

# St Paul's Newsletter – Autumn 11.10.24

*'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 Parents,

It has been a very busy week, with four tours for prospective parents, a monitoring visit from our School Improvement Officer and a brilliant assembly by 3H, who rocked their audience! The assembly made a great start to the day and it was lovely to see so many happy children celebrating their learning.



Wednesday was the first visit to St Paul's by our new School Improvement Officer from Wokingham Borough Council and he was very impressed by all he saw, particularly:

- The behaviour of the children;
- How calm and purposeful every classroom was;
- The vibrant environment & displays;
- How engaged the children are in lessons;
- The consistency in the quality of teaching;
- How focused we are as a school on learning;
- The high quality support being provided by our Learning Mentors.

Ofsted, SIAMs and now validation from the local authority for the hard work of our wonderful school. It is a privilege to be a member of this exceptional school family and I couldn't be prouder of the efforts of the pupils, staff and governors! On the topic of governors, I am delighted to be able to announce that we now have a new Chair of our Board, Stephen Howard. Stephen has been a governor for some time, chairing the Finance and Personnel Committee, but we are delighted that he has agreed to be the Chair of our Board and are looking forward to continuing to work alongside him in this new role.



Despite the chilly weather yesterday, the school looked very sunny with so many pupils and staff wearing yellow to mark World Mental Health day - thank you for your support in helping us raise awareness.

**"We stand brighter,  
together."**

## YEAR SIX

Our Year 6 pupils and staff will be packing this weekend, ready for the PGL residential. There is huge excitement at the prospect of taking part in activities like raft and buggy building and hitting the heights of the giant swing, climbing wall and trapeze. I will update the [website](#) several times a day so you can follow their adventures whilst they are away.

Have a great weekend, everyone! - Mrs Taylor

## Earrings

Our responsibility as a school should be to enable as many children as possible to participate in physical activity and school sport and we would like to clarify school policy on the wearing of earrings. Earrings present a hazard to both the wearer and other children taking part in sports activities.

Regardless of the practice in other schools, our policy is based on the guidance for schools from the Association of Physical Education (afPE) and is to prevent injury to the wearer or others:

- Children are not permitted to wear jewellery, including pierced earrings, during PE lessons.
- We ask that earrings are left at home on PE days;
- Teachers are not allowed to take out or replace children's earrings for a pupil;
- Children are responsible for their own earrings if they remove them whilst at school;
- Taping of earrings is not allowed as The Association for Physical Education (afPE) advice is that the taping of earrings 'creates a perception of safety and is not recommended'. There have been several incidences within the local authority where children's ears have been injured from earrings being ripped out of ear lobes from under the tape.

If a child has their ears pierced and are unable to remove their earrings, they will not be permitted to take part in the practical aspect of PE lessons for six weeks. During this period, they will be able to take on the role of umpire, referee or coach, where appropriate.

The fundamental reason not to wear earrings (or any jewellery) is that it can lead to injury for the wearer and for others in the class. Wearing earrings can result in tearing of the ear lobe and the post of the earring puncturing the neck.

If asked for advice about ear piercing, we always advise wait until the start of the summer holidays, to give piercings the opportunity to heal in time for the new academic year.

## School Photographs

Please contact the school office on [office@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk) if you have lost your child's code to buy the portrait photograph. **The deadline for parents to order photographs for school delivery is Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** which is the last day of half term.

## Aurora Borealis over Wokingham!

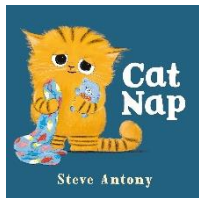


Many of our school family were very excited to see the spectacular display of the Northern Lights over Wokingham last night!

Noah (6T) and Saskia (3B) were lucky to capture some beautiful photographs.

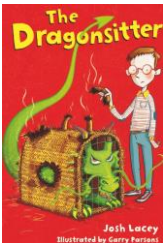
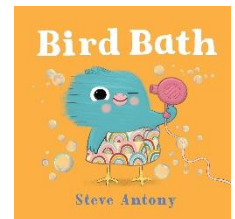
## Flu Immunisation

The School Nursing Team are visiting our school on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to administer the flu immunisation. If you have not already done so, please complete follow the link in the letter sent via ParentMail on 23<sup>rd</sup> September to provide consent. **It is equally important to complete the form if you do not consent to the vaccine being given.**



## Cat Nap and Bird Bath with Steve Antony – Wokingham Library – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 10am

Join bestselling author and illustrator Steve Antony for a fun and interactive reading of his latest picture books, Cat Nap and Bird Bath. Steve will also show the children how to draw their very own little animals. This will be a relaxed session.



## The Dragonsitter and The Time Travel Twins with Josh Lacey – Wokingham Town Hall – Sunday 20 October – 10am

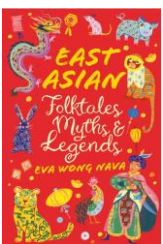
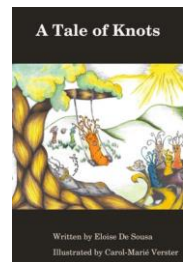
Josh will talk about his bestselling Dragonsitter series, which are ten very funny books about a boy who has to look after his uncle's pet dragon. He will also introduce his new series, The Time Travel Twins.

For ages 5 to 11.

## Campfire Stories: Unlocking your Imagination with Eloise De Sousa - Wokingham Library Sun 20th October - 1:30pm

Eloise will be discussing the creation of fiction and how to develop your thoughts into stories. She will also discuss her book a Tale of Knots.

For ages 6+.



## Writing the Nested Narrative Story with Eva Wong Nava - Wokingham Library – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 11:30am

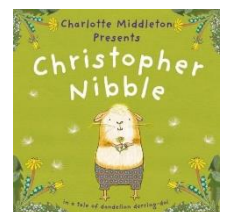
This talk will focus on writing a story within a story, and why this literary device is useful for structuring your children's story.

For ages 8+

## Christopher Nibble with Charlotte Middleton – Wokingham Town Hall – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 1.30pm

Christopher Nibble loves munching dandelion leaves, and he's not alone. All the guinea pigs in Dandeville eat dandelion leaves for breakfast, lunch and dinner. But no-one seems to do anything when the dandelions begin to dwindle. One day, Christopher Nibble discovers the very last dandelion in Dandeville and promises to look after it.

Charlotte will introduce children to the world of Christopher Nibble with interactive readings from her books followed by a Q and A session.



## A Journey through the world of Serendib with Nizrana Farook - Wokingham Library - Sunday 20th October – 1:30pm

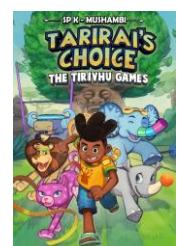
Join Nizrana Farook, best-selling author of The Girl Who Stole an Elephant and The Boy Who Saved a Bear, as she takes you on a journey through the world of her books. From an elephant and a whale to a leopard and bear, prepare to be inspired by the natural world and all the stories in it.

For ages 7 to 11.

## Tairai & the Safari Five – The Tirivhu Games with SP K-Mushambi - Wokingham Library - Sunday 20th October – 3pm

An Interactive book reading of SP K-Mushambi's upcoming book Tairai's Choice – The Tirivhu Games. Will Tairai's team finally come together and have a chance of winning the golden Tirivhu Cup?

For ages 4 to 8.



For booking information, please visit the [Wokingham Town Children's Book Festival Website](http://www.wokinghamtownchildrensbookfestival.co.uk).

## Forest School News



We welcomed 6S into the woodland on Monday afternoon. They worked collaboratively to produce some exceptional pieces of ground art.

Our afternoon groups have been busy this week: planting cauliflower and broccoli into our allotment and learning how to light the fire using the flint and steels. On Thursday afternoon, to recognise World Mental Health Day, the children gathered yellow leaves from the woodland floor and created some wreaths which they chose to hang on our gateway to the woodland to remind us all check in on our mental health and those around us.



A special mention to some of our Y6 pupils who took on some maintenance work in the woodland this week. They had noticed some trees that had been blown down in a storm earlier in the year and worked tirelessly and collaboratively to safely cut down the trees and get them into sizable pieces to use on our fire.



**We have noticed the weather getting cooler this week, so please remember to send your child to their Forest School session with long trousers and a warm, waterproof coat.** It won't be long before we'll all need to have our hats and gloves with us!

14/10	21/10	04/11	11/11	18/11	25/11	02/12
5M	4R	3B	6D	5K	4L	3H

## Thursday Games

Games lessons take place each week in all but the most extreme weather. With poorer weather upon us, please ensure your child brings their school uniform to school on Thursdays in case they need to change into dry clothes after their session. Pupils should come to school dressed in PE kit (navy/black shorts or tracksuit, plain white t-shirt)

## New Parent Tours

If you know any prospective new parents who may be interested in a tour of our fabulous school, we are now taking bookings.

Tour dates are:

9am Thursday 28th November

2pm Friday 29th November



Due to high demand, we have added a further date of 9am Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November

Prospective parents can book a place on a tour via TicketSource using this link: [Click here to book on our tour](#)

If you or anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2025 please do book onto one of Walter Infant School's tours: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/walter-infant-school](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/walter-infant-school)

## Just Play Sports – October Half Term Holiday Club

We are only a few weeks away from October Half Term. Just Play Sports will be running a full week of activities at our school. This is a great camp with opportunities for children to enjoy sport and play games in a fun and safe environment. It's also a great chance for parents to get a little break if they need it!!

The link below will take parents direct to the booking system.

<https://justplaysports.coordinate.cloud/project/61214>

## Junior Adventure Group Half-Term Holiday Club



As a host venue for JAG's inaugural *Holiday HQ: Destination Imagination* half-term holiday club, we're excited to offer a special opportunity for our families! JAG has generously allocated us 50 exclusive discount codes, providing **15%** off your half-term holiday club booking.

To claim your discount, simply enter **HOST15** at checkout.\*

Click here to secure your spot:

<https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/make-a-booking/>

(\*Please note, the discount code does not apply to wraparound bookings.)

JAG's October half-term holiday club is packed with exciting daily themes, including *Superhero Day* and *Adventure Party Day*. On *Speed Racer Day*, children will even participate in a "Make and Take" event, where they can build and take home their very own wooden race car!

With thrilling activities, fun games, and special events, there's something for every child to enjoy!

## 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](mailto: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

Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Residential Trip to Liddington
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 9.00am	3B Class Assembly 9.00am

### Diary Dates

Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Flu Immunisation
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 9.00am	6D Class Assembly
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm finish	Break up for Half Term
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Deadline for Ordering School Photographs
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Children Return to School
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 3.40pm – 7.00pm	Parent Consultations
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 8.40am – 11.40am	Parent Consultations
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 9.00am	5B Class Assembly
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 9.00am	6T Class Assembly
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 9.00am	5M Class Assembly
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	4R Class Assembly
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 5.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church



## WHAT IS PROMISE INCLUSION'S OUTREACH SERVICE?

IDENTIFYING SUPPORT FOR CARERS OF THOSE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND /OR AUTISM

- EMOTIONAL SUPPORT-IF YOU ARE IN CRISIS, UPSET OR JUST NEED TO TALK.
- EMERGENCY PLANS- WE CAN OFFER CARERS CARDS AND HELP SUPPORT YOU IN MAKING EMERGENCY PLANS AND ASSIST IN REFERRALS FOR CARERS' NEEDS ASSESSMENTS.
- SIGNPOSTING-CONNECTING YOU WITH SERVICES PROVIDED BY PROMISE INCLUSION AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS AND PROFESSIONALS.
- MEETING SUPPORT-CONNECTING YOU WITH LOCAL CARERS GROUPS.
- FORM FILLING-HELPING COMPLETE FORMS FOR BENEFITS/HOUSING/SUPPORT/SERVICES.

We offer coffee mornings, evening groups, events and trips for carers to take a break, socialise and receive support from new friends who understand their situation.

PHONE US: 0300 777 8539 EMAIL:MAXINE@PROMISEINCLUSION.ORG



## Monthly Carers Events

### Drop in sessions- for support & advice

- 1st Wednesday-Carers walk at Dinton/meet at showcase carpark -10.00am
- 1st Thursday-Henry Street Garden Centre, RG2 9JY- 1.00-3.00pm
- 3rd Friday- Finchampstead Baptist Church Centre 1.00-3.00pm.
- Last Thursday-Loddon Valley Leisure Centre, Lower Earley 10.30-12.00pm

### Daytime groups

- 1st Tuesday-Carers Club Shinfield, School Green Centre RG2 9EH-9.30-11.30am
- 2nd Wednesday-Carers Club Wokingham, Bradbury Centre-10.00-12.00pm
- 3rd Tuesday - Carers Club Woodley, Coronation Hall-1.30-3.30pm

### Evening groups

- 2nd Thursday-Evening Carers Group, Bosco Lounge Woodley-6.30-8.30pm
- Last Wednesday-Evening Carers Group, Sedero Lounge Wokingham-6.30-8.30pm



### Wokingham Children's Book Festival

October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2024

We've 13 well-known authors and illustrators joining us, eager to introduce you to their worlds!

For ages 3 - 13

Wokingham Town Hall & Wokingham Library

Tickets £3 a seat  
(early bird discount 15% off until 15 Sept)

**Special Guest**  
Enchanted Players Theatre Company  
With a puppet filled interactive take on the works of Julia Donaldson

Book now  
[www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/bookfest](http://www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/bookfest)

## Pumpkin Trail

A family event during half-term at:  
The Look Out, Bracknell  
26th Oct - 3rd Nov

Fun events for all the family  
[www.firstdays.net/event-list](http://www.firstdays.net/event-list)

Registered Charity: 1157855

FIRST DAYS CHILDREN'S CHARITY

## GLOW WALK

A family event at:  
Dinton Pastures, Wokingham  
Saturday 16th November

## LOW COST SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE

2 - 5pm

**FINCHAMPSTEAD**  
TUESDAY 15th OCTOBER  
FBC Centre, Gorse Ride  
North, Finchampstead  
RG40 4ES

**SHINFIELD**  
WEDNESDAY 16th OCTOBER  
Shinfield Community Church, Fairmead Road,  
Shinfield RG2 9DL

**WOODLEY**  
THURSDAY 17th OCTOBER  
The Centre Stage, Woodley  
Precinct, Woodley RG5 3JH

Primary & secondary uniform, wellies and coats available, while stock lasts! Come and give excellent quality school uniform a second life.

## BIG SALE EVENT

FIRST DAYS CHILDREN'S CHARITY

FIRST DAYS CHILDREN'S CHARITY

FIRSTDAYS.NET

EVERYONE WELCOME

Registered with the charity commission in England & Wales: 1157855