

St Paul's Newsletter – Autumn 13.09.24

'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,



We were very excited about the return of the children, and quite right too. They have made a fabulous start to the term and we are very proud of their efforts - well done, everyone!

It has been wonderful welcoming so many new pupils and our latest recruits already look as if they have been here for years! Now that we are into the swing of things, to ease congestion first thing, we ask that you 'kiss and go' at the metal gates when dropping in the morning. This term, we will be welcoming two new staff, Miss Jacobs and Mrs Griffin, both of whom will be joining our lovely team of Learning Mentors. We are looking forward to working alongside them.



The improvement work to the outdoor areas of the site continues and we are hoping that these will soon be completed and the playground fully open once more. The children are excited about the prospect of being able to use the outdoor Wellness Gym and new look Quiet Area.



On Wednesday, we will be welcoming Carmella Reece our SIAMs inspector. She will be with us for the whole day and talk to pupils, staff, parents and governors. She will also visit classrooms and look at pupils' work, as well as other school documentation. It promises to

be a busy day but very enjoyable process as it will be an opportunity to celebrate our wonderful school and its work.

Have a great weekend, everyone - Mrs Taylor

Latin Comes to St Paul's



Maximum Classics

From the start of this term, all of our pupils will study Latin.

Latin is the next logical step after phonics where children start encountering the Latin half of English. 50% of all English words derive from Latin along with 80-90% of polysyllabic words.

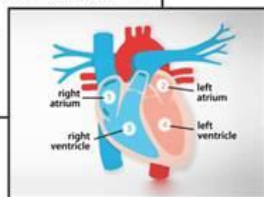
Research findings suggest that there is a strong positive correlation between the learning of Latin and the development of literacy skills at KS2.

Latin is the best preparation for learning any language. To study Latin is to study six languages at once: French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Romanian (The five Romanian languages) which derived and evolved from Latin. About 90% of the vocabulary of these languages comes from Latin.

Latin also provides the root words of not one, not half but *all* of the modern sciences and is the language of the law, government, logic and theology.

Atrium:

A Latin word for the main room in a Roman house.



Pulmonary:

Refers to the lungs and comes from the Latin word *pulmonarius*, from *pulmo, pulmon* - lung

We will be adapting the Maximum Classics: Literacy through Latin course to go alongside our new foundation curriculum. The first unit was trialled on Year 6 in the Summer Term and this is what they had to say:

"There are no cons- only pros! I have enjoyed the topic because it has taught us the history of the English language and it can come in very useful for when we are trying to figure out what new words mean." – David

"It was very very fun and interesting, I really enjoyed learning about where English came from and the story of Achilles." – Oniesh

"It was an amazing unit and it was very interesting. I especially enjoyed the lesson about Achilles. One difficulty was I had to learn a new language after learning French for so long." – Gautam

"This topic was great and I am extremely grateful for it. I learned many Latin words and all of the activities were fun and taught me lots. Overall, this is one of the best topics!" – Santiago

"I thought that the Latin lessons were really fun and informative. I wish we could have learnt a few more words and stories. It was fun because there was a lot of interactive work. KEEP LATIN!" – Fraser

Jeans for Genes Day – 20th September

**WEAR
JEANS
CHANGE
LIVES**



Jeans for Genes Day is Friday 20th September and helps fundraise for research into genetic disorders. The children are invited to dress in jeans & non-uniform items of their choice for a suggested donation of £1. In light of the cost of living crisis, we understand how every penny counts; please do not feel under any pressure to donate but do send your child in wearing non-uniform so they can join in the fun. Collection buckets will be at the gate, should you wish to donate.

Book Fair

The Book Fair will be in school from Tuesday 24th September - Monday 30th September, with over 200 new children's books to browse and buy! If you are unable to join us, gift vouchers are available at www.travellingbooks.co.uk/parents.

St. Paul's earns **FREE BOOKS** for every book sold at the Fair, so this is a great opportunity to support the work of the school and help us stock up our classrooms with new resources. We hope to see you there!



Curriculum Information Evening – Wednesday 25th September



Each teaching team will give a short presentation about their curriculum for the year to give you insight into what the children will be learning this year and how we can work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for your child.

Each year group will deliver the same presentation twice (5:00pm & 5:45pm) so parents with children in different year groups have the opportunity to attend. For this event, please enter school via the Murray Road. Staff will be waiting at the link doors to direct you to classrooms. Please note, the office will be closed and there will be no access to this event via the Oxford Oxford Road entrance.

Dancing Queen

After only 6 months of attending a dance club, Saskia (3B) took dance exams and passed with a fantastic 88% and achieved a "highly commended" grade!

Well done, Saskia!



School Games Mark – GOLD AWARD!



We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme that recognises a schools commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are over the moon to have been awarded Gold again in recognition of our success. The School Games Organiser commented:

'St Paul's have gone from strength to strength: the playground markings have been integrated into the offer of active playtimes as well as being a resource staff can use for breaks within their lessons. Both the lunch time controllers and the class teachers have received training on activities which can be played. St Paul's have achieved a very well-deserved Gold.'

Huge thanks to Mrs Foster who spearheads this work and to Mrs Judd for her support.

1st Schools and Grassroots fixture of 2024-25 Season.

You have been invited to Reading Football Club's 1st Schools and Grassroots Fixture of 2024-25!

When?

Reading vs Crawley Town
Saturday 19th October, 12.30pm kick off

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

How to qualify for the discount and confirm your attendance?

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code: #StPaulsCE in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets which will be discounted to the below prices:

13 and under: £1

17 and under: £3

18-24: £5

Adult: £10

Music Lessons at St Paul's

Berkshire Maestros are offering free trial sessions for their music lessons.

If you your child to have a trial violin lesson, please contact Fernando fernandodenijs@berksmusictrust.org.uk.

For singing lessons please contact Kat Kathitti@berksmusictrust.org.uk

Piano/keyboard lessons are also offered.

More information can be found on their website <https://berksmusictrust.org.uk/>

Volunteering Opportunities with HomeStart

HomeStart are a local charity offering home-visiting support to vulnerable, disadvantaged, and isolated families living in the Wokingham Borough.

If you would like to join their home visiting volunteer team their next training course runs on 2nd, 9th and 16th October – the course is fun, informal and interactive and will give you the skills and confidence you need to support a vulnerable family.

As a Home-Start volunteer you would be fully trained, supervised and supported, meet interesting and like-minded people in your community and have the opportunity to use your expertise in making a real difference to people's lives.

For more information, please go to www.home-startwd.org.uk

Email: admin@home-startwd.org.uk

After School Club – Junior Adventure Group

JAG's After School Club offer fun, happy and safe places for children to play freely across age groups and take part in structured activities such as arts and crafts and active play. Providing an energising end to the school day, children can join group activities, enjoy a healthy snack, or chill out with toys and games that are all set up and ready for them to enjoy.

Find out more at: <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/term-time/after-school-club/>

Parent Tours of Walter Infants School

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. Bookings are taken on Ticketsource using the link below

www.ticketsource.co.uk/walter-infant-school

Next Week at School

Friday 20 th September	Jeans for Genes Day – suggested donation of £1
Diary Dates	
Week of 23 rd September	All Clubs Start
Tuesday 24 th – Monday 30 th September	Book Fair
Wednesday 25 th September:	Curriculum Information Evening 5-5.30pm & 5.45-6.15pm
Tuesday 1 st October	Individual Pupil Photographs
Friday 4 th October	3D Class Assembly 9.00am
Friday 11 th October	3H Class Assembly 9.00am
Monday 14 th October	House Captain Election
Tuesday 15 th – Friday 18 th October	Year 6 Residential Trip to Liddington
Friday 18 th October	3B Class Assembly 9.00am
Friday 25 th October	6D Class Assembly 9.00am
Friday 25 th October	Break up for Half Term
Monday 4 th November	Children return to school
Monday 9 th December	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church 2.00pm
Tuesday 10 th December	Christmas Performances at St Paul's Church 2.00pm & 5.00pm

Ofted
 Junior Adventures Group
JAG
Term Time Clubs
Running at your school!

Fun packed multi-activity clubs for every child

At Junior Adventures Group UK, we understand the importance of creating a nurturing space where children can thrive. Our clubs are more than just activities - they are opportunities for your child to build confidence, make friends and develop crucial skills.

- ✓ A big dose of fun beyond the school day!
- ✓ Make new friends across all age groups
- ✓ Delivered by a team of expertly trained professionals
- ✓ Keep active and improve wellbeing
- ✓ Explore creativity and a wide range of interests

SCAN HERE TO BOOK NOW OR FIND OUT MORE!
 @junioradventuresgroupuk
 junioradventuresgroup.co.uk 0333 577 5533

FAMILY FUN **ASD Family Help**
 For neurodiverse adults & families!
 in Earley

Crafts, games and a safe space to chat in an inclusive environment!
 2ND Wednesday each month 4.15 - 5.15pm
 Children must be supervised by a parent/carer at all times
FREE Drop-In