

St Paul's Newsletter – 21.10.22



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Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,

Another very busy week and we are at half term! Thank you to 3K for their fantastic assembly this morning. It was inspirational and thoroughly enjoyed by every member of their audience. Not only did the children teach us about the Bristol Bus Boycott as part of their learning about Black History but they also reminded us of Mae Jemison's determination at becoming the first African American female astronaut. Her mantra was, "If you can dream it, if you believe it and work hard for it, anything is possible." It was an interesting and informative assembly and a brilliant way to round off the week – well done 3K.



This afternoon, saw the return of our Year 6 pupils and staff team from Liddington. The residential was a roaring success and the children had a fabulous time, achieving lots of exciting and often breathtaking challenges. We closely followed their progress day by day and you can see everything they got up to [here](#) on the website. Do take a look at the bravery and determination of our amazing pupils!

We are extremely proud of the children and their achievements, and of the staff who have worked so hard to ensure they had the best time ever! Huge thanks to Mrs Thornhill, Mr Donaghy, Miss Plumley, Miss Gilder, Mrs Foster, Mrs Holt, Mrs Judd and Mrs McBain for taking such great care of the children whilst they were away. Congratulations to

Mrs Armstrong, Party Leader, for organizing the residential and ensuring it was a great experience for all those involved.

The Year 6 children who remained in school this week worked their socks off! They were fantastic role models for younger pupils and set a shining example of what outstanding learning behaviour looks like. They have been a credit to their teachers and very deserving of their invitation to Afternoon Tea. The girls made light work of scones with jam, clotted cream and fresh strawberries, washed down with hot chocolate. It was a lovely way to mark their efforts this week and to let them know how proud of them we are.



Happy half term, everyone, and to all of our families celebrating on Monday, Happy Diwali! May you be blessed with health, happiness and prosperity.

Mrs Taylor

Important message for parents of children who will be starting secondary school in September 2023

The deadline for Secondary School applications is 31st October 2022. WBC admissions advise that any applications received after this date will be treated as late and not considered until after National Offer Day on 1st March 2023. This is a high birth rate year so we would strongly urge parents to apply before the deadline.

Parents' Consultations – 2nd and 3rd November

Parents' Consultations will be face to face meetings in the hall. The arrangements on each day differ slightly, details of which can be found below:

Wednesday appointments – sign in at the Oxford Road entrance and go into the hall. Your child's teacher will have their tray of books available for you to look through. Please bring a pen to leave your child a message on the feedback slip you will find in their tray and remember to sign out as you leave.

Thursday appointments – enter school via the Murray Road gates and sign in. Books will be available for you to view in your child's classroom and appointments will take place in the hall. Please bring a pen to leave your child a message on the feedback slip in their tray and remember to sign out as you leave.

Thank you from Wokingham Food Bank

On behalf of Wokingham Foodbank, I would like to send our grateful thanks for the generous Harvest donation you have made to our Foodbank. It is heart-warming to know there is so much compassion for others in our community who are less fortunate and struggling with the current cost of living crisis.

As you may be aware, Wokingham Foodbank has seen a substantial increase in demand, which has placed a significant strain on our stocks. During the summer we have seen an upturn in demand for our service, but thanks to the generosity of donations such as yours we are hoping to be in a strong position to face the winter ahead.

Kindest Regards

Kay Pettit - Harvest and Christmas Co-ordinator



Reporting an absence

If your child is unwell, we need a written record from you of why they are not at school for our register. Absences should be reported via the absence section under ParentMail, or by emailing absence@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk, detailing name, class and the reason that your child is unable to come to school that day.

Break Time Snacks

We encourage the children to bring in a healthy snack for morning break – fruit, vegetable sticks, dried fruit and cereal bars are all suitable items. Crisps, chocolate, biscuits and other sugary snacks are not allowed.

Cost of living crisis

If you're struggling to pay your bills or feed your family help is available. The Hardship Alliance, a group of voluntary organisation's working in partnership with Wokingham Borough Council, have created the [cost of living help hub](#) for those who need support.

It outlines financial support, how to get help with your bills, health services and more you can use. These include:

- Parents with children who get means-tested free school meals can get £15 per week, per eligible child during all school holidays (this applies for half terms, Christmas and Easter). [Apply through First Days Children's Charity](#) to the Household Support Fund

Anyone struggling to pay for food, energy bills and other household essentials can also get help. This is for people struggling rising costs of living as well as people in receipt of benefits. You could get £120 in the form of a food, fuel or cash voucher. [Apply to Citizens Advice or Age UK Berkshire through the Household Support Fund](#)

Changes to PE & Swimming

Swimming lessons will cease at half term. Indoor PE sessions will resume the first week back. Indoor kit is a white round necked t shirt and navy blue or black shorts. **As the weather is turning much colder, on indoor PE days, children 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
3H, 6D, 5D	3B, 3K, 5K	4R, 4P, 5S	4C, 6B, 6T

Thursday
Outdoor PE – all classes

Forest School Sessions – please check the table as some dates have changed since first being published

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.

17 th Oct	7 th Nov	14 th Nov	21 st Nov	28 th Nov	5 th Dec	13 th Dec	14 th Dec	15 th Dec
4R	6D	4P	6T	6B	5K	3K	3B	3H

Diary Dates	
Next Week	
Mon 24 th – Fri 28 th October	Half Term
Upcoming	
Wed 2 nd & Thurs 3 rd November	Parents' Consultations
Tues 15 th November	Flu Immunizations for Y3 to Y6
Fri 18 th November	6T Class Assembly 9.00am – 9.15am
Thurs 24 th November	6D Class Assembly 9.00am – 9.15am
Fri 2 nd December	4R Class Assembly 9.00am – 9.15am
Fri 2 nd December (change of event)	PTA Christmas Tombola & Bake Sale
Tue 6 th December	Curriculum Celebration 3.30pm – 4.30pm
Mon 12 th December	Christmas Celebration, St Paul's Church 2pm- 3pm
Tues 13 th & Wed 14 th December	Christmas Celebration, St Paul's Church 6.00pm – 7pm
Fri 16 th December	5D Class Assembly 9.00am – 9.15am
Tues 20 th December	End of term – 2pm finish