



# NEWSLETTER

## ST PAUL'S C of E JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS & INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### Headteacher's News

What a frantically busy term it has been! The children have worked so hard and we are extremely proud of their achievements and progress since September.

The last few weeks have been particularly busy with festive events, including the Christmas Fair. The PTA did a brilliant job of planning and running this event and went on to organise pudding deliveries and discos. Thank you to the Committee for their sterling efforts and for our lovely new piano. We've put it to good use in hymn practice, rehearsals and Monday's Talents Assemblies.

Well done to our Year 5 and 6 choir for their contribution to the Loddon Valley Carol Concert. The children gave up lots of lunchtimes to rehearse and learn hundreds of words. They were ably led by Mrs Cross and supported by Mrs Wallis on the day. It was a wonderful concert, the perfect combination of a 400 strong children's choir and a full orchestra.

Last week's Christmas celebrations were very special, with the children's performances going from strength to strength. They did us proud, reminding us what Christmas is really all about. Thank you for your generosity with our collection for Crisis at Christmas. Our aim was to raise £270, sufficient money to provide 12 homeless people with a Christmas day to remember – 3 hot meals, a shower and change of clothes, and a health check with a doctor, dentist and optician. Thanks to your kindness we actually raised £1006.20, enough money to give 48 homeless people the chance to experience a very special day with many of the comforts that we take for granted. Thank you so much!

On Friday Kerry and her team cooked 341 delicious Christmas dinners. We had two sittings, Years 3 and 4 followed by 5 and 6. The PTA provided crackers and the staff waited on tables and cleared up after the mammoth feast.

Congratulations to those children who performed in yesterday's Talents Assemblies. The acts were superb and a great way to showcase our gymnasts, pianists, percussionists, magicians, dancers, violinists, guitarists and singers.

Sadly today we will say goodbye to Arun Birght-Thomas (6L) who is returning to the Coombes. We also say farewell to Mrs Sweeney who has taken great care of 3D whilst Miss McDonogh was unwell.

It is also goodbye to Mrs Parker who leaves St Paul's to spend more time with her family. Mrs Parker has made a huge contribution to both Year 5 and Year 3 during her time here and we wish her every happiness for the future.

Finally, on behalf of the staff and Governors all that remains is for me to wish you a very happy Christmas and peaceful new year. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 08.40 am.

### Safeguarding

St Paul's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils and expects all pupils, staff, parents, volunteers, visitors and external agencies to share this commitment. As you would expect, the school has robust safeguarding procedures and our new Safeguarding Policy is now available on our website:

[http://www.stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk/website/safeguarding\\_child\\_protection/68110](http://www.stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk/website/safeguarding_child_protection/68110)

Here you will also find a wealth of information and links to advice and guidance for parents regarding issues surrounding safeguarding and child protection. Should you have any concerns, please contact:

- Mrs Taylor – Senior Designated CP Officer
- Ms Edwards – Deputy Designated CP Officer
- Mrs Ambler – Deputy Designated CP Officer

Alternatively you can email your concerns to [safeguarding@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk)

All pupils are regularly taught about e-safety as part of the Computing curriculum. E-safety is

crucially important and remains high on our agenda. We will again this year run an e-safety evening for parents and very much hope that you will be able to attend. For further guidance about safety online please refer to:

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>.

### **Uniform and Attendance**

We take great pride in our school and our uniform is just one of the ways of demonstrating this. We ask all parents to ensure that their children are dressed in the correct clothes and black shoes. Trainers are permitted only for PE and Games.

All children should have the correct PE kit in school. This consists of navy blue shorts and a white t-shirt. Navy sweatshirt and joggers are optional for outdoor Games lessons. **No football team shirts please!**

**Please ensure all items of clothing and shoes are clearly labelled with your child's name.**

**Hair:** Hair styles should be kept simple and appropriate for school. Long hair must be tied back with simple accessories. Boys' hair should be neat and tidy and appropriate for school. We politely request that razored or tram line styles are saved for the summer holidays.

### **Jewellery**

Pupils are discouraged from wearing jewellery to school and the only items permitted are one small pair of silver or gold stud earrings and a watch. If a child wears any style of earrings, apart from plain studs, they will be asked to remove them.

Children are not allowed to wear earrings during PE lessons and we would be grateful if you could ensure these are removed prior to the day. Staff cannot remove earrings for children nor can the School accept responsibility for any jewellery that may be lost. No make-up, nail varnish or tattoos are to be worn in school.

### **Times of the day**

Doors open at 8.40am and school starts promptly at 8.50am. This is when the Murray Road gates are locked. Any pupil arriving after this time will need to enter via the Oxford Road entrance to sign in and order lunch. The Murray

Road gates are unlocked at approximately 3.15pm each day in time for the end of school at 3.30pm.

### **5\* Rating for the Kitchen**

Earlier this term we had an 'unannounced' inspection from Wokingham Borough Council Health & Safety/Hygiene — the kitchen passed with flying colours gaining a 5\* rating. Well done to Kerry and her team.

### **Charity Fundraising**

We've had a very busy term already fundraising for a number of charities. Without your generosity we would not be able to help make a difference. Thank you very much. So far this term we have raised:

£361.72 for Jeans for Genes Day

£1512 Race for Life as part of Healthy School Week; and

£250.24 for our Macmillan Coffee Morning.

### **Pupil Achievements**

In September Amelie Bowles competed at the Southern Region Gymnastics Championships in Portsmouth. This was an individual competition and she competed at Level 5, doing fantastically well achieving gold on Bars, gold on Beam, bronze on Floor and 7th on Vault which resulted in her winning the competition with a gold medal and title 'Southern Region Champion 2016' for her age group. This month she has also been invited to represent Berkshire at the Invitational Team Championships and will also compete in the Quatro Cup. A fantastic achievement.

Heather Partridge recently completed the 800m Family Rainbow Run – well done.

Congratulations also to Emily Mugnier who successfully auditioned for The English Youth Ballet's production of Sleeping Beauty at The New Oxford Theatre.

### **School Crossing Patrol**

Thank you to Mrs Burch for the important job she does as school crossing patroller. She is out in all weather, rain or shine seeing children and parents safely across the road.

### **St Paul's Year 5 & 6 Netball Team**

On the 18th we played Piggott school in a netball match. We won 5-0. 2 goals were scored by Hollie Glencross, 2 goals were scored by

Harriet Randall, and 1 goal was scored by Sophie Carless. Unfortunately, as the whistle blew, Phoebe Tomsett scored a goal but it didn't count. The whole team played amazingly and I hope we will win the next match.

**Match Report by Bethan Lander**

On 7<sup>th</sup> December St Paul's played a netball match against St Teresa's school. At the beginning of the match our captain and their captain did a toss up to see whose centre pass it is. In the first quarter Bethan Lander and Harriet Randall scored one point each but just when the whistle blew Bethan scored but it didn't count.

In the second quarter Gabrielle Lokuciewski scored three points which took us up to five points. St Teresa had scored no points at that time.

Then in the third quarter Sophie Carless scored one point. In the last quarter Hollie Glencross scored two which took us up to eight points. At the end St Paul's won with 8 points. At the end of the match we did three cheers for St Teresa and they did it back. Then we chose in our teams who we think should be the player of the match. St Paul's chose a boy called Conner, St Teresa chose a girl called Hollie Glencross. That is the end of the match and St Paul's won.

**Match Report by Hollie Glencross**

### **Library Assistant Required**

A Parent Helper opportunity has become available. Our librarian is seeking a self-motivated, friendly, approachable and organised individual who can spare a few hours each Monday and Friday, 2pm - 3:15pm.

The main responsibilities will be to loan and return books using the computerised system, offer help and advice to the visiting pupils. All training will be provided on site.

Please register your interest via the school office.

<b>Dates for your Diary</b>	
20 December	END OF TERM – 2.00 PM
4 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET DAY <b>School Closed</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> January	Term Begins

### **Golden Certificate Winners**

Caitlyn Hyde	Faye Tonner
Bryony Thornton	Samuel Johnson
Jack Jones	Sebastian Grover
Emilia Hamilton	Milo Kirby
Mrs Wilson	Lauren Hale
Mr Wilkinson	Mrs Law
Mrs Carless	Mrs Holt
Mrs Wiles	Mrs Westlake
Mrs McBain	Mrs Brook
5P	Mrs Hallows
3D	Mrs Beldom

## **Does your child have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)?**

From 1st September 2014 The Children and Families Act introduced changes to the support for children and young people who have special educational needs and disability. One of the key changes introduced as part of these reforms was the publishing of a Local Offer which enables parents and young people to see what services and facilities are available in their area and how they can be accessed. The Wokingham Borough's Local Offer can be viewed on the Wokingham Borough Council website: [www.wokingham.gov.uk/lo](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/lo)

If you do not have access to the internet the CAN Network can support you to find the information you require by telephoning: 0118 974 6818. The Local Offer also provides the opportunity for parents, carers and young people to provide feedback on provision available in the borough and comment on the online Local Offer.

The council is keen to hear your views to help us with the continual development of the Local Offer and the provision available. This can be done through our online survey or by contacting the Family Information Service:

Survey: [www.wokingham.gov.uk/lo-survey](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/lo-survey)

Email: [info.families@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:info.families@wokingham.gov.uk)

Tel: 0118 908 8466

The online Local Offer also provides information on other changes brought in as part of the SEND reforms, including Education, Health and Care Plans which are replacing statements of SEN.