

St Paul's Newsletter – 13.1.23



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Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,

Happy New Year and a very warm welcome back to the start of this new term. On behalf of all at St Paul's, we wish you the very best for 2023.



Welcome to Rylee, who has joined 4P and to Mrs Page, our new School Secretary. Welcome also to Mrs Chan and Ms Ho, who both joined our Lunchtime Team. It is always exciting to welcome new staff as they bring a wealth of experience, energy and new ideas. The children are doing a good job of taking care of all of our new joiners and are helping them to find their feet, demonstrating our core value of 'We care and we are kind', which features in every aspect of the work of the school and the way in which we care for our community.

The children returned full of energy and enthusiasm and despite having been back for only seven school days, have already made an excellent start to their learning for this term. It promises to be an extremely busy one and we are looking forward to working in partnership with you to ensure that our pupils make the best possible progress. You will have received the Year Group Bulletin for your child, detailing key information about the curriculum topics that they will be covering this term. Please do check if you have copies of the guided reading books mentioned as your child would be welcome to bring theirs in to read along in lessons.

Online Safety Bulletin

Along with today's Newsletter, we have also sent out the January edition of our Online Safety Bulletin, containing advice and information for parents about Minecraft, WhatsApp and TikTok. Santa was clearly very generous this year, looking at the number of children with new phones or talking about other smart devices they received. Most Broadband providers include parental controls for free as part of their broadband package, which means that any device that connects to your WiFi will be protected by the controls you set up. Again, this month's bulletin features guidance of how to set parental controls to help your child stay safe when navigating the digital world.

Have a good weekend, everyone!

Mrs Taylor

Pupil News

We are tremendously proud of Emily (6T) who decided to donate her hair to the Little Princess Trust. As you can see from the photographs, this was a brave undertaking. Emily is also raising money for the Make a Wish Foundation and has already raised £750. Well done Emily!



Punctuality

We have a significant number of pupils frequently arriving late for school and it is often the same children every day. We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that school starts at 8.40am, the time that the Murray Road gates close. It is important that children arrive in school on time every day for a number of reasons:

- It is the legal responsibility of parents to ensure pupil arrive on time;
- Arriving on time ensures a calm, well-ordered start to the school day;
- It is stressful for a child to arrive late and flustered, and it can feel very awkward to walk into the classroom to find the lesson has started without you;
- Arriving late disrupts the learning of others.

If there is a particular reason why you are finding it difficult to ensure your child arrives in school on time, please contact the school office on 0118 978 5219. Days are school days and calculated over a school year.

Dogs at the Gate

We would respectfully ask those parents who bring dogs to school to avoid standing with them in the mouth of the gate or tying them up close by. We have a number of pupils who are frightened of dogs, however well trained, and find it very difficult to have to walk past one on the way in or out of school. If you are bringing your dog to school, please drop off/pick up well away from the gate and the staff will see your child in and out safely on your behalf. Thank you.

Parking

Could we please make it a new year's resolution to park with care and consideration for our neighbours living in St Paul's Gate? Some parents persist in using private driveways as turning areas when there is actually an area suitable for turning at the end of the road.

The school works hard to foster positive relationships with our neighbours and inconsiderate parking put this under huge strain and forces pedestrians, people with pushchairs and disabled scooters out into the road.

Cash payments to school

From 1st January 2023, cash payments will no longer be accepted by the School office. Please ensure you have a SCO pay account set up so that you can make payments for lunches, school trips and buy uniform.

After this date, Caterlink will only accept payments made electronically. They ask that you ensure your child is sufficiently in credit in their online account to have a lunch each day. Should you have any queries, please contact the school office.

Help with cost-of-living crisis

The Council and its partners can help you if you're struggling with the cost of living. The impact of the crisis is wider than we've ever seen in Wokingham Borough. More people than are relying on credit cards, asking families members for help, missing meals and their overdrafts to get by. You can go to them for help. Here's how:

Funding for families, food and energy

Almost 2,000 young people who receive means-tested free school meals have had help through the [Household Support Fund](#) already.

If your child gets means-tested free school meals [apply for the Household Support Fund through First Days Children's Charity](#)

If your child does not receive means-tested free school meals we have another grant you can apply for if you are struggling.

If you're struggling with bills or buying food [apply for the Household Support Fund through Age UK Berkshire or Citizens Advice](#)

Please note you are only able to apply for one grant type from the Household Support Fund.

Other support options:

Go to the [cost of living help hub](#) for help and tips open to all

Go to the [help for families with cost of living](#) advice pages

See how you can get [help with household bills](#)

[Register for priority services](#) if you have children aged five or under, you are pregnant or if you or a family member is disabled or has a long term health condition

See services you can contact directly for [help with essentials like food or warm clothes](#)

If you'd prefer to talk to someone, contact One Front Door. This is a service led by Citizens Advice which helps residents find the most appropriate support. Use the [online referral form](#) or call [0808 278 7958](tel:08082787958), Monday to Friday.

And if you're not struggling but have time and want to help others, why not see if you could volunteer locally to support organisations [helping people struggling with the cost of living](#).

Lost Property

Please ensure that all items of clothing that are worn in school, including coats, shoes and trainers are clearly labelled with the child's name and class. Lost property can be found in the green container situated to the left of the wooden gate into the playground.

Reading Agency- Winter Mini Challenge

The Winter Mini Challenge, presented by The Reading Agency in partnership with Science Museum Group started on 1st December. The Summer Reading Challenge 2022 saw thousands of children reading and exploring science and innovation as part of this year's Gadgeteers theme. We're back with even more fun experiments and reading encouragement. Children can join the Gadgeteers as they use their ingenuity and creativity to keep everyone entertained during a snowstorm. Get ready for cool do-it-at-home experiments and learn along the way as you read for pleasure with the Winter Mini Challenge!

The Challenge runs from 1 December 2022 to 20 February 2023.

More information on the Challenge and how to get involved can be found at wintermini.org.uk.

The Little Explorers Book Club Library Challenge

The Little Explorers Book Club Library Challenge is a great way for young children to discover their local library. It is open to library members aged 7 and under.

- Each child needs to have their own library card
- Children collect a stamp each time they borrow books
- Collect six stamps to get a certificate
- Ten certificates to collect

Bikeability



If you're thinking of cycling as a family you might like to consider doing one of Avanti Cycling's FREE short sessions dedicated to riding as a group during February Half Term at various locations.

These sessions are for parents and children who can already ride a bike confidently (not complete beginners.) The instructors will take a family for a ride and give them some tips to increase their confidence when cycling as a group. To take part, the minimum number is a group of 2 people (1 adult, 1 child) and the maximum group size is 6 people. At least 1 adult over 18 years must attend each group session.

Places are FREE of charge but MUST be booked in advance. Further information and link for booking can be found on our My Journey website at:

<https://myjourneywokingham.com/events/free-bikeability-family-cycle-sessions-during-february-half-term-2023/>

Chinese New Year Celebrations

We will be celebrating Lunar New Year on Sunday 29th January 2023, 11am to 3pm in the Market Place. There will be Chinese music and a Lion Dance. Also, craft activities and East Asian street food.



Celebrate the Lunar New Year

Sunday 29 January 2023
11am to 3pm
Market Place, Wokingham
Free Entry

Lion Dance at Midday
Chinese Music
Food and Drink
Craft activities

Find out more
www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk

Wokingham Town Council



慶祝農曆新年

2023年1月29日 星期日 年初八
上午11時至下午3時
Market Place, Wokingham
免費入場

中午設有舞獅表演
中式音樂
飲食供應
手工活動

詳情請見
www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk

Wokingham Town Council



Need Advice?



ChatHealth

NHS
Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and Families services

Do you have a 5-19 year old?
If you could do with some advice or support, we can help with all kinds of things like:

- Bullying
- Dealing with medical conditions in school
- Healthy eating
- Bedwetting
- Behaviour
- Emotional health & wellbeing
- Parenting
- Sleep

Text a school nurse in confidence
07312 263194

cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing

Privacy and terms: bit.ly/ChatHealthPrivacy

Energy Kidz Half Term

Join Energy Kidz at St Pauls School for Funtastic February half term!

Our engaging, fun-tastic week of activity will include an extra splash of positivity and an added focus on wellbeing with our kindness and connection's theme! Children will enjoy random acts of kindness, exploring the benefits of wellbeing, connecting with each other through dance and activity and much more! There is no limit on the fun that will be had this February half term.

Claim 10% off Funtastic February Holiday Clubs - discover an experience so special this February half term at Energy Kidz your child will be desperate to come back!

Use code: **EBFEB23** to claim your discount! **Offer ends Sunday 5th February**

Find your local club page, further information about the exciting Holiday Club ahead and confirm your booking now at: <https://www.energy-kidz.co.uk/holiday-club/>

If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to call the friendly bookings team on 0333 577 1533 or drop them an email at info@energy-kidz.co.uk

EnergyKidz Holiday Clubs

FUNtastic February

Save 10% off your booking!

Use code: **EBFEB23**

Scan to book now

Amazing Club Experiences!

Energy Kidz are bringing an explosion of play and activity this February half term! Our holiday clubs are the perfect solution to ensure your child enjoys an unforgettable school holiday like no other, as we invite your child to us on a jam-packed holiday. Our whole of child philosophy powers our programme with an amazing mix of skills for sports, energising activities to get children moving, creative sessions that encourage children to express themselves and much more - ensure your child doesn't miss a moment by securing their place today.

- ✓ Ages 4-11 years
- ✓ Venues across the U.K
- ✓ Keep active & improve wellbeing
- ✓ Release Creativity
- ✓ Make memories to last a lifetime
- ✓ Explore a variety of child interests

Book now at energy-kidz.co.uk

energykidz 0333 577 1533 info@energy-kidz.co.uk Ofsted Inspiring Start, Inspiring Kids

PE Timetables

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday	Thursday
3H, 6D, 5D	3B, 3K, 5K	4R, 4P, 5S	4C, 6B, 6T	Outdoor PE – all classes

Forest School Sessions

The timetable for this term's sessions can be found below and pupils will need to bring suitable clothing with them on that day e.g. track suit bottoms, hoodie, T shirt and trainers. Shorts and skirts are unsuitable for the woodland area.

16/1	23/1	30/1	6/2	20/2	27/2	6/3	13/3	20/3	27/3	28/3
5S	5K	3H	6D	5D	3B	6B	3K	4P	4C	4R

Class Assemblies

Each class will deliver two assemblies per year. The majority of which will take place on Friday morning. Assemblies last approximately 15 minutes and start at 9.00 am. Parents of the class are welcome to join us for these occasions. Entrance to the school, is via the Oxford Road entrance and this is the timetable for this term.

20th Jan	27th Jan	3rd Feb	10th Feb	10th March	17th March	24th March
4P	6B	4C	5S	5K	3B	3H

Diary Dates

Upcoming

January 2023 onwards	The school will be cashless from 1 st January onwards, including for Caterlink lunches. All payments will have to be made via Scopay accounts.
Tues 24 th January	Liddington Information Evening for Year 5 Parents 6.30pm in the Hall.
Tues 17 th January	Winchester Science Museum trip Year 5
Tues 8 th February	Safer Internet Day
13 th -17 th February	HALF TERM
22 nd -24 th February	Book Fair
1 st and 2 nd of March	Parent Consultations
Thurs 2nd March	World Book Day
Tues 21 st March	Curriculum Celebration 3.30-4.30pm
Thurs 30 th March	End of Term – 2pm finish
30 th March- 16 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY
Mon 1 st May	BANK HOLIDAY
8 th May	Bank Holiday – The King’s Coronation
9 th May-12 th May	SATS week – NO MORNING CLUBS
29 th May-3 rd June	HALF TERM
Mon 5 th June	Inset Day
Sat 17 th June	PTA Summer Fair 11.30am-2.30pm
Wed 19 th July	PTA Year 6 Leavers Disco - 7-9.30pm
Thursday 20 th July	End of Term – 2pm finish