Serfboard No.1 Friday 11th September 2026

Welcome to the first SERFboard newsletter of the new academic year!

It has been wonderful to welcome both our new and returning pupils back to school, and to see the excitement and energy around the school as we begin another year together.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new Year 5 pupils and their families, who are beginning their journey with us. We also welcome a small number of pupils in other year groups. We are proud of the way our pupils have settled into the routines and expectations of the new school year and look forward to sharing their successes, achievements and experiences with you throughout the coming months. As many of you know, we have moved to a 2 week timetable this year, so pupils have done very well adjusting to this new way of working.

Thank you to pupils across the school who have given up their time at the beginning of term to act as ‘buddies’ for our new joiners. It is so lovely to see friendships starting to blossom already.

Our start of year assembly with Mrs Adamson on Monday morning reminded everyone in our community of our school vision, taken from the parable of the mustard seed. We also

considered what school means to us and how we would like to grow and develop this year. In particular, we thought about how important it was to have faith in ourselves and that we can all do well if we try. Perhaps you could talk at home about what your child wants to achieve this year?

We also welcomed Wayne Dixon from Christian Connections who delivered our collective worship on Wednesday. Pupils always love having Wayne join us in school. Our new joiners, in particular, are looking forward to hearing his rap when he returns to us next Monday for our wellbeing afternoon!

Ofsted

At the end of the summer term, existing families will be aware that we had an Ofsted inspection on our last full week of term. We are very pleased with the outcome of the inspection. Parents and carers will receive a letter today sharing the full findings. The report reflects the careful self-evaluation we have been undertaking as a school and recognises the strengths and positive work that we are so proud of. We are grateful to our wonderful staff, pupils and families for the part they all play in making our school such a special place to learn and grow.

Year 5 Pupil Blessing

We were delighted to hold a special blessing this morning for all our new pupils. This included Year 5 and also pupils who have joined other year groups this year.

This special occasion was marked with prayers and a blessing from Reverend Sally and Canon David from our parish churches, to welcome the new pupils to our school. The blessing always provides an opportunity for reflection as the pupils begin their journey with us. We reflected on the parable of the mustard seed (Matthew 13), on which our school vision is based, as this inspires us to think about how our pupils will grow and flourish during their time here.

PSA – we need your help!

Our PSA are integral to our school community. We are so grateful for the time and effort families dedicate to our school community. Our first PSA AGM will be held on 21st September at 6pm. Please come along to offer ideas, lend a helping hand or generally just find out what is involved. The fundraising that is done by the PSA is so important to enrichment opportunities that we can offer your child. Quite simply, we couldn’t offer the range we do without their support, and they then cannot function without parent volunteers. We are looking for families to join us across all year groups – we promise you

don’t have to sign your life away but we really do need some more people than we currently have! If you think you can get involved, please pop along to the meeting to find out more. It will take place in the main hall.

New Year 5 Disco

What better way to settle into school life than by dancing your way around our school hall!

We’re excited to introduce our first-ever Year 5 Disco, taking place on Friday 25th September. It’s a fantastic opportunity for our new Year 5 pupils to meet others across the year group, make new friends and get to know each other in a fun and relaxed setting.

We’ve decided to start with a Year 5-only disco to help everyone ease into the new school year before the highly anticipated whole-school disco later in the year!

Tickets are now on sale via the link below:

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sterfpsa/?event=event&eventId=121476

Get your dancing shoes ready — we can’t wait to see our Year 5s on the dance floor!

The PSA also need parent volunteers to supervise the Year 5 disco. Please sign up via https://volunteersignup.org/LEJWE

New Year 5 Family Social

While your children are enjoying the disco, the PSA will be hosting some welcome drinks for Year 5 families at school.

Simply drop your child off at the disco, then join us for a relaxed and informal opportunity to meet other parents and families in your child’s year group.

It’s a great chance to put some names to faces, have a chat and start the new year together!

Leadership Opportunities

Providing leadership opportunities for pupils is something we feel extremely passionate about as a school. Giving back to our school community through our school value ‘service’ is an important part of developing our pupils to become well-rounded individuals.

This week we have been busy launching leadership opportunities across the school.

School Council

This week, all form groups have been busy electing their School Council representatives. Pupils gave presentations to their form groups, explaining why they would make a good representative and sharing their ideas for how they could help make a positive difference across the school.

We are delighted to announce that 32 pupils have been elected from across the school. Our School Council representatives will attend termly meetings, where they will have the opportunity to share pupil voice, discuss ideas and help shape positive changes within our school community.

On 28th September, our elected representatives will also have the exciting opportunity to visit Parliament. Further details about this visit will be shared in due course.

A huge congratulations to all the pupils who stood for election. The school council names can be seen on the picture below.

House Captains and Vice House Captains

If you have a child in Year 7 or 8 that is looking to become a House Captain, please remind them to sign up on the sheet on the House board in the Main Hall by Tuesday 15th September. Pupils will need to prepare a speech to present to their House about why they would be the best person for the job.

The house assemblies will be held;

Alban: Thursday 17th Sept - Hall

Bede: Thursday 17th Sept - Gym

Columba: Friday 18th Sept - Gym

Dunstan: Friday 18th Sept – Hall

Open Evening

Spread the word!

Open evening for prospective pupils takes place next week on Thursday 17th September from 6pm – 8pm with two headteacher's talks at 6.15pm and 7.00pm. A reminder that school finishes that day at 2pm. We are hoping that as many of our pupils as possible can come and help with this. If you know of any families that are considering middle school soon, please let them know. We know that word of mouth is always so impactful! We are also holding three Open Mornings on the 23rd and 28th September and the 1st October between 9:15am-10:30am. These events are a great opportunity to see our wonderful school environment, the facilities and the high-quality education that we offer here. Families

wishing to visit do not need to book on but it would be helpful if you could register interest by emailing openevening@sterf.org.uk to help us gauge numbers.

Clubs

We have so many clubs on offer that vary each term. Don't forget to book on SIMS Parent. A separate letter has been sent to families about how to do this. Club begin this coming Monday which all pupils are excited about!

Student Council

5/1	Kitty F-G, Ayed S
5/2	James B, Evie J
5/3	Laurie B-M, Maeve M
5/4	Savannah C, Ellis T
6/1	Jude P , Camille S
6/2	Skye C, Rocco G
6/3	Audrey E, Salvador O
6/4	Antoine H, Elizabeth W
7/1	Tishe A, Sean S
7/2	Thomas C, Sienna S DC
7/3	Arthur T, Maya M-G
7/4	Elijah S. Tilly P.
8/1	Lottie L., Dylan C.
8/2	Zane G, Chloe S
8/3	Quinn A, Mia H.
8/4	Helena T, Spencer M

ST. EDWARD'S ROYAL FREE
ECUMENICAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

LEARNING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

SERVICE EXCELLENCE RESPECT FAITH

OPEN MORNING

24 SEPTEMBER 2026
28 SEPTEMBER 2026
1 OCTOBER 2026
9.15 - 10.30am

OPEN EVENING

17 SEPTEMBER 2026
6 - 8pm

St Edward's Royal Free
Ecumenical Middle School
look forward to welcoming you.

Please register
your interest:

www.sterf.org.uk

Year 8 Prefect Team 2026-2027

We are delighted to announce our new Year 8 Prefect Team for 2026/27. We are confident that they will be excellent role models, supporting the day-to-day running of the school and helping with a range of important events throughout the year. Becoming a prefect is a fantastic opportunity for pupils as they begin Year 8, allowing them to develop valuable leadership skills and gain experience that will benefit them in the future. Congratulations to all the pupils who put themselves forward and to those who have been selected. We look forward to seeing the positive contribution they will make to our school community.

Sterf Head Pupils

Our new Head Pupils have officially taken up their roles this week, and they have already made a fantastic start!

They have embraced their responsibilities with enthusiasm, confidence and maturity, showing exactly what it means to be positive role models for our school community. From welcoming others and supporting pupils to setting a great example around school, they have represented our school values brilliantly.

We are incredibly proud of the way they have stepped into their new roles and look forward to seeing all they will achieve throughout the year.

Welcome Year 5s

Wow, what a brilliant start and a huge well done to all our new Year 5 pupils who have already managed to settle into St. Edward's Middle school life. We can clearly see how much they've grown and adapted since their first transfer days in July. This is in large part to families supporting at home, so thank you for all of your help. They have shown so much resilience navigating start of year assessments, new classes and teachers and of course their lockers! We look forward to many more events this term such as our new Year 5 blessing this week, meet the tutors, year 5 PSA disco on the 25th September and Celebration day in October to continue welcoming our year 5s into the Sterf community.

Keep up the great work Year 5 and remember to read your library books 20 minutes a day for homework.

Mrs. Cairns and the Year 5 team

WWW Young Writers Competition

What a great news from the Windsor Writers!

Four of St Edward's Royal Free Middle School students were shortlisted and will receive a prize at the special awards ceremony on 10th October in The Old Court, Windsor.

Huge congratulations to Charlotte and Grace both 7/3; Nora (ex-6/3) and Phoebe (ex-6/2) as they all are clearly very talented writers!

PE Serfboard

News

Uniform Reminder. The pupils have all been reminded about PE uniform expectations which can be found on the school website. We would like to remind pupils that they should not be wearing any form of jewellery during PE lessons due to health and safety, this does include studded earrings. We do ask that if pupils are going to struggle to remove their earrings or struggle to keep them in a safe place during PE, that they do not wear them to school on PE

days. We politely ask that pupils refrain from fresh piercings for the remainder of the school year, however, if there is a genuine reason why then please write a note in their planner for the PE staff to see.

Curriculum

This term pupils will be participating in the following activities during their lessons.

KS2 PE: Fitness

KS2 Games: Tag rugby (Studded boots may be required towards the end of term when the ground is wet/soft. Updates will be given to pupils in lessons and through the daily bulletin)

KS3 PE: Fitness

KS3 Games: Netball

Football trials

Thank you to all the KS3 pupils who trialled last night for the Yr7, Yr8 and Girls' teams. We were very impressed at the great number of pupils who gave up their time to show their sporting talents. Teams will be decided and pupils will be informed ASAP. Good luck and well done to all who were involved.

Clubs

Please remember to bring PE kit to change into after school if you have not got PE/Games on this day. Please remember non-attendance on two occasions will result in your place being given to another pupil on the waiting list.

Upcoming events

Tuesday 22nd September- Year 7 Sports leader conference @ Stovell

5/1 swimming lessons start- 23rd September until 18th November

Sterf Quiz Night

STERF Quiz Night!

Come along and join us for our **STERF Quiz Night**! Bring your mastermind brains, general knowledge and competitive spirit for what promises to be a fun-filled evening.

Doors open at 6:30pm, with the licensed bar available from the start of the evening. The quiz will begin at **7:15pm**.

Book your tickets via the PSA Facebook page https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sterfpsa/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=121090&fbclid=IwZnRzaAUIwIpwZG9mBWZkaWQWUN3yKoWB4WXBGRIWyw9fa_8cl6HTM2V4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydGMGYXBwX2lkCjY2Mjg1NjgzNzkAAR68u5yso94XHTsVaBrQEh9fwIJTuvqW3CL7DcwdiqhtmqZLvk93sv1kqxJOqw_aem_fucpV4qrDOVaHunkxESygw

Food will be served at approximately **8:00pm**, followed by the second half of the quiz. We expect the evening to finish at around **10:00pm**.

Teams

- Maximum of **8 people per team**
- Don't worry if you don't have a team — we can allocate you to one on the night!

Food Options

When purchasing your ticket, please select your preferred option:

A) Ticket only — no food

B) Ticket with **five slices of pizza**

C) Ticket with a **regular-sized fish and chips**

A **licensed bar** will also be available throughout the evening, with both **cash and card payments accepted**.

Please let us know about any **food allergies or intolerances** when booking.

We look forward to seeing you there for a fantastic evening of fun, food and friendly competition! 🏆

Sterf Tesco Community Grant

We need your help!

The PSA have been successful in supporting the PE Department in the Tesco Blue Token Stronger Start Community Grant. Thank you to Thomas's mum (Year 7) Jane Symmons in applying for the grant.

We will be raising funds for PE equipment. We want to empower growing children through diverse sports to boost physical health, foster inclusive play, and build lifelong confidence, teamwork, and positive wellbeing.

The project with the highest number of votes across your region will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000, and the third placed project £500.

What happens next?

We need your help!

Voting is underway in store since Monday 3rd August 2026. It will continue until the end of November 2026.

Pop your blue tokens into boxes at:

- Windsor Superstore SL4 4JT
- Windsor Peascod Street Express SL4 1EA
- Datchet Tesco Express SL3 9HW
- Windsor Tesco Express SL4 3QL
- Langley Slough Express Express SL3 8BB
- Slough Express Express SL3 7HR

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction.

Fingers crossed we can collect as many tokens as possible!

PSA Sterf Year 5 Disco

Reminder that the Sterf PSA Disco for Year pupils will be taking place on 25th September at 6pm. Please click on the link below to book your ticket;

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sterfpsa/?event=event&eventId=121476

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Rotary in Maidenhead Presents...

Maidenhead Boundary Walk

Sunday 4th October 2026

Starting from Boulters Lock Car Park - 9.00am to 10.30am

Open to walkers of all ages and abilities, whether you are an individual, group or family this is your opportunity to participate in an historical event, have some fun, and raise much needed money for your chosen causes.

JOIN US in what we hope will be a fun event and an opportunity for walkers to participate in the history of the Boundary walk. Good luck!

All proceeds from the event donated to The Rotary Foundation: Doing good in the World.