La Sainte Union Catholic School

Family Bulletin

3rd December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week, we were delighted to welcome more than 1,100 students and families to the LaSWAP Open Evening. A huge thank-you to all the teachers and student ambassadors whose hard work and enthusiasm made the event such a success.

We also hosted a Years 9 and 11 Careers Provider Fair—which was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore a wide range of post-16 pathways and connect with employers. Our students were focused, engaged, and a credit to the school and their aspirations for a bright future were clear.

A reminder that payment for the Student Christmas Lunch is due by **Friday, 5th December** via ParentPay.

If you have not yet donated to our Christmas Jumper day fundraising in support of Save the Children, you can still do so using the link below:

La Sainte Union School - Christmas Jumper Day is raising money for Save The Children!

Best wishes,

Miss Ridge

Bright Women with Bold Futures.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Important Dates

Thursday 11th December – Y8 & Y9 Parents evening / Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 15th December – Carol Concert

Wednesday 17th December – Student Christmas Lunch

Friday 19th December – Last day of term, finish at 12pm

PHSE Topics

Year 7 - NHS compassion-based well being programme

Year 8 - Menstrual health workshops (delivered by Period and Pause)

Year 9 - Forms of discrimination and allyship

Year 10 - Staying Safe from Scams Online (delivered by Personal Finance Society)

Year 11 - Exploring identities critically

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

MiSAC 2026 Schools Microbiology Competition

We are excited to announce that our school will be taking part in the **MiSAC 2026 Schools Microbiology Competition!** If you are interested in taking part join us at the STEM club after school on Tuesday in H202.

Theme - How Microbes Make Milk
Students will explore how microbes — bacteria, fungi, and protozoa — play an essential role in helping cows produce milk all year round.

The Challenge

KS3 and KS4 students are invited to design a web report that explains this fascinating process. Entries can be individual or in teams of up to 4.

Prizes

- First Place: Up to £100 cash prize
- Certificates and awards for winners and runners-up
- Winning reports showcased nationally by MiSAC

Skills You'll Gain

- Science Communication — explaining ideas to a specific audience
- Scientific Research — investigating ruminant digestion and microbial roles
- Presentation & Design — creating a compelling, illustrated web report

Key Dates

- Deadline: **Saturday, 28 March 2026**
- STEM Club Support: Every Tuesday after school with Miss Hussain, Miss Phillips and Mr Pasha

Year 10 Art

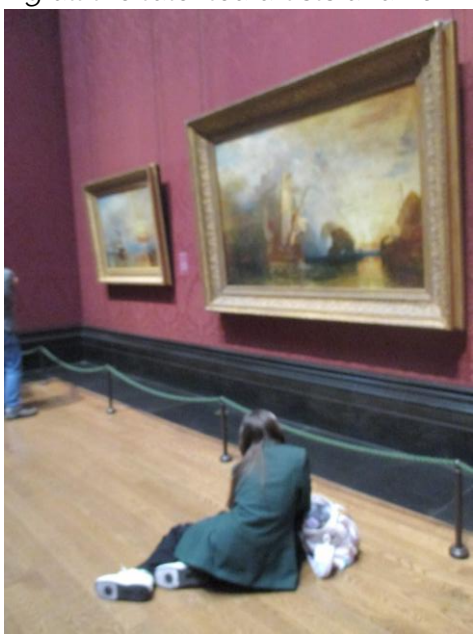
On the 17th of November, Year 10 Art students visited the National Gallery to look at Impressionist and Post Impressionist Landscapes by artists like Cezanne, Monet and Van Gogh.

Lucy said:
The most interesting thing I find about the gallery is not only the wonderful work of arts, but definitely, that when you look closely to the paintings, you can see details that from far away are not noticed. Every single painting in the gallery seems to tell you something; either a situation, a story or a feeling. I also find it fascinating how Monet's paintings trick our brains: When you step back your eyes mix those abstract and disconnected details together, changing the perspective and creating a harmonization.

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Chloe said:
The National Gallery was a really fun and interesting place, with work from back to the 13th century. My favourite painting there was from John Russel. He used various colours and brush stroke techniques. I also like how we had to look really closely to study the very few details that the artist had added. For my own work, I would take inspiration by taking time with how I do my brushstrokes and adding small details to my art work, to make my art more like a puzzle

Santana said:
I really enjoyed the visit to the National Gallery. I really appreciated seeing all the talented artists and how art has developed between 1200s to the late 1800s. I loved the different techniques and art styles the artists had. My favourite artist /painting that I saw during my visit is "Water Lillies" by Claude Monet. I like the colours and attention to detail. He reflected his passion of art and masterfully executed his art style and of materials to create such a beautiful art.



Sophia said:
It was a very enjoyable experience, and I was surprised by how many art works I recognised. I found it very interesting to see familiar paintings up close because I could see the details more clearly and therefore, I found it easier to interpret the meaning behind some and how they made me feel. I noticed a lot of use of contrast (in colours,brush strokes, etc..) in artworks to highlight certain parts of the painting, so I think I will try using more contrast in my art works to try to get the same effect.

Treasure said:
What I found most interesting about The National Gallery is the variation of art work from Impressionism to realism. I found this interesting because I didn't expect such a wide variation and I really enjoyed looking at all of the pictures especially the impressionism pictures because I enjoy the soft colours that they use. However, I also do enjoy looking at realism because it's able to capture the detail.

Clay doors created by Year 10 students inspired by artist Lucy Jones

Christmas Jumper Day

We will be taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 11th December! Those participating can wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper and blazer, to support this fantastic cause please donate here:

La Sainte Union School - Christmas Jumper Day is raising money for Save The Children!

Student Christmas Lunch

The student Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 17th December. For any students wishing to partake, parents must log in to Parentpay and pay for this separately at a cost of £2.88 (not as a top up of funds). This must be done for each child in school, you will find the payment option in the 'pay for other items' button. If your child receives free school meals, they will automatically be added to the list and Christmas lunch will be provided with no need to pay.

News from Careers

This week's job of the week is **RESTORATION SPECIALIST** – click on the image to learn more in minutes!

JOB OF THE WEEK

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Highlights

'Early Applicant' interviews

Each year, some Year 13 students become 'early applicants', applying for Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science.

Did you know…?

- **These students have an earlier university application deadline, usually around the 15th October.**
- **They can apply for one of Oxford or Cambridge, but not both.**
- **Students can use 4 out of their 5 university choices for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science, but the infamous '5th choice' must be in another discipline to reflect the competitive nature of the courses.**
- **Students usually have an interview for 'Oxbridge' and often complex 'Multiple Mini Interviews' (MMIs) for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science, in addition to additional tests and work to submit.**

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

This year's early applicants are preparing for their Oxford and Cambridge interviews – let's wish them GOOD LUCK!

Parent Power

UNIADMISSIONS

If you are interested in learning more about Oxbridge applications, this comprehensive guide from Uni Admissions is a good starting point. Remember, your child will also receive bespoke support from the 6th Form and Careers teams!

TOP TIPS THIS WEEK	
Year 9	Talk to students about the Providers Fair last Tuesday 25th – what did they learn?
Year 10	Encourage students to reach out to their network and local businesses for work experience using this guide.
Year 11	Sign up for open evenings. Explore Camden Learning. Talk to students about the Providers Fair last Tuesday 25th – what did they learn?
Year 12	Encourage students to check Teams and sign up for development opportunities.
Year 13	Support students who are writing their personal statements. Assess options on Discover Uni.

Help needed! Can you support our Year 9 Careers Carousel on the 29th January from 10am-2pm? Please sign up here!

Opportunities for students this week

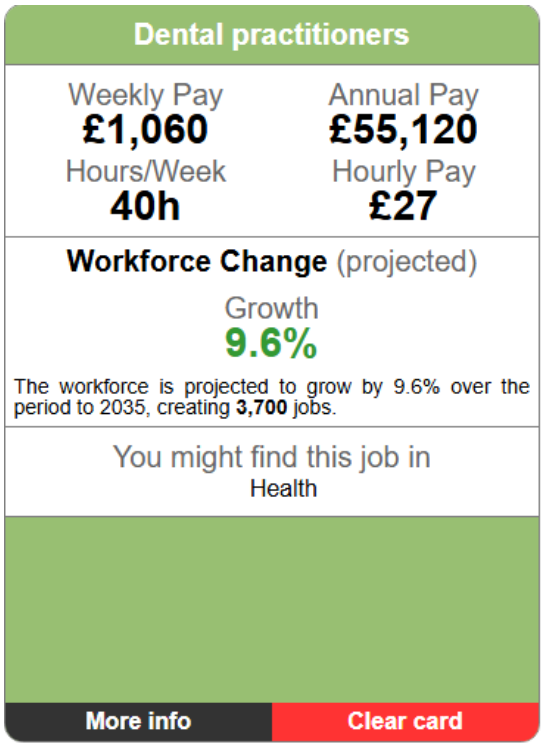
CLICK ON LINKS TO FIND OUT MORE!	
14 years +	Stone carving with Creative Dimension (for creatives but also for those wishing to develop manual dexterity for surgery).

La Sainte Union CATHOLIC SCHOOL

16 years+	**Butchery with Creative Dimension and Fortnum and Mason (perfect for students aspiring to a career in Hospitality and the Culinary Arts!).**
Years 12-13	Early Careers with the UK Government Economic Service and Government Social Research
Years 12-13	'Launch into Law' – learn about White & Case's Solicitor Apprenticeship programme!

Labour Market Insight

Is this job vulnerable to AI? Click here to read more and see whether you agree!



Contact us

THE CAREERS TEAM	
Mrs H.Tait	htait@lsu.camden.sch.uk 6th Form Career Guidance/ Management
Ms D.Lane	dlane@lsu.camden.sch.uk Year 7-11 Career Guidance
Mr C.Metcalfe	cmetcalfe@lsu.camden.sch.uk SEND and Complex Support
Ms T.Ali	tali@lsu.camden.sch.uk Work Experience

GUIDANCE THIS WEEK	
Monday	6th Form guidance appointments with Ms Tait
Tuesday	Year 10 work experience drop-ins (break or lunch) with Ms Ali
Wednesday	6th Form guidance appointments with Ms Tait
Thursday	Year 11 guidance appointments with Ms Lane & Mr Metcalfe
	6th Form guidance appointments with Ms Tait
Friday	6th Form guidance appointments with Ms Tait
	Year 11 guidance appointments with Mr Metcalfe

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

County Lines and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

Catch22 is delivering a session for all parents/carers who wish to understand more about County Lines and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).

This session is aimed at parent/carers(including foster carers/grandparents) to gain a understanding on the important issues surrounding county lines, as well as the impact that it can have on young people and their families, and the support that is available to young people who are impacted/suffering from County Lines and Criminal Exploitation.

Topics will include:

- County Lines, child criminal exploitation (CCE) and financial exploitation,
- Stages of recruitment,
- Push and pull factors,
- The National Referral mechanism,
- The psychological impacts,
- Social media, and
- Debt bondage.

This is running on the following dates/times:

- **Wednesday 10th December 2025 (10am – 11.30am)** - https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/county-lines-webinar-session-parentscarers-only-tickets-197496477280…

- **Thursday 11th December 2025 (5.30pm-7pm)** - https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-county-lines-webinar-session-parentscarers-only-tickets-1974…

County Lines Webinar Session (Parents/Carers Only)

Catch22 is delivering a session for all parents/carers who wish to understand more about County Lines and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).

Report card for La Sainte Union can be accessed here:

https://camden.schoolreport.org.uk/school/index.html?schoolId=2025401

Alternatively, you can scan this QR code with your phone's camera:

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL