



St Louis Catholic Academy News for Easter 2025



EASTER 2025 AT ST LOUIS

We have enjoyed our time of Lenten reflection in school and the Mass celebrated by Bishop Emeritus Alan Hopes was very special. Sister Blathnaid flew over from Dublin to see the wonderful Sisters of St Louis Wellbeing Hub blessed and officially opened. This will be a wonderful addition to our school.

We are delighted with our recent Ofsted report and the Outstanding rating for Personal Development of our children is an important recognition for all the contributions our staff make so that St Louis is so special for every child.

Thank you for your incredible ongoing support to Cafod and for buying the badges in support of World Downs Syndrome Day. 242 badges were sold which raised £239.40.

Finally, I wish to thank you all for five wonderful years at St Louis. Your kindness and support has been tremendous and your children are amazing. They will be wonderful ambassadors for our Catholic school as they leave us to go onto secondary school and higher education. The staff team at St Louis and dedicated teachers are some of the best I have worked with. I am very sad to leave this brilliant team. Mrs Martin is excited to join our school after Easter and to meet you all. I know that she will be made very welcome.

God Bless and Happy Easter

Sue Blakeley—Headteacher



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025

Tuesday 22nd to Wednesday 23rd April Year 4 Visit to Burwell House with overnight stay

Thursday 24th April 2025 at 9.15am – Whole School Mass for Summer Term Mass in Church **All Are Welcome**

Date to be confirmed — LKS2 Phase Mass in school with families

Thursday 8th May at 9.15am UKS2 Phase Mass in school with families

Wednesday 14th May at 2pm Little Louis Toddler Drop in session

Wednesday 21st May at 2pm Little Louis Toddler Drop in session

Wednesday 11th June at 2pm Little Louis Toddler Drop in session

Thursday 19th June at 3.30pm Art (whole school exhibition and Art Sale— non profit)

Thursday 26th June at 5.30pm to 6.30pm—Bedtime Read and Pizza Supper

Wednesday 2nd July and Thursday 3rd July—Year 6 Production (both performances start at 6pm)

Thursday 3rd July — Sports Day (contingency day 14th July)

Friday 4th July — Year 6 Crucial Crew at West Suffolk College

Wednesday 9th July at 2pm Little Louis Toddler Drop in Session

Tuesday 15th July at 9.30am —Year 6 Leavers Mass



Library Opening
Wednesdays
3.30pm to 4pm
Take a book home



Summer Fair

Summer Fair
4th July

Summer Fair

Bedtime Stay and Read with Pizza Supper

26th June 2025
5.30pm to 6.30pm

Book your school meals cooked fresh by Victoria and her team daily.

To view the menu, visit the school website:

[St Louis Catholic Academy - School Meals](#)

Meal	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st School Meal	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread
2nd School Meal	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread
3rd School Meal	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread
4th School Meal	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread	Spiced Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Bread

We have a few spaces! Please tell your friends. We have spaces in Reception and Yr 5. Please enquire now & tell others. You can join Nursery on the term following your 3rd birthday.

We are an inclusive Catholic school, welcoming of all children.



St Louis Summer Fair Friday 4th July



The PTA are looking for help for the 2025 Summer Fair. The popular events will feature inflatables, a tombola, a raffle, St Louis' Got Talent (thanks for the help from Mrs Vickerage!) and of course the brilliant barbeque. Please help the PTA by offering your support with ideas and time so that we can plan well ahead. **The next PTA meeting will be held on Thursday 8th May after morning drop off**

Lego After School Session – Thursday 24th April 2025

Bonkers Bingo at the Racing Centre - Friday 6th June at 7pm

We will be running another Bonkers Bingo evening at the Racing Centre as it was such a popular event last year. We will provide more details nearer the time.

The Summer Fair – after school on Friday 4th July

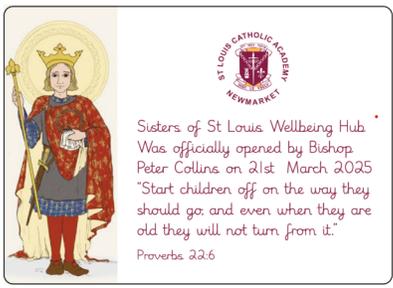
Next Little Louis Toddler Drop In Session at 2pm on Wednesday 14th May 2025

Stay, play, chat and mix with other families and young children. Babies are most welcome. This is a great way to introduce your children to St Louis School.



Could your child be eligible for Free School Meals?

If your child is in Reception to Year 6, they may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM). This is different to the Universal Free School Meals scheme under which all children from Reception to Year 2 receive a school dinner. The school receives extra funding for all children eligible for FSM and this is used to subsidise school trips/clubs for these children during the school year. Applications should be made online using the Citizen's Portal via the following link: www.suffolk.gov.uk/free-school-meals.



Bishop Emeritus Alan Hopes Blesses the Sisters of St Louis Wellbeing Hub

On the 21st March, we celebrated Mass and welcomed Bishop Alan and Sister Blathnaid, who flew over from Dublin. The Sisters of St Louis gave us £100,000 to build this hub as a legacy when they left Newmarket after many years of service in our parish. With the help of the Diocese, plans were drawn up and the project management has been overseen by Helen Bates, Assistant Director of Schools. The new hub will allow us to better support children with social and emotional needs, their families and the support teams working with them. The multi-purpose space provides a confidential area for counselling, a sensory space for calming, a quiet retreat to hold specialist support meetings and an area for small group therapies.

Sister Blathnaid gifted the school two books detailing the life of the Sisters and this includes photographs of our school at the time that it was operated by them. Bishop Alan delighted in visiting the Mustard Seed Kitchen because his charity funded half of the earlier building project.



Thank you St Louis Year 6 Gardening Team

Year 6 gardeners have been busy sprucing up our flower baskets for Spring. This year, KS1 have had help from our green-fingered Mary to give them direction and their balcony is looking better than ever. Mrs Weston-Mann and Years 1 & 2 are planning to sow and grow vegetables outside the school kitchen in our raised beds and would welcome bags of compost to nourish the home grown food. Hopefully, some of this can be used by our School Cook Victoria, for our delicious school dinners over the Summer Term. Thank you for those already donated.

Gardening Club



Ms Baxter's Message to Families

Rio arrived safe and so beautiful on the 6th March at 7.46 am. He will be called Rio Harley Kennington and his mum described him as 'A little dream'.

St Louis staff look forward to meeting Rio and welcoming him into Nursery in 2028!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NEWMARKET PONY ACADEMY

- Do you enjoy interacting with children?
- Are you able to lead a pony?
- Are you over the age of 16?

FOR MORE INFO

Phone
01638 501820

Email
npa@brs.org.uk



CAFOD

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Lent Fundraisers



Thank you for all your eggs!

Easter Egg Grand Raffle Friday 4th April — tickets 20p are on sale now. We have eggs to win in every class



A NET OF HOPE

A shade net, sturdy enough to shield delicate plants from the blistering sun while allowing every precious drop of rain to reach the soil. This innovative “anti-greenhouse net” became their safety net, helping their community thrive.

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, our local partner was able to show Lokho and her neighbours how to use this tool, keeping their crops and their dreams alive.

With your support, more families can overcome challenges, build resilience, and plant the seeds of hope for generations to come.



Lokho and Wakera



Our Lady Immaculate & St Etheldreda Newmarket

Warmest Welcome to our Parish, Our Lady Immaculate & St Etheldreda. Newmarket is not only full of horses but also people filled with love and kindness. You are welcome to visit our Parish to feel God's grace and experience hospitality of the Parishioners. If you are new to the Parish please introduce yourself to us. Blessings to all who visit us. With love.



Our Parish Priest: Father Leo Michael Marianu



Father John Morrill



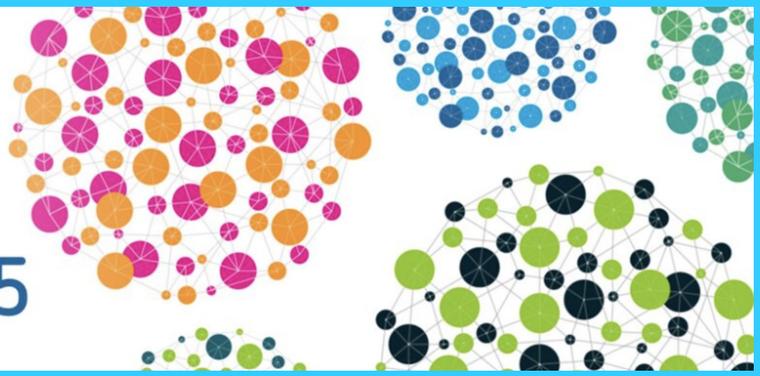
Deacon James Hurst

Join us for the end of term Mass in church at midday on Friday 4th April.





BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 2025



Wow! What an incredible Science Week we had here at St Louis this year!

The school was filled with a buzz of excitement all week long where children across the whole school got to participate in engaging investigations and activities both in class with their teachers and with our amazing guest speakers.

Children got to explore their scientific skills and develop their understanding of how science is used in the modern world we live in today.

We are so proud of the scientific curiosity that our pupils showed and enjoyed watching the awe and wonder moments with them.

This would not have been possible without the support of all of the visitors who gave up their time to come and see our pupils and we are very grateful.

If you are, or know someone, who works within a scientific field and would like to share your expertise with us, please get in contact so that we can discuss ready for another fun-packed science week 2026!

Mrs Masters

Science subject lead



All children across the school, including Nursery, got to enjoy a Live Science show.



Reception—Year 6 enjoyed a talk from Mr Millyard about robotics, including a live demonstration.



Reception took part in an investigation where they planted veg scraps and predicted which would grow best, in soil or in cotton wool.





Mr Richardson came and spoke with KS2 about how to extract DNA from strawberries with a live demonstration.



UKS2 enjoyed a virtual talk from Miss Cooper on how MAG (Manchester Airport Group) are adapting and preparing airports for the physical impacts of climate change.



Dr Scoones came into classes across Reception—Year 6 to talk about our bodies, health and stages of development.



UKS2 children enjoyed a visit with interactive and live demonstrations with Mrs Piorkowska based on her work in pharmaceuticals and the food science industry.



Parent Survey 2024 Feedback

Thank you for taking part in a bumper year of surveys.

The annual survey ran throughout December 2024 up to the 11th January 2025. This survey followed soon after the parent survey led by the RE Inspection Team, who visited in November 2024. Initially, there was a low response to the Parent Survey 2024 but additional messages were sent out and responses rose to sixty seven. However, in previous years, responses have been between one hundred and three to one hundred and ten. Ofsted also sent out a survey that had similar responses to this St Louis one.

In response for how we can improve, Governors have met together and agreed to the following:

Areas for Improvement	Action Proposed	When
Revisit the School Packed Lunch Policy	Use Healthy Schools and NHS Guidance to Revise the School Lunch Policy. Governors approved a new Food Policy in February 2025	Summer Term
Improve home school communication about learning in Early Years	Work with the Early Years Team and Early Years' parents to improve communication about curriculum learning.	Summer Term
Raise parent awareness about how school teaches about bullying prevention and racism	Provide ongoing communication to families about the school's work to promote social cohesion.	Spring and Summer Term
Catholic Life of the school, including retreats, and partnership with the Parish	Use the RE Parent Forum to increase understanding about how we promote the school and parish's Catholic Life.	Spring Term Summer Term
School cleanliness	Governor monitoring visits note cleanliness of the school site.	Ongoing
School website	A Trust led rollout of new websites is taking place from the Summer term and will include an update of parental preferences for inclusions on the website.	Summer Term

There were a number of parent requests that Governors discussed and decided further action would not be taken and their reasons for this are explained:

Term length reduced: this is set by Government and falls outside of the school or Trust's discretion.

School cleanliness: the school site is well managed, clean and tidy. External reviews have not identified any issues relating to cleanliness.

First Holy Communion preparation and church and school collaboration: this is led by the Parish. The Parent RE Forum established in December 2024 seeks to improve communication about Sacrament preparation and a better understanding about the church and school partnership.

French club at lunchtime: with the shortening of lunchtimes, French has moved to after school club because it is not feasible to complete the lesson in the time available.

Fordham Road and Rayes Lane traffic and highway management: the school regularly communicates with Suffolk County Council about Fordham Road and Rayes Lane but has no jurisdiction over road cleaning and barrier installation. However, the school was able to petition for improved barriers between horses and pedestrians. The County Council was asked to consider installing a barrier at the time of the Rayes Lane improvements.

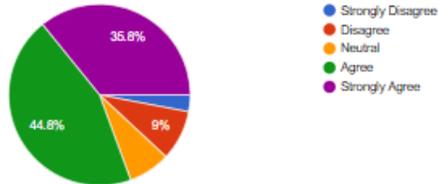
Children on the school website to cease: families have the option to have their child's face excluded from published images.

The graphs showing your responses are shown on the next pages.

1. My child is happy at this school

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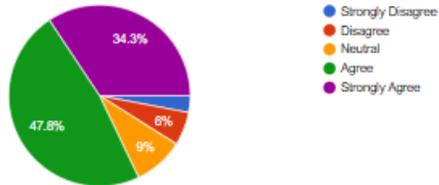
67 responses



2. My child feels safe at this school

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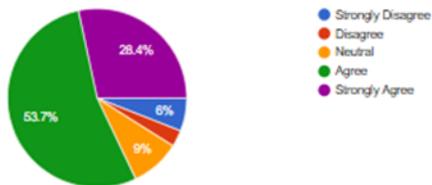
67 responses



3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved

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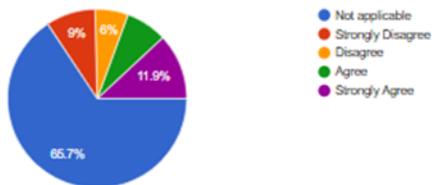
67 responses



4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively

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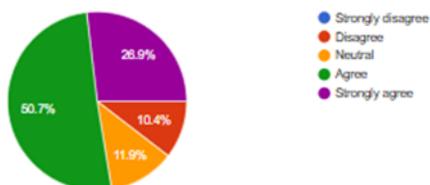
67 responses



The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year

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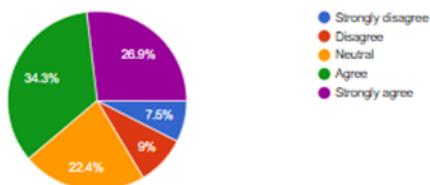
67 responses



When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly

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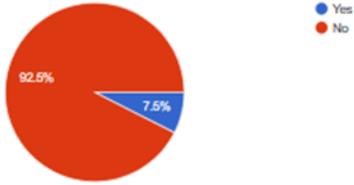
67 responses



Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)?

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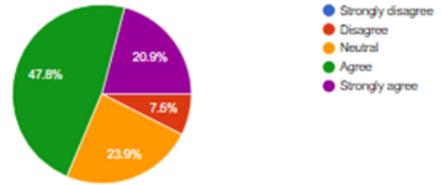
67 responses



The school lets me know how my child is doing

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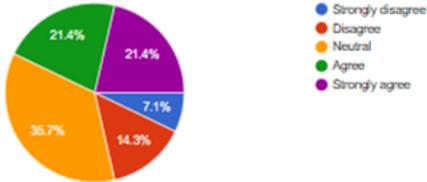
67 responses



If yes, how much do you agree with this statement 'My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed'

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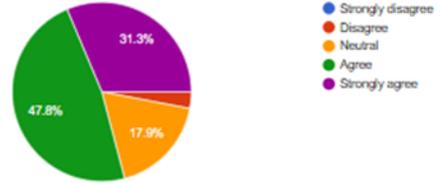
14 responses



There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school

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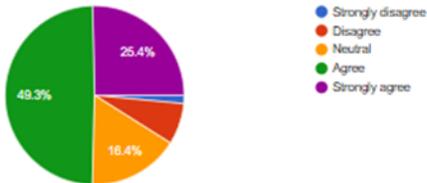
67 responses



The school has high expectations for my child

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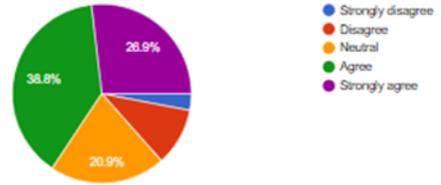
67 responses



The school supports my child's wider personal development

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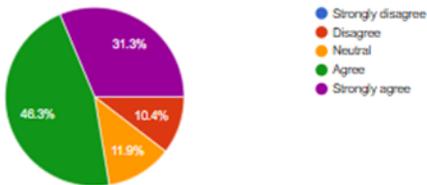
67 responses



My child does well at this school

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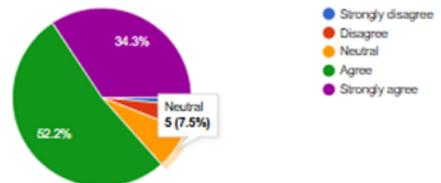
67 responses



The school supports my child to develop spiritually and morally (eg behaviour, mission statement, learning characteristics)

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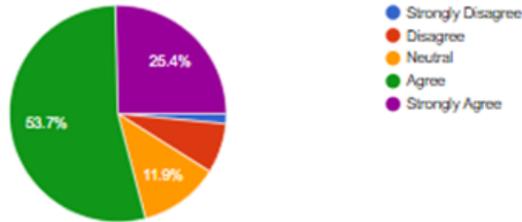
67 responses



The school supports my child to practise their faith (eg 1st communion preparation, reconciliation, Mass, fundraising)

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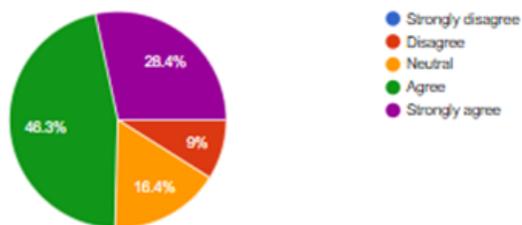
67 responses



The school enables my child to contribute to the Catholic life of the school (eg House Captains, fundraising, Eco schools, school council, Mini Vinnies, other pupil / staff led chaplaincy)

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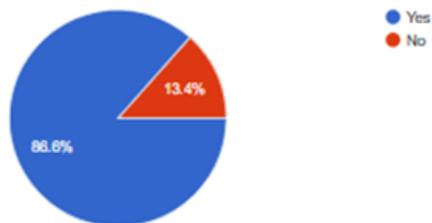
67 responses



I would recommend this school to another parent

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67 responses



Thank you

In our February newsletter, we asked for donations of fruit trees. The Burbridge family kindly donated some that are now planted in our prayer garden. Thank you for our lovely pear trees.

Here are the children planting them.



St Louis School is a strictly NUT-FREE school.

We have several children who have severe nut allergies so we ask that you respect this if your child brings a packed lunch from home or a snack for an after-school club.

Please note that while pine nuts are not strictly a nut, we have noticed that many brands of pesto have started to include nuts as an ingredient. It is therefore impossible for us to know if the pesto in a child's packed lunch contains nuts or not. As a result, we are asking that you **DO NOT include pesto in your child's packed lunch or snacks.**

Please also keep an eye out for "hidden" nuts in products, such as bakewell tarts, battenburg cakes and madeleines, all of which have come into school in children's lunch boxes.



School Governors

St Louis School Governors

Bethan Byrne bethanbyrne@stlouisacademy.co.uk	Co Chair Health and Safety	Parent
Marc Walker Marcwalker@stlouisacademy.co.uk	Co Chair	Diocese
Jennifer Balmer jennybalmer@stlouisacademy.co.uk	Vice chair SEND	Diocese
Lucille Martin Headteacher admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk		Diocese
Charles Dore charlesdore@stlouisacademy.co.uk		Diocese
Fr Leonard Michael stetheldreda@btinternet.com		Diocese
Kofi Atuah kofiatuah@stlouisacademy.co.uk		Diocese
Ann Sugrue annsugrue@stlouisacademy.co.uk	RE	Diocese
Emily Burbridge emilyburbridge@stlouisacademy.co.uk	Safeguarding	Diocese
Kiri Wyatt kiriwyatt@stlouisacademy.co.uk		Staff Governor

Crossing Rayes Lane and Fordham Road Safely

Where there is a pavement or footway, use it. Take care when crossing cycle and horse lanes on the road. Cyclists may be travelling quietly but can be faster than other traffic. If you are looking after someone younger than you, always hold their hand when on the road.

Remember to look both ways.

1. Find a safe place to cross.
2. Stop just before you get to the kerb.
3. Look all around for traffic and listen.
4. If traffic (horses too) are coming, let them



Children and Horse Safety In Rayes Lane and Fordham Road

Check for horses even when the horse crossing lights are on green;

Walk behind the horse safety barriers on Rayes Lane;

Always hold your child's hand crossing the road;

Walk quietly near to the horses;

Dismount your scooter or bike near the horses;

Cross from Waitrose calmly and quickly, looking all around for oncoming horses;

Older children need reminding to be aware of their surroundings and not their phone screens.

Rollerblading, scooting or skating



Becky Jackson Horse Riding
OPEN DAY
MONDAY 5TH MAY '25

10.30am - 4.00pm
FREE ENTRY!

Activities to include:

- Riding lesson demos
- Pony Rides
- Musical Ride Demonstration
- Fun Dog Show & "have a go" agility course
- Face painting & tattoos
- Family Scavenger hunt
- BBQ & Refreshments
- Raffle
- 2nd hand riding equipment shop
- Groom & cuddle a pony

Contact Us:

beckyjacksonhorseriding@gmail.com

07808 737644

For more info follow us on:



Anchor Stables

Herringswell Road, Kentford. CB8 7QR



La Jolie Ronde Fun French for Children

AFTER-SCHOOL FRENCH CLASSES AT ST LOUIS CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to confirm that *La Jolie Ronde* French lessons for KS1 at St Louis will resume week commencing 28 April 2025

Classes are held after school on Wednesdays from 3:35-4:05 pm and are open to new joiners as well as returning pupils.

Lessons are 30 minutes in duration at a cost of £7.00 per lesson (+ £18 for the accompanying interactive book & app that will last for at least one year) payable termly in advance. We have lots of fun with age-appropriate games, rhymes, role plays and stories and each pupil receives plenty of individual attention in a friendly and supportive environment.

Children at this age have the ability to quickly pick up a second language and the programme is designed to enhance their confidence and challenge them so that they can excel at French and develop their language skills to the highest level possible.

Places are limited so please contact me directly for further information and to reserve a space for your child.

Please note that I also offer after-school French lessons for KS2 pupils on Thursdays at Foley House Children's Centre in Newmarket.

Kristine Bantick

La Jolie Ronde Languages for Children