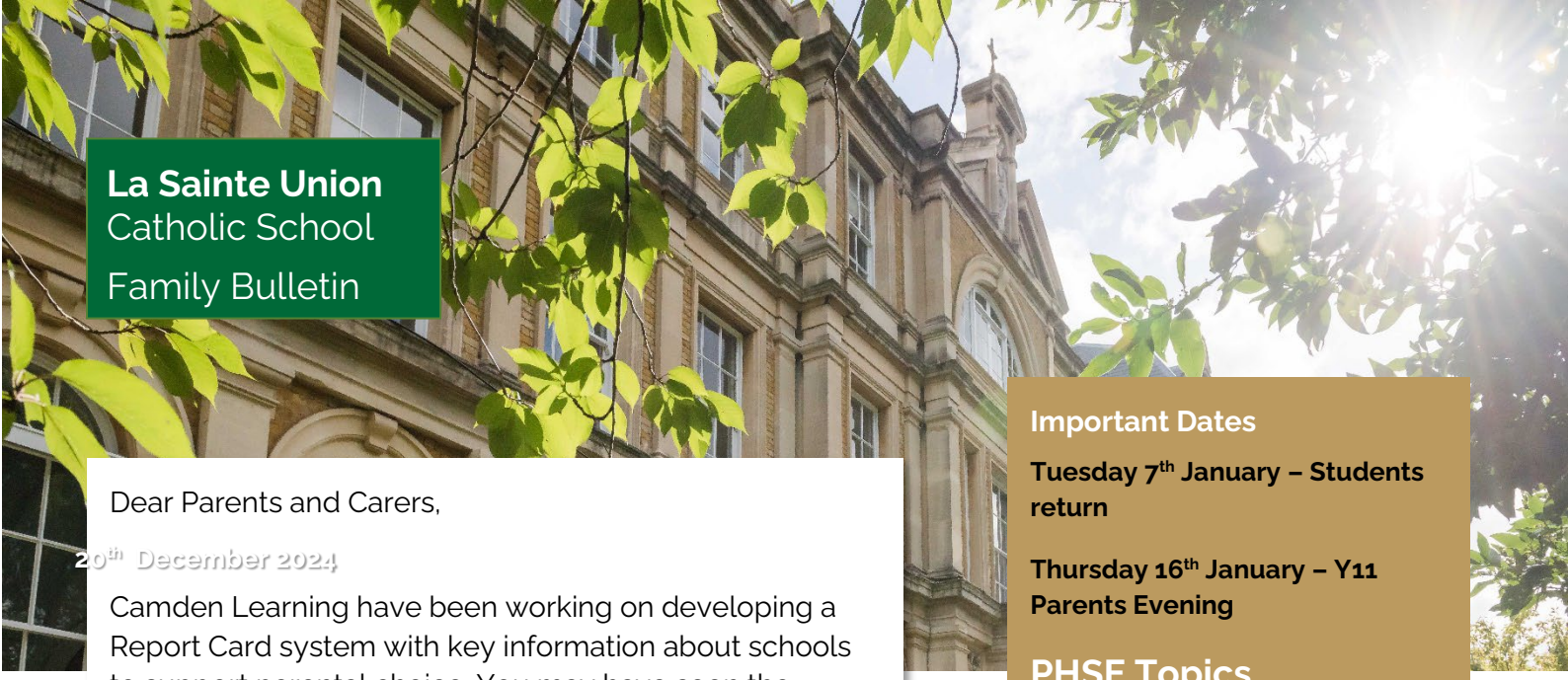

La Sainte Union Catholic School
Family Bulletin

Dear Parents and Carers,

20th December 2024

Camden Learning have been working on developing a Report Card system with key information about schools to support parental choice. You may have seen the article about it in the BBC (First look at app-style reports to help parents compare schools - BBC News)

The Report Card for La Sainte Union, in its current form, is available here:

Please have a look and let me know your thoughts: Camden Learning are keen to receive feedback from current parents. You can email your thoughts to me at Head@lsu.camden.sch.uk, and I will collate and share your responses.

Wishing you a very peaceful and happy Christmas!

Best wishes,

Mrs Fegan

Headteacher

Important Dates

Tuesday 7th January – Students return

Thursday 16th January – Y11 Parents Evening

PHSE Topics

Year 7 - Making healthy choices (eating and sleeping)

Year 8 - Fake news and echo chambers

Year 9 - Preventing cancer and heart disease

Year 10 - Media influence, radicalisation, and extremism

Year 11 - Exploring identities critically (gender identities)

Contact form for any PSHE related queries: https://forms.office.com/e/GY4SBrwbNW

Latest editions of the LaSWAP newsletter can be found here: LaSWAP Sixth Form Consortium - Newsletters

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Carol Service

Thank you to all families who attended our Carol Service on Tuesday 17th December. The quality of the music was superb! You can relive the experience by listening to the recordings here: through the quality of the recordings does not do the Service justice! https://tinyurl.com/32zmppd6

AI Campus Connect Programme: A Unique Opportunity for Our Sixth Form Students

La Sainte Union and LaSWAP are shaping the AI programme supported by Google in a new venture:
Eric, a Year 12 student, is one of a handful of carefully chosen LaSWAP students participating in the prestigious AI Campus Connect Programme, a two-year initiative designed to prepare students for careers which will shape the use of artificial intelligence. The programme covers how AI works, its development, practical applications across industries, as well as vital aspects of AI safety and ethics. Eric describes the experience as "very enjoyable and educational, as well as a unique and exciting opportunity."
In late November, Mrs Fegan and the students attended the official launch event for the programme, where they had the chance to engage with prominent figures, including representatives from Google, the local MP, and the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer. Eric shared that Sir Keir expressed pride in the programme's achievements, showed enthusiasm for the future of AI in the UK, and answered questions about integrating AI into everyday life, particularly in education.
The AI connect programme highlights the exciting prospects available to our students and underscores the importance of preparing young people for a future shaped by AI.

Capital Funding Bid Success

We're delighted to be able to share that Camden Council have allocated £150k of funding to support our plans for the refurbishment and development of our SEND suite. Planning for the work will begin in January. This is a significant endorsement and investment in our future, and will allow us to significantly add to the quality of our SEN support.

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

La Sainte Union at the Houses of Parliament

Year 10 Students Explore the Heart of Democracy at the Houses of Parliament

As part of our PSHE curriculum, a group of Year 10 students embarked on an inspiring journey to the historic Houses of Parliament, delving into the heart of UK democracy. This visit offered a unique opportunity to witness firsthand the vital role of Parliament in shaping the society we live in.

Students explored the House of Commons and the House of Lords during a guided tour, immersing themselves in the rich traditions and modern workings of our democratic institutions. The experience was further enriched by an engaging workshop that brought the principles of democracy to life.

Through interactive activities, students stepped into the shoes of active citizens, simulating the process of creating and presenting a petition to MPs—a powerful exercise in making their voices heard.

The day proved to be both thought-provoking and empowering, igniting a deeper understanding of the democratic process and encouraging students to see themselves as future leaders and changemakers. It was an unforgettable experience, planting seeds of aspiration and responsibility as our students consider their potential to shape the world around them.

The Poetry Society

The Poetry Society Inspires Creativity at La Sainte Union

In November, we had the privilege of welcoming The Poetry Society to La Sainte Union School for an inspiring celebration of creativity and self-expression. Renowned poet and author Clare Pollard led a series of dynamic workshops, sparking the imaginations of every pupil in Years 7, 8, and 9.

Year 7 delved into the beauty of rhythm and crafted evocative Haikus about the weather, capturing fleeting moments of nature. Year 8 brought storytelling to life through modern Ballads, blending tradition with contemporary flair. Year 9 channelled their inner romantics, writing heartfelt Odes

inspired by Keats' timeless *'Ode to Autumn'*—including the unforgettable *'Ode to My Phone,'* a creative nod to modern life.
Our librarians, Olivia and Fiona, have added one of Clare Pollard's books to the library collection—be sure to explore her work for inspiration!
For students eager to continue their creative journey: join the KS3 Creative Writing Club every Thursday lunchtime in E113 with Miss King, where we embrace our passion for writing and enter exciting competitions!
This enriching experience was a testament to the talent and enthusiasm of our Key Stage 3 students. Their creativity and engagement left a lasting impression on The Poetry Society, showcasing the incredible potential of our young writers. Well done, everyone!

NLWA Secondary School's Photography Competition

North London Waste Authority are inviting KS3 and 4 students to get out into nature and capture its resilience for their photography competition this Christmas!

What's on offer?

- The winning photograph will be professionally printed and displayed on the wall of EcoPark House in Edmonton
- An A2 copy for the school to display
- A smaller copy for the photographer to take home
- A £250 voucher for school supplies for the student's school
- A bag of reusable goodies

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Who can enter?

The competition will be open to all secondary school students in Enfield, Barnet, Islington, Camden, Waltham Forest, Hackney and Haringey.

The brief

The theme of the competition will be 'Nature's Resilience' with the winning entry capturing a moment of nature reclaiming a space or recovering from human interference.

The competition will run from 9am Monday 9th December 2024 until 5pm Monday 30th January 2025. For more information on the requirements and how to get your students involved, head over to the competition homepage on NLWA's Education Hub

Good luck!

BTEC Exams Timetable

Date	Time	Duration	Component
08/01/2025	9:00	180 mins	Enquiries Into Current Research in Health and Social Care
	13:30	120 mins	Developing A Marketing Campaign (A)
09/01/2025	9:00	180 mins	Developing A Marketing Campaign (B)
13/01/2025	9:00	90 mins	Working In Health and Social Care
	9:00	120 mins	Personal And Business Finance
16/01/2025	9:00	90 mins	Anatomy & Physiology for Health and Social Care
17/01/2025	9:00	180 min	Principles Of Management
20/01/2025	9:00	90 mins	Business Decision Making

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Designed by Camden Educational Psychology Service

Listening for connection

How to talk to your teenagers during the school break

A.

Make time to create quality and special time

-Playing games together
-Preparing things together (i.e., decorating, meals, baking)
-Watching films together
-Creating moments for incidental conversation
-Listening to their interests
-If their interest is computer games- join them
-Carve out time with no phones for everyone (digital hygiene)
-Time to be outside
-Physical activity together

B.

How to have a conversation

- Find a time when your child is relaxed
- Ask open questions
- Listen attentively
- Be open to hear what they say and don't be alarmed if they share something you did not know/ is worrying

Shout is a free, confidential, 24/7 text support service for you or your child if you need to reach out to someone. To start a conversation, text the word 'Shout' to 85258. Trained Shout Volunteers are here to listen at any time of day or night and messages won't appear on your phone bill.

shout 85258

C. Use this structure to start conversations

I wonder if you are feeling sad because...
I imagine that made you feel angry when...
I notice you seem a bit quiet...
I'm so sorry you feel sad, is there anything I can do?

Adapted from a model by Chris Davies (Head of Training Trauma Informed Schools East of England)

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL