you also to the Year 6 pupils who were able to live out one of our Catholic Social Teaching Values of dignity by showing respect to our elders.

Pope Leo provided us with things to focus on and think of during a time of social turbulence in our society. We are reminded that as Catholics we are called to love one another and reach out to those in need. I attach a [link](#) to his words, which certainly, for me, reminded me of our call to model values of kindness, understanding and acceptance of others no matter where they are from. We often talk to the children about our brothers and sisters around the world. I ask you to help me reinforce positive messages to your children.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONDAY 13TH OCTOBER
Year 6 PGL Trip

TUESDAY 14TH OCTOBER
Year 6 PGL Trip

WEDNESDAY 15TH OCTOBER
Year 6 PGL Trip
Open Afternoon @ 1.30pm

THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER
Year 6 PGL Trip
Open Morning @ 9.30am

FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER
Year 6 PGL Trip
Year 5 Swimming

As mentioned in one of my posts on Class DoJos this week, I was truly humbled, proud and delighted to see high calibre of both teaching and learning, and quality of books in religion this week. The staff know me quite well now and know that I do not give praise unless I can evidence it and see it. I praise in abundance this week to the dedication of the staff, the hard work of the children, and finally the support you give to your children and the school.

Finally, the support with fundraising for the clamber tree for the Reception classrooms has been quite remarkable this week. I saw boxes, cakes and a whole host of delicious things being delivered in the mornings to be sold to families, what I also saw as I observed with smiles, laughs and a real community feel. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Have a wonderful weekend, God bless.

Ms Murphy - Headteacher



Trips/Workshops Reminders

Please be reminded of payments due for the following trips and workshops. All payments can be made via [SCOPAY](#).

- **Year 5 - Science Museum Trip**
 - Payment due by Friday 31st October. The trip will take place on Friday 14th November for Year 5
- **Year 1 - Toys of the Past Workshop**
 - Payment due by Thursday 20th November. The workshop will take place in school on Thursday 27th November for Year 1

School Office

Welfare Notice

Our school welfare office is currently running low on trucksuit bottoms (small sizes) and boys socks. If you are able to donate either of these items it would be highly appreciated. Please drop them off at the School Office.

School Welfare Team

The School Improvement Fund

Through becoming part of the **Ascension Catholic Academy Trust** in December 2022, St. Ignatius currently has access to something called the '**Schools Condition Allocation**' received by the Trust. This year, the Trust also been successful in obtaining grants for capital projects across the Trust's schools totalling over £1 million. This is positive but it will only go part of the way to provide a learning environment for our children that they deserve. To maintain the high standard of education that we provide across all our schools, we need your support more than ever before.

Your previous contributions to our Governors' Funds have raised significant amounts for our school and have helped us deliver projects such as the inspiring wall art that visitors and pupils to St. Ignatius may have seen. This year we will be delivering the following capital projects, supported by the contributions you have made to date and continue to make to projects at our school.

Our suggested contribution is £90 annually, per pupil, however any contribution counts and we are incredibly grateful for anything you feel able to offer. Equally, we fully recognise that there will be families that will understandably be facing other cost pressures, so please do not feel any pressure or expectation to donate.

If you feel able to donate, you can make any payments through your existing SCOPAY account. Just go to '**View Products**' and then scroll down to '**Optional Trips and Events**' and then choose '**School Improvement Fund**' from the list.

Alternatively, you can make a payment via a bank transfer (details below) or through the attached standing order form (please return to the School Office).

Account: Westminster RC Diocese Trustee - St Ignatius Sunbury SBF

Account no: 00277372

Sort code: 16-01-09

On behalf of all Governors, I thank you for supporting the children of St. Ignatius.

Thanks & Kind Regards,

Mrs Hall - School Office

Ten:Ten Resources

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout October, and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

[Parent Newsletter](#)

Ms Murphy - Headteacher and Mrs Vander Vloet

Parent Questionnaire - *Reception Parents Only*

This **Reception** parent questionnaire is part of our ongoing school self review and improvement cycle that will help devise our School Improvement Plan for the Early Years. Within each term we like to review the progress we have made in teaching and learning as well as identify the areas of focus for continued improvement for the future.

We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete the attached questionnaire, via the link below, so that your suggestions can be included.

[Parent Survey](#)

Many thanks,

EYFS Team

Pupil Survey - *Years 1, 2 and 6 only*

If your child is in Years 1, 2 or 6 and they haven't yet completed the Pupil Survey we are extending the deadline to **Friday 17th October**. Please help your child to complete the form but ensure that the answers are completely their own and not your thoughts. It is very important to us that we hear their voice and can continue to ensure they receive the best curriculum possible.

[Pupil Survey](#)

Years 3, 4 and 5 have been completing their forms during ICT lessons.

Ms Murphy - Headteacher

Early Help

St Ignatius has added **Internal Early Help Support** to its safeguarding provision. This includes much of the support we already provide to children and families, but we want to make you more aware of what we can offer to help.

The purpose of Early Help is to prevent issues and problems becoming serious and harmful to a child or young person, their family and community. When children and families need this extra support, they often need it quickly. At St Ignatius, we offer a range of Early Help support and during a child's time at our school, many of them and their families will access some form of early help.

Please read the information on our website about Early Help at St Ignatius, or contact me at the school directly if you would like to arrange a meeting. We are here to serve you as families of St Ignatius, so please do not hesitate to ask if we can help.

Mrs O'Neill - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Cake Donations



A huge thank you to all of the parents and carers that kindly donated lots of wonderful cakes today to help make our Grandparents' Afternoon so special. Your support in this event was much appreciated.

Ms Murphy - Headteacher

PE Reminders

Year 5 & 6 Girls Football Team

A huge well done to the girls who played in their tournament last Thursday. For a lot of the girls this was their first ever experience of competitive football. They all played extremely well and had 1 win, 1 draw and a couple of narrow losses. **Mr Ivins** and **Miss Casman** were immensely proud of all the girls who displayed excellent sportsmanship, effort and determination. Well done girls!

The girls team will now play in league matches. I will share these dates as soon as I have them.

Year 5 & 6 Boys B Team Football

The boys B team tournament will take place on **Thursday 16th October**. If your child has been selected to play, you will receive a letter via email.

Miss Grady - PE Lead

OPAL Play

Can you help us?

We are currently looking to develop our den building area. We are looking for large pegs, plastic crates, thick rope, tarpaulin and wood of various sizes. If you have anything at home that we could use please could you let Miss Grady (a.grady@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk) or Miss Frew (t.frew@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk) know.

Additionally, if you have a contact for anyone who might be able to give us off cuts of wood that we can use for den building, please let us know.

Thank you.

Miss Grady and Miss Frew



OPAL Play Certificates



The following children have been awarded an OPAL play this week.

Golden Broom Award

- KS1 - Daisy G
- KS2 - Maicey K

Golden Welly Award

- KS1 - Sasha P
- KS2 - Alice M

Miss Frew - Assistant Headteacher

Headteacher Awards

Each week our pupils are recognised for following our school values. This week's value was **Inclusive Inaya**. During our Celebration Assembly today the following children were awarded a Headteacher Award:

Reception:

Badgers - Simar M
Hedgehogs - Alexandria S

Year 3:

3V - Orla C
3BF - Nikalas P

Year 5:

5W - Amelia W
5B - Beth C

Year 1:

1G - Reagan T
1OS - Nina H

Year 4:

4AP - Savannah S
4P - Alan K

Year 6:

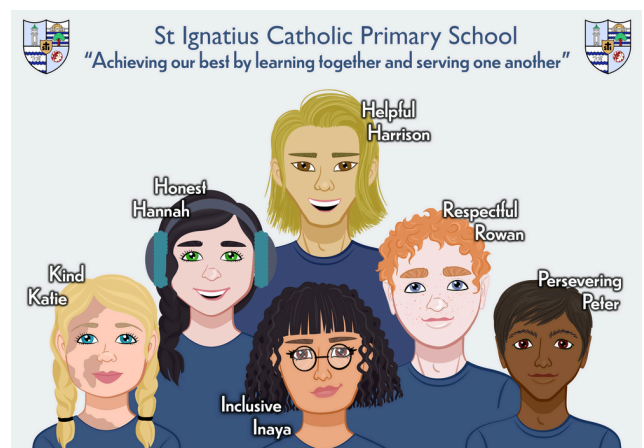
6N - Gracie D
6S - Lila M

Year 2:

2C - Juliana B
2BP - Sadie B

I am so very proud of each and every one of you!

Ms Murphy - Headteacher



Let's Celebrate

We love to hear about our pupils' achievements both inside and outside of school.

- Congratulations to **Oscar W (3V)** for achieving his Beavers Chief Scout Bronze Award. The highest award you can gain in Beavers!

If you would like your child's achievement to feature in the newsletter, please email the details along with a photograph to newsletter@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk.

Mrs Tunnicliffe - Office Manager



Wake Up Wednesdays

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

- 1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT**
Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.
- 2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE**
Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information or using "other people's" harmful explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.
- 3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY**
Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as "difficult" or "naughty." Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly disruptive. Highlight that there is no "one size fits all" children respond.
- 4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA**
Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Asking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-telling. Acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.
- 5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS**
Seemingly well-meaning comments like "It's not that bad" or "You're okay" may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.
- 6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING**
Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Use the emotion charts, drawing or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, non-judgemental way.
- 7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES**
Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, keeping a clear head, and listening to what children tell you about their feelings helps you to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.
- 8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT**
While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen or disrupt their daily life, consult with school support staff, a GP, or other professionals. A clear, consistent, and supportive environment can help with recovery and support healthy outcomes.
- 9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION**
Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the group. Regular communication, peer support, and a sense of belonging can help build resilience and a sense of belonging.
- 10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME**
There is no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be linear. Consistent support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert
This guide has been written by Anna Boleman, Anna is passionate about helping prevent the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health strategy.

Wake Up Wednesday
The National College

@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

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When children and young people experience traumatic or difficult life events, their emotional world can be shaken, and the impact may show up in their behaviour, mood, or relationships. Whether it's bereavement, a family breakdown or witnessing something distressing, the support of trusted adults can be key in helping them feel safe again. This guide looks at how to create a nurturing environment to help young people process difficult feelings.

It also shares clear, actionable strategies to promote recovery – from building emotional literacy and creating a predictable routine to recognising signs that further help may be needed. Sensitive language, patience, and presence all play a part in empowering children to move forward at their own pace. With the right support, they can rebuild a sense of security and resilience.

Miss Partington - Year 4 Class Teacher

EXTERNAL NOTICES

Please be advised that whilst we share external advertisements, St Ignatius does not personally endorse/recommend any of these companies.



FUNWEEKS

OCTOBER HALF TERM

ACTIVE CAMP



BE QUICK!
EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT
ENDS ON 22/10/25



**ST IGNATIUS PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



**MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER -
WEDNESDAY 29TH OCTOBER**



FOR CHILDREN IN YEARS 1 - 7



10% SIBLING DISCOUNT



9AM - 3PM



INFO@THEPSDGROUP.ORG.UK



0203 397 7409



THEPSDGROUPUK



SCAN TO BOOK

SPORTS



ARTS & CRAFTS

PRIZES

HALLOWEEN DISCO

EARLY BIRD PRICING:

**BOOK BEFORE
MIDDAY ON
22ND OCT**

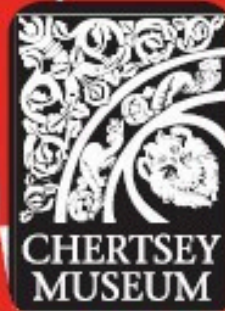
£25.00

**BOOK AFTER
MIDDAY ON
22ND OCT**

£26.50

BOOK ONLINE:

WWW.THEPSDGROUP.ORG.UK/PSD-FUNWEEKS



October Holiday Activities

Egg Carton Animal Portraits

Tuesday 28th Oct
11am-12pm or 2-3pm
Ages 5-12, £4.00

Come along to the museum and
create an animal portrait from an
egg carton!

Spooky Skeletons and Witches' Potion

Thursday 30th Oct
11am-12:30pm or 2-3:30pm
Ages 5-12, £4.50

Create a paper skeleton decoration
and then mix up a witches' potion!

**All 5 year olds must be accompanied.
Booking is essential for all activities**

Book online at
<https://chertsey-museum.arttickets.org.uk> or
by phone: 01932 565 764

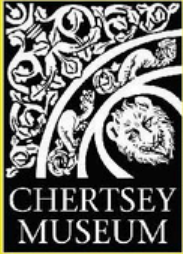
www.chertseymuseum.org/events

Call 01932 565764 to book your place

The Olive Mathews
COLLECTION

Runnymede
BOROUGH COUNCIL





For All
The
Family

1st Saturday
of the month
1.30pm-3.30pm

Museum Makes

Join us for a fun family craft activity where imagination
meets history in a hands-on experience for all ages!



FREE
DROP IN
SESSION



Chertsey Museum, 33 Windsor Street, Chertsey KT16 8AT
chertseymuseum.org

Runnymede
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Autumn Term 2025

Monday 13th October - Year 6 PGL Trip (All Week)

Wednesday 15th October - Open Afternoon @ 1.30pm

Thursday 16th October - Open Morning @ 9.30am

Monday 20th October - Year 6 Learn to Ride Course

Tuesday 21st October - Year 6 Learn to Ride Course

Monday 20th October - Parents Evening @ 3.30pm

Tuesday 21st October - Parents Evening @ 3.30pm

Wednesday 22nd October - American Themed Lunch Day

Wednesday 22nd October - PTA AGM Meeting (online) @ 7pm

Thursday 23rd October - INSET Day

Safeguarding

Governors and staff of St Ignatius share an objective to help keep children safe by:

- Providing a safe environment for them to learn
- Identifying children who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking appropriate action.

Please read through the safeguarding guidance documents on this page, which include those designed for children. Please contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads below should you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child.

You can do this by calling the school directly, or emailing: dsl@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

You can also find out more about how we teach safety to children on our [Safety Curriculum](#) page, in the Curriculum section of the website.

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL):

Mrs E O'Neill - Deputy Headteacher

DEPUTY DSL:

Mrs H Murphy - Headteacher

Miss T Frew - Assistant Headteacher

Mrs I Barkworth - SENDCo

Mrs L Whittington - KS2 Lead

Miss Z Palmer - KS1 Lead

Any concerns can be discussed with a DSL. If you have any concerns that involve the Headteacher, please contact the **Ascension Catholic Academy Trust** via email at admin@ascensioncat.org or by telephone on 0208 325 4630. The LGB details are being updated.

You can read our **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy** [here](#).

Contact Us

St Ignatius Catholic Primary School
Green Street, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6QG

Telephone: 01932 785396

Email: admin@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

Website: www.st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

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