

St Paul's Newsletter – Autumn 22.11.24

'One body, every person, growing together.'



Safeguarding Team: Julieanne Taylor – Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead
Linda Tritton – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,



It has been a very busy two weeks! Last Friday's discos were a great success and our fabulous PTA committee and volunteers raised a fantastic £972.15. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and I have it on good authority, they are looking forward to dancing the night away at the next one! The next big event is our Christmas Fair so get selling those raffle tickets to family and friends!



Year 5 enjoyed a visit from the Fire Service and heard all about their work, including the specialist kit fire fighters wear and what is involved in a search and rescue response. Thankfully, there were no emergency calls and the visit went undisturbed, unlike in other years when they have had to hit the blue lights and race away.

All of the candidates standing for House Captain worked exceptionally hard preparing their speeches for the whole school. The pupils and staff were impressed by the high calibre of the candidates and by their presentations. The election took place last Friday and each pupil had an opportunity to cast their vote for the girl and boy they would like to see represent their House. It was a very close-run competition this year and I have no doubt that every candidate would have been an excellent ambassador for St Paul's! They each deserve a big 'Well done!'



The children elected for 2024 - 2025 are:

Lewis	Anna and Charlie
Jameson	Isobel and Finley
Selwyn	Bethan and Arjun
Walter	Georgia and Megh

Now that the majority of works have been completed on the playground, we have finally been able to open our Wellbeing Gym. Chris Gaskell visited on Monday, leading a whole school assembly on safe use of each piece of equipment and then ran workshop sessions throughout the day to show the children and staff how to get the most of this brilliant resource!

We rounded this week off with a visit from M&M Theatre Company for our Christmas Panto of Peter Pan. The production was such good fun, with plenty of audience participation including staff members out at the front dancing the Macarena. It was lovely to see all of the children laughing and singing along to all the songs and on their behalf, I would like to thank Mrs Deen for organising a morning of high-quality fun for everyone. The children were hooked from the opening line to the final scene and brought the house down with their applause!

Storm Burt is on the way so take extra care if you are travelling this weekend.

Stay safe, everyone.

Mrs Taylor

Christmas Celebration and Christmas Lunch

To enable our kitchen to prepare for our Christmas Lunch on 18th December, **they must have all orders by next Thursday, 28th November.** You should have received a ParentMail Form earlier this week to select your choice.

The menu options for the day are:

Roast Turkey with Pork Chipolata Sausage and Sage and Onion Stuffing
Roast Turkey - VEGAN CHIPOLATA INSTEAD OF PORK
Sweet Potato/Parsnip Loaf & Vegan Chipolata with Sage and Onion Stuffing

All options are served with roast potatoes, carrots, peas and sprouts followed by a festive rice krispie cake.

If you have any queries please email office@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to secure your tickets for our Christmas Celebration at St Paul's church, the 5pm performance on Tuesday 10th December has now sold out. There are tickets still available to order for the 2pm performances on both Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th December. [Order Christmas Performance Tickets Here!](#)

Maths Challenge



A huge congratulations to Baily, Matias, Siqi and Dhruv from Year 4 for recently representing our school in the Lambrook School Year 4 Mathematics Challenge.

A total of 50 teams competed from various local schools in a fun morning of mathematical challenges and problem-solving activities. Their maths skills were really put to the test! Both teams did incredibly well, being placed in the top 20 and with Bailey and Matias finishing in third place. Well done to them all!

Caterlink Survey

Caterlink are carrying out their annual pupil survey to assist them in improving our catering service. If you would like to take part follow the link or use the QR code. The deadline is 30th November.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RLKQLHJ>



Well Done!



We are delighted that Jiya (4L) was awarded 2nd and 3rd in her gymnastics competition at Pinewood gymnastics held on Saturday 9th November. She was awarded silver in floor and bronze in vault.

Also in exciting news, Tvisha (3H) recently earned her red belt in Karate. She has been dedicated in her practice and is now just two belts away from achieving her ultimate goal – the black belt! Congratulations to both girls.



Dikshaga (5B) has taken the plunge and had her beautiful hair cut short, donating it to the Little Princess Trust. Well done, Dikshaga, for your kind and generous support of others. We love your new hairstyle!



Congratulations to Marc (6T) who was placed 2nd in the country in the 65cc class for Motocross 2024. Marc has been described as 'someone to watch' and has a long list of wins under his belt this season. Well done, Marc, on this brilliant achievement!



Piano Looking for a New Home



Our piano is in need of a new home. If you are interested in giving it a new place to be loved, please be aware that it will need to be collected from our premises. The piano's dimensions are as follows: 1160mm high, 1400mm wide and 620mm deep. We hope that it can bring joy to one of our families.

Please email office@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

Sports News



Both our Y3/4 and Y5/6 Girl's football teams were in action last week. The girls all had a fabulous time and it was wonderful to see their confidence increasing during the afternoon, finishing with an emphatic 5-0 win over St Teresa's. The girls were encouraged and supported by Faith who inspired the girls and was referee for all the matches. Well done to all the girls who took part.

The Y5/6 girls played in the Wokingham District Football tournament at Cantley Park last Friday. They started slowly with a 0-2 loss but didn't lose again until the semi-final. This was a tense match - despite lots of attempts at goal. The keeper from the Coombes school made some outstanding saves to keep the score at 0-0. Unfortunately, the girls lost 2-3 on penalties, but they should be really proud of their performance.



This week, we started with the 2nd session of the Leadership Academy at the Holt. The Sports Leaders had to manage their activity for Y3/4 children from St Paul's and also from all the other schools taking part. The Sports Leaders had a ball and learnt a lot during their sessions. They are now officially qualified! Congratulations to Giorgia, Rosie, Sadie, Noah D, Noah BW, Nathaniel and Chaitanya. Thank you to all our fantastic younger pupils who thoroughly enjoyed taking part.

On Wednesday, we had the School Games Indoor Athletics Competition at Maiden Erlegh School. The children all took part in a variety of running races, throwing and jumping events. They were all a credit to St Paul's and we were so proud of them. Now we have a nervous wait to see how we did compared to the other schools.



Finally, we had our second TVRL event yesterday at Lightwater Country Park. We had nearly 60 keen runners taking part. Despite the freezing temperatures the children were very enthusiastic and it was wonderful to see so many proud and happy faces - both children and adults!! Thank you to our fantastic marshals and to all parents, particularly those who gave lifts to others.

Home-Start Wokingham Support

Are you struggling with the daily challenges of parenting? - do you have a child under the age of five?

Do you:

- Feel isolated in your community, with no family nearby and struggling to make friends?
- Feel overwhelmed with postnatal illness but find it hard to talk to anyone about it?
- Feel like you are having a hard time coping with your child's behaviour?
- Struggle with the emotional and physical demands of having young children?
- Struggle to cope with a mental or physical disability?

Maybe you just need someone to talk to? Someone who won't judge you; a shoulder to cry on or perhaps someone to play with or read to your young children so that you can do some household chores. Please see how to get help via the following link.

<https://home-startwd.org.uk/how-to-get-help>

Or email admin@home-startwd.org.uk

Being a parent has never been easy. HomeStart offer free, non-judgmental, compassionate support in your home for a few hours a week, by a trained volunteer, who will provide emotional and practical support and friendship to help you get through a particularly tough time.

Forest School News



We have welcomed 6D and 5K to the woods over the past two Monday afternoons. Both classes rose to the challenge and wowed us with their artistic skills while creating ground art out of the many leaves from the woodland floor.





Our afternoon groups have been den building. All of the children created dens that were big enough for them to get in and strong enough to give them shelter and keep them dry during any rainstorm! Although the weather had dropped considerably this week, the children did not let this stop them achieving great results.



During our reflection, we talked about the school values that they had used during the afternoon. The children spoke about being caring and kind, being determined and resilient, the importance of having a voice and listening to others as well as being encouraging and collaborating, our school vision of "One body, every person, growing together" was evident through the actions of every member of our school community in the woodland this week.

25/11	02/12
4L	3H

Please remember to send your child to their Forest School session with long trousers and a warm, waterproof coat and winter woollies.

Indoor PE and Games

Indoor PE			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
5B 3D 3H	5K 3B 4P	5M 4R 6S	6T 6D 4L

On indoor PE days, pupils should come to school in uniform, bringing their kit with them to change into.

For indoor PE, children should only be wearing shorts and t-shirts with trainers. NOT JOGGERS

Outdoor Games

All classes have Games on Thursdays. Pupils should come to school dressed in PE kit (navy or black shorts or tracksuit, plain white t-shirt). At this time of year, we also recommend gloves, scarves and hats be worn. **Games lessons take place every week in all but the most extreme weather and we ask that pupils bring their uniform too, in case they have to change into dry clothes.**

Vacancies

We currently have three vacancies:

Learning Mentor: Monday – Friday 8.50am – 3.30pm

Learning Mentor with added Lunchtime Controller duties: Monday – Friday 8.50am – 1.30pm

Lunchtime Controller: Monday – Friday 12.15pm – 1.45pm

Please share if you know anybody who may be interested in applying for a position. Full details can be found on our website <https://www.stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk/web/>

Absence Reporting

We no longer to subscribe to the Absence Reporting section of ParentMail.

Absences must be reported in writing by emailing absence@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

If your child is not able to attend school due to illness, you must email by 8.15am on each day of the absence, ensuring you give your child's name, class and symptoms. Stating that your child is 'unwell' is not sufficient information for our records.

Any request for term time leave must be in writing on our Leave of Absence Request Form, which can be found on our website under parents > absence reporting

Next Week at School

Monday 25 th November 7pm	Spring Term Clubs Bookings Open
Thursday 28 th November	Deadline for Ordering School Christmas Lunch
Friday 29 th November 9.00am	5M Class Assembly

Diary Dates

Wednesday 4 th December 9.00am	Anxiety Workshop for Parents
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Thursday 5 th December 9.00am	4R Class Assembly
Friday 6 th December 3.30pm – 5.30pm	Christmas Fair
Monday 9 th December 2.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church
Tuesday 10 th December 2.00pm and 5.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church
Friday 13 th December 9.00am	4P Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 th December	School Christmas Lunch
Friday 20 th December 2.00PM	Last Day of Term – 2PM FINISH



🎄 Join us for festive fun & activities this December at JAG! 🇬🇧

As December arrives, our wraparound clubs are gearing up to bring festive sparkle to your child's days. Every day will shine with seasonal games, activities, and crafts from our **Adventure Programme**, giving every child the chance to celebrate, create, and explore.

Here are some of the special occasions we'll be celebrating this December:

❄️ **Antarctica Day (W/C Monday 2nd)**

We're diving into the wonders of the "coolest" continent! To celebrate Antarctica Day, children will explore the signing of the Antarctic Treaty through quizzes, games, and activities from our **Brain Boosters** category.

🎄 **Christmas Jumper Day (Thursday, December 12th)**

It's Christmas Jumper Day! Children can wear their silliest, sparkliest jumpers and enjoy fun activities from our **Wellbeing Warriors** category, including selfies at the Christmas Jumper Station and mindful colouring.

🇬🇧 **Christmas Celebrations (W/C Monday 16th)**

The countdown to Christmas begins! Children will dive into festive activities from our **Creative Inventors** category, creating crafts and learning about holiday traditions from around the world.

Don't miss out on December's festive fun, discovery, and celebration!

📱 **Secure your spot here:** <https://bookings.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/>

💛 **Parent Support:** <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/>

❓ **FAQs:** <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/frequently-asked-questions/>

💰 **Payment Options:** <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/payment-options/>

Come join the fun with JAG today!