

# The School Journal



**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Head Teacher: Mrs Beth Hanna

**Friday 17th October 2025**



It has been another wonderful week in school, filled with curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm for learning. Across all year groups, the children have been exploring exciting new topics and showing great focus and enjoyment in their work. Our youngest pupils have been learning about the signs of Autumn and noticing the changes in the world around them, while older classes have impressed us with their thoughtful discussions, writing and problem-solving in lessons.

A particular highlight this week was our library assembly with Michael from Southam Library. The children listened with such interest as he shared a variety of engaging stories and encouraged everyone to read for pleasure. It was fantastic to see the pupils so animated and inspired by his visit, and many have already been talking about books they would like to borrow next. We are very grateful to Michael and the library team for helping us to promote a love of reading across the school.

I continue to be very proud of how well the children are working together, supporting one another and showing kindness and respect in everything they do. Thank you to all our families for your continued support and encouragement. Together, we are helping every child to grow in confidence and enjoy their learning.

**Beth Hanna  
Headteacher**

### Today's Stars of the Week are:

**Reception** - Hattie **Year 1** - Cora **Year 2** - Carter

**Year 3** - Charlie **Year 4** - Daisy **Year 5** - Harry and Josh **Year 6** - David

I know from their class teachers just how hard they have been working—consistently trying their very best and subsequently making great progress in their learning!

### Well done to our other award winners, including Bronze Team Point Certificates!

Well done to Matilda for her Rainbow badges, Izzy for her barrel rolling and Penny for her Fantastic achievements at Horse of the Year Show!



*A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that 'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)*

**Little Lawrences** This week we have learnt about Autumn, this is the first Season we have introduced to the children and they have done so well in trying to understand the concept of change over a long period of time. To support this learning we went on a Autumnal walk looking for signs of Autumn. Our treasure from this walk was then used to strengthen the new vocabulary we have learnt around texture. The children have continued to strengthen new friendships; with Noah and Hattie having animal races across the table; Ben being a Wizard and putting spells on the other children and Gracie and Saibh setting up the most amazing picnic. This week we also celebrated Gracie's birthday!! Next week we are exploring the celebration of Diwali.



**Reception** have been exploring the colours of leaves in Autumn and talking about why they change colour. The children have also enjoyed helped our puppets to see if they have more or fewer objects and are using this new language in their play ! They have used Autumnal shades to paint and have practised their cutting skills along side learning some new sounds in Phonics.



**Year 1** What a busy and exciting week it's been in Year 1! We've been working hard in maths, adding numbers within 10 and using lots of practical resources to help us understand. In English, we've been finding out fascinating facts about lions to help us with our non-fiction writing. Our art lessons have been full of colour as we painted beautiful African sunsets to go with our 'Fire and Ice' topic. We also had a brilliant time in assembly with Michael from Southam Library – his stories had everyone listening carefully and laughing along. To finish the week, we had lots of fun at Forest School, especially when we went fossil hunting.

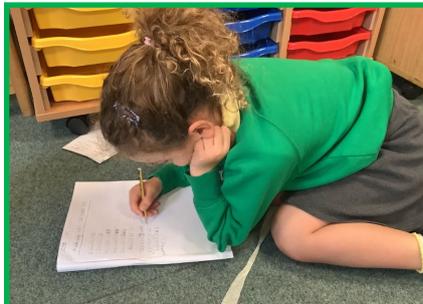
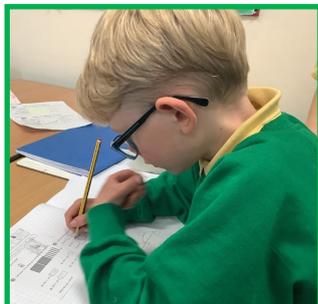
**Year 2** Year 2 have continued to enthusiastically explore our topic 'London' both through our book 'Katie in London' during our English lessons and in our topic lessons. We have started to learn about the 'Fire of London' and we were brilliant at sequencing the events and asking fantastic questions to further our learning. In Science, we have been finding out where different materials come from and enjoyed discovering what came from plants, rocks and animals. We have been working hard in maths and have been using number bonds to help us add numbers. We have our Maths World cup next week, so any practise at home on number bonds to 20 will really help.



Year 2 have read a lot of stories over the week, but we were thoroughly mesmerised during our assembly on Thursday from the Southam Library, listening to the snippets of stories shared, we wanted to hear more. Another busy week, Year 2 are ready for the weekend.

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**Year 3** have had another busy week! In English, we have been gathering vocabulary, feature finding and planning our very own adventure stories. Next week, we will be writing an adventure story about going deep underground and what we might discover down there. There has been so many fantastic, creative ideas that have blown me away! In maths, we have been working on adding 1's crossing tens and adding 10s crossing 100s. We have been using our number bond knowledge and number lines to make jumps to the nearest multiple of ten and hundred. In topic, we have been learning about the causes of a tsunami and how what devastating impact they can have. In science, we learnt about the life of Mary Anning and her brilliant discoveries. Well done for another fabulous week!



**Year 4:** This week, Year 4 worked so hard on some beautiful poetry, making use of extensive vocabulary research and themes pulled straight from the pages of 'The Ever-Changing Earth'. In Maths, we have been working with different measurements, converting between km, m, cm, and mm, as well as l and ml! In RE we considered the importance of forgiveness and repentance within the contexts of the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur celebrations. In Topic, the pupils analysed different biomes and climate zones and wrote about the plants and animals which live there. It was fantastic to meet parents on Wednesday night, and I was glad to have really productive conversations. An excellent week!



**Year 5** This week, Year 5 have looked at biographies. We read a biography of David Attenborough and examined how its organisation and language help achieve its purpose to inform the reader. We then began gathering facts about another great naturalist, Jane Goodall. It was interesting to learn how her passion for animals as well as her personal qualities (patience, courage, determination) helped her become a trailblazing scientist in spite of the lack of formal training. We're looking forward to learning more and shaping our own biographies. Our own science studies moved on to amphibians and insects as we examined these life cycles and the fascinating process of metamorphosis. I know we have a few budding naturalists in the room! In topic, we compared the Arctic and Antarctic. We learned that Antarctica is a dry, cold and windy continent surrounded by sea whereas the Arctic is a sea surrounded by land. We also looked at the people and animals that live (or don't live) in each region. We've continued our study of sea shanties in music, and we really enjoyed Michael's visit on Thursday to tell us all about Southam Library and encourage a love of reading and writing.



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**Year 6** have made a strong start to their new class book *Holes* by Louis Sachar, following the unlucky Stanley Yelnats IV to Camp Green Lake and already debating whether his bad luck is truly his fault. We have been reading, discussing and predicting, and children can find supplementary resources on Google Classroom to support their understanding. In English, we focused on precise vocabulary and expanded noun phrases to describe the infamous yellow spotted lizard, before moving on to write formal non-chronological reports in the style of natural historians, complete with technical language, passive voice and suitably serious tone. In Maths, we have worked through division using factors, long division with and without remainders and solving multi-step problems, showing increasing confidence and a few quiet celebrations when remainders finally behaved. In RE, we explored important buildings around the world and reflected on why people consider them significant, while in Topic we have been perfecting our double-page spreads on the River Avon flooding. It was lovely to meet so many of you at parents' evening and I look forward to meeting the rest next Wednesday, as well as seeing everyone at the SATs briefing on Friday 24th October.



The very talented Fleur Y6 is currently appearing in "The Magic Flute" at the Royal Opera House whilst STILL doing her school work! We are all very proud. Two more weeks to go. Good Luck Fleur.



Hugo Y6 was busy at lunchtime creating a stick village empire out of the twigs and leaves he found on the playground. Hugo always amazes us with his imagination.

Mr Camps will reach 19 years of employment at St Lawrences next week on 23 October. I know you will all join us in saying a big thank you to Mr Camps for his dedication to the safe and seamless running of the building and surrounding site.

**THANK YOU  
MR CAMPS!**



We would also like to take this opportunity to recognise Sandra who has been employed at St Lawrences for over 25 years. She runs the ever popular Larks 'n' Owls club as well as over-seeing lunchtimes and being a TA.

Our unsung hero!

**Thank you Sandra!**

## Photos from around the school



George Y4 was being covered in White Flies whilst stood by the pyracantha hedge.



Maybel Y3 showing off her fabulous hair bobbles.



Alyssa, Millie, Krishaana and Imogen Y3 enjoying a skipping.



Florrie and Rosie Y6 demonstrating their hand stands.



Reuben Y4 at on a springy mushroom



Friends enjoying sitting on the new KS1 playground



Stilt walking on KS1 playground



Iona Y5 sounding amazing on her flute



Mrs Foxwell writes: "ARCHIE in year 3 has made a BRILLIANT start to learning the clarinet and can already play C D E F and G after only 2 lessons! We can't wait to have you in orchestra!"



Emily H, Penny, Amy and Iona Y5 practicing their flute quartet, sounding wonderful.



Mrs Foxwell writes: "EMILY consistently works hard and is making such good progress on her recorder. She plays the descant recorder and is working on her grade 4!!! She has worked especially hard this week and did some impressive duet playing in her lesson!"

# The Week Ahead - w/c 20th October 2025

## Monday 20th October

- ◆ Hymn practice with the whole school is on Monday every week. Members of the orchestra should bring their instruments to school on Mondays, there is no need to come into school early. Mrs Merrick will collect children from class after morning registration.

## Tuesday 21st October

- ◆ The NHS School Aged Immunisation Services (SAIS) will be in school today to administer flu vaccinations to all those who have been signed up by their parent/carer. Booking is managed directly by the SAIS NOT the school. Contact 01926 353899 with any queries.
- ◆ Year 4 will have their class brass lesson today with Mrs Pugh. This will be for an hour every Tuesday for the whole of the academic year.
- ◆ Year 3 will have their 7th swimming lesson today. There will be 12 lessons in total. The coach departs at 09:30 for a 10:00 lesson at Southam Leisure Centre.
- ◆ Ten boys from Y5 and Y6 have been invited to play in a match against Radford Semele school in the afternoon. Thank you to all the parent volunteer drivers, we really appreciate your support. Miss Shepherd will meet you there.

## Wednesday 22nd October

- ◆ Whole school assembly at 09:30 led by Mrs Hanna.
- ◆ We will be having our first of two Reception and Little Lawrences Open Mornings today with tours at 09:30, 10:15 and 11:15. Contact the office to book a slot.
- ◆ Maths World Cup takes place today.
- ◆ Our second parents evening of the term will be taking place after school today in the hall and early years unit. All parents and guardians should access parents' evening via the rear hall door. Collection for Owls will also be via this door. Anna or Louise will be there to welcome you.

## Thursday 23rd October

- ◆ The fire service will be visiting us. They will be speaking to Y1 and then Y5.
- ◆ Y5 will be joining an online meeting to hear about Hannah Golds 5th book "The Lone Husky" which is released today. Visit <https://www.hannahgold.world/> to find out more about the author.

## Friday 24th October

- ◆ This morning is our orchestra rehearsal. Please remember to send instruments into school with children for an 08.45 practice in the hall before celebration assembly.
- ◆ We are having our celebration assembly as normal today at 09.05am in the school hall, everyone is welcome. Please drop extra curricular awards and certificates into the office for presentation in assembly.
- ◆ Mr D will be holding a SATs information session in Y6 classroom from 15:00 for Y6 parents and carers.
- ◆ This week's cake sale is the turn of Reception. Bake it or Fake it and drop it off at the office. Volunteers to help set up the stall (from 3pm) and sell cakes would be much appreciated by our wonderful PTA.

## Other Notices - w/c 20th October 2025

### **Lunches**

We are about to enter Week 1 on the [Educaterers Lunch Menu](#). Please indicate your child's meal arrangements on School Money for the following day by the midnight cutoff. Lunches can be booked days/weeks in advance. If you are having issues with School Money, please email the office with your child's lunch order and I will look into the issue this week. Where a child does not have a lunch ordered, they will be allocated a jacket potato.

### **Clubs**

After school clubs are up and running. If you would still like to sign up for a club please do so [here](#). We have spaces in the majority of clubs. (but not Rosie's sewing club or Mrs. George's colouring club) Also, if you have a burning desire to run a club or get involved, please get in touch.

### **Uniform**

A reminder of our [uniform policy](#) . Please ensure children bring their PE kit into school on their PE day/s.

### **PE days are:**

- Reception: Monday PM and Thursday AM
- Year 1: Wednesday PM (plus forest school kit for Fridays)
- Year 2: Tuesday PM and Friday AM
- Year 3: Monday PM and Thursday PM (plus swimming kit for Wednesday mornings)
- Year 4: Wednesday AM and Thursday PM
- Year 5: Wednesday PM and Friday PM
- Year 6: Tuesday PM and Friday PM

# ★ Larks n Owls Club ★



## ★ Menu



Week Commencing 20th October

**Monday**

**Toad in the Hole  
with Mash & Broccoli**



**Tuesday**

**Mac n Cheese**



**Wednesday**

**Chilli and Rice**



**Thursday**

**Pasta Bake**



**Friday**

**Fish Fingers,  
Chips and Beans**



If the meal on offer in Owls is not something your child will eat, please send them with a small snack to tide them over until collection. Their snack will be eaten



Larks n Owls Club - good food, good fun, good friends!

★ St Lawrence Primary School ★

## RECEPTION & LITTLE LAWRENCE OPEN MORNINGS



Wednesday 22 October 2025



Wednesday 5 November 2025

Tours available at:

🕒 09:30

🕒 10:15

🕒 11:15

Come and see what makes St Lawrence a warm, inspiring place for children to learn and grow.



To book your place, please contact the school office:

**01926 812447**

## ANNOUNCEMENT



Exciting news for the Napton community! A brand new Rainbows group is set to launch in January 2026. Designed for young girls to explore, learn, and have fun, this engaging program will take place on Mondays from 5 PM to 6 PM during term time. Rainbows is a fantastic opportunity for girls to make new friends, develop valuable skills, and embark on exciting adventures in a supportive environment. If you're interested in enrolling your child or need more information about the program, please reach out via email at [naptonrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:naptonrainbows@gmail.com). Don't miss out on this wonderful chance for your child to be part of a vibrant community!

Saturday 19th  
October 2024

# Napton 10K

Inclusive and  
Family-Friendly  
Event

Beautiful and Scenic  
Route

Running Village

Medal for  
every entrant

Chip Timings!



**SIGN UP NOW!**



## MATHS WORLD CUP

**AUTUMN 1.1**

We have launched the first round of this year's Maths World Cup! This whole-school challenge is designed to help children build fluency and confidence with key number facts through short, fun activities in class.



**Reception** – Saying numbers from 0 to 5 and back again.

**Year 1** – Recognising and writing numbers 1–10 in numerals and words.

**Year 2** – Number bonds for each number to 20.

**Year 3** – Number bonds to 100.

**Year 4** – Multiples of 1000 and 25.

**Years 5 and 6** – Number bonds with one and two decimal places between 1 and 10.

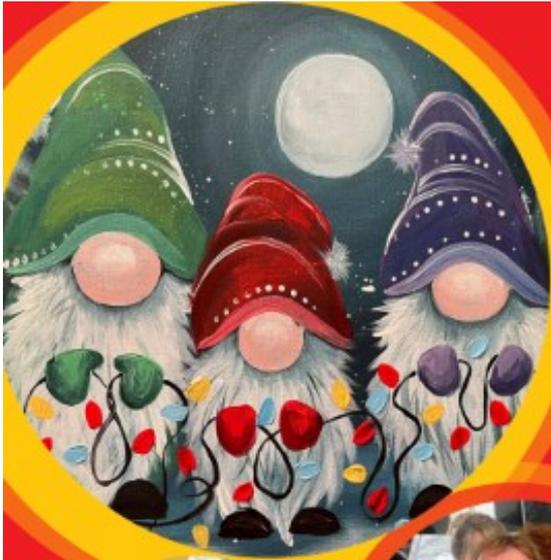
1  
3  
7  
9

Competitions will take place near the end of each half-term. Children will work in their house teams to earn points, with the emphasis on effort, teamwork, and celebrating progress. Regular practice at home really helps, so please encourage your child to have a go.

**LET'S SEE WHICH HOUSE WILL TOP THE LEADERBOARD THIS HALF TERM!**

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**PTA BRUSH PARTY—AVAILABLE TO BOOK ON SCHOOL MONEY**



Paint We Three Gnomes

**Brush Party**<sup>®</sup>  
Where painting gets social



**'Sip & Paint'**  
...and experience  
a great night out!

Never painted before? No problem! Follow our simple step-by-step instructions as you create your own masterpiece - All while enjoying great company, fab music and your favourite refreshment!

**Join us at St Lawrence Primary School  
on Thursday 20th Nov 2025, 7.30pm start.**

For tickets, email [napton.stlawrence.pta@gmail.com](mailto:napton.stlawrence.pta@gmail.com)

**All materials provided. No experience needed**

SCAN ME



# PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Enter our **Remembrance Themed Photography Competition**  
Your entry could be a photograph of a Poppy or anything related to 'Armistice'.

The competition is open to everyone and the winners will be announced  
at our **Midlands Poppy Launch on Friday 24th October.**



Please email your entry to [galanoshouseadmin@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:galanoshouseadmin@britishlegion.org.uk),  
or bring your printed entry to the main reception at Galanos House  
(Open 9-5pm daily) please include your name and contact details.

**Closing date Saturday 18th October**



**Community Hub and Café**

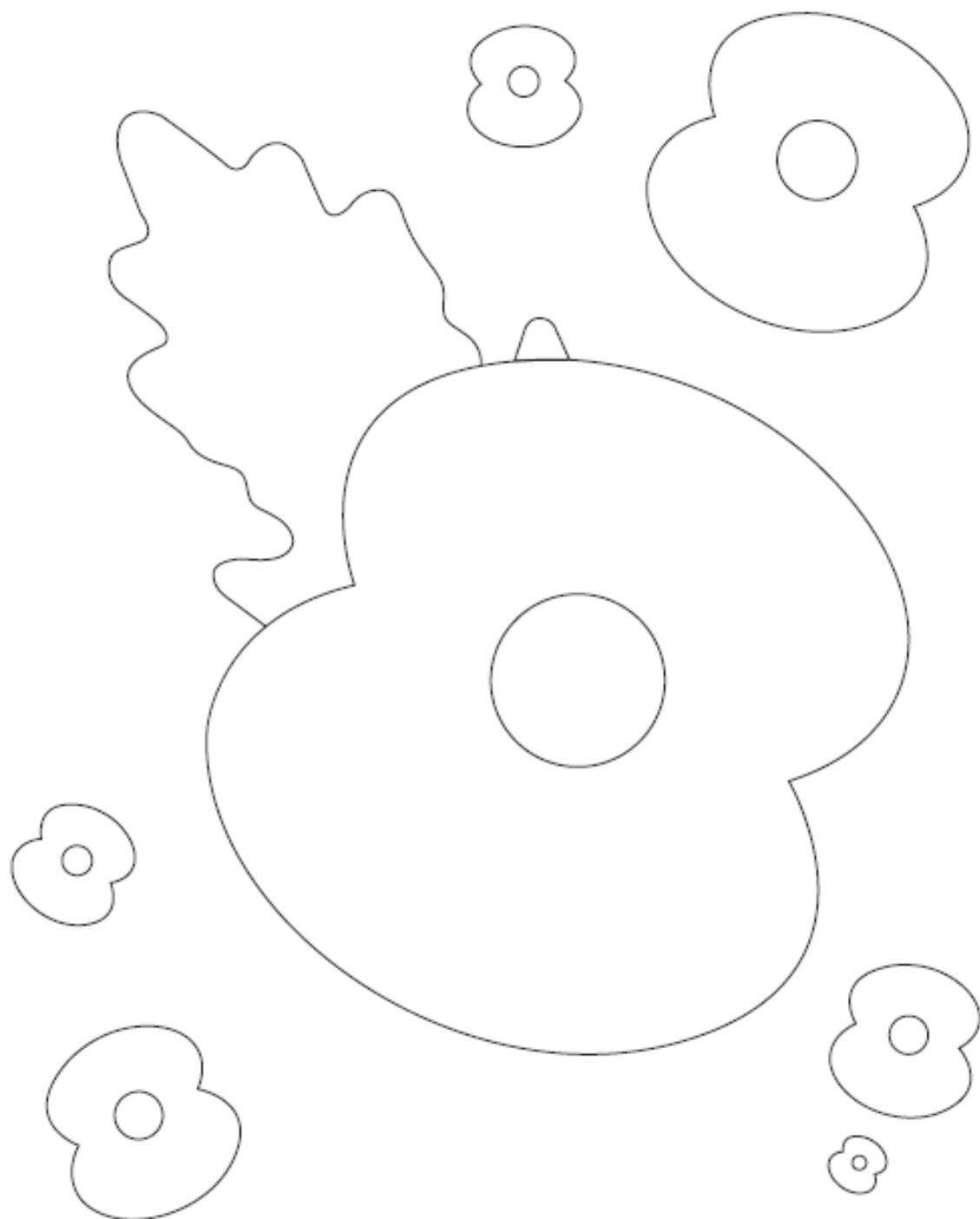
Banbury Road, Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 2BL

Facebook Instagram X RBLCommunityHub Tel: 01926 812185

# GALANOS HOUSE

## COLOURING COMPETITION

Colour or decorate the poppy design for a chance to win a childrens hamper.  
Please return to Galanos House or the Community Hub & Café by Saturday 18th October



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_