St Paul's Newsletter – Summer 09.05.25





Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,



It's been another tremendously busy week and a VE DAY CELEBRATION Particular highlight was the brilliant assembly from Class 4L to mark VE Day. Their thoughtful

presentation served as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by those who fought and were affected by the war. The whole school then came together in a respectful two minutes' silence at 12:00. It was a poignant moment to reflect, honour, and celebrate the restoration of peace.

Year 5 enjoyed a fabulous visit to Winchester Science Museum today. As always, the children were an absolute credit to our school-curious, engaged, and wonderfully well-behaved. A heartfelt thank you to the parent volunteers who generously gave their time to help make the day such a success.

We are currently halfway through our pupil progress meetings, with more scheduled for next week. These termly meetings are vital opportunities to reflect on each child's progress and achievements, and carefully plan next steps to support their continued growth and success. It's a joy to witness the results of the dedication of our pupils, teachers, and learning mentors.

Next week, Year 6 pupils will sit their End of Key Stage 2 SATs. They have each worked incredibly hard in the lead-up to these assessments, and we are immensely proud of them, SATs or no SATs. Whilst the tests are statutory, they provide only a



snapshot of attainment in English and Maths. They fail to capture the children's performance in all of the other subjects that make up our excellent, knowledge rich curriculum.

The tests will take place each morning next week, from Monday to Thursday, and on Friday, Year 6 will enjoy a well-deserved non-uniform day as a special treat. Please note, this event is for Year 6 only-all other pupils should attend wearing uniform.

As we move further into the summer term, the teachers are busily working on annual school reports, which will be sent home in July. These will include teacher assessment judgements for all pupils, and for Year 6, SATs results will also be included.

Lastly, thank you for the wonderful feedback about Nuala, who has made her mark on the St Paul's family and got her paws well and truly under the table! We think she is doing a brilliant job of greeting the children at the gate each morning and she absolutely loves her time on the playground, whether patiently sitting for a stroke or rolling over for a tummy rub, she is in her element and is so calm and gentle with the children. It is hard to believe that she is only 5 months old. She has made such a positive impact on pupil and staff wellbeing-especially among some who may have previously felt anxious around dogs. It is almost impossible to resist her furry charm!



Enjoy your weekend and we will see you Monday.

Mrs. Taylor

PLEA TO ALL PARENTS

Our Year 6 pupils have their SATs tests from Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May, during which, children are sitting exams in the hall and a number of other rooms throughout school – we use every space available and aim to ensure that no child is disadvantaged by being disturbed during their exams unless it is an unavoidable emergency.

Our year 6 pupils would be grateful if all pupils could arrive to school on time as late arrivals are disruptive. Please do not come into school to deliver forgotten PE kits, swimming kits, forest school clothing, water bottles or lunches. We will provide suitable alternatives within school. Each buzz on the gate, telephone call and discussion in reception interrupts children's concentration during this exam period. Parents should only come into school in if it is an emergency, avoiding arriving between 9 and 11 wherever possible.

Thank you for your support.

NO BEFORE SCHOOL CLUBS – MONDAY TO THURSDAY

Due to SATs tests, we are not able to run our early morning clubs on Monday to Thursday next week. There will be no badminton, running, gymnastics or Little Musketeers.

Taekwondo on Friday will run as usual.

Lunchtime and after school clubs are unaffected.

SPORTS DAY – CHANGE OF DATE – 19th June

As St Crispin's have advised that the second of their secondary transition dates is 26th June, this clashes with the original date for Sports Day here at St Paul's.

To avoid lots of our Year 6 pupils missing out, we have set a new date so that every child has the chance to participate.

Sports Day will now be held on the morning of 19th June.

EARLY NOTIFICATION – CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Apologies for mentioning Christmas in May!!



Each year, increasing numbers of children only attend the performance of the Christmas celebration on the evening their parents have tickets. Whilst we always ask that every child is there, more and more frequently, feedback from parents is that they are unable to attend because performances disrupt family meal times, clubs, existing commitments of siblings and night-time routines for younger children. Last year, we reduced the number of evening performances to just one in the hope that this would improve matters but, even so, some year group choirs were still missing almost half of the children. Going forward, all three performances of the Christmas Celebration will take place during the school day to ensure that it is an inclusive event and every child can be present at each performance. Whilst the event is not for another 7 months, the dates and timings can be found in the diary section below.

Congratulations!

Tvisha (3H) recently took part in the Shinfield Junior Race – her very first funning event! She loved every minute and is already looking forward to participating in more races. She found it particularly special that the race supported a local charity, and she enjoyed the value of giving back through her achievements.





Swimming and Games

| Swimming | | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|----------|--|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Friday | |
| 5B 3D 3H | 5K 3B 4P | 5M 4R 6S | 6T 6D 4L | |

Swimming lessons started this week. On their swimming days, pupils should come to school dressed in uniform, including school shoes, and bring their kit (costume or trunks, towel and swimming hat) to change into at the pool. We ask that swimming trunks are close fitting and not long, baggy Bermuda style shorts and that girls wear a one-piece suit.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to contribute £12.50 towards the running of the pool, we would be very grateful if you could make a payment via Scopay.

Swimming hats can be purchased from school for £2.50 – payable on Scopay

Please remember that earrings are not permitted during any sport sessions and must be removed AT HOME before attending school that day

Outdoor Games

All classes have Games each Thursday. Pupils should come to school dressed in PE kit (navy or black shorts or tracksuit, plain white t-shirt). No football shirts or brightly coloured sports kit!

Games lessons take place every week in all but the most extreme weather and, therefore, we ask that pupils bring their school uniform, in case they have to change into dry clothes.

Sports News



Congratulations to our super TriGolfers who took part in the School Games competition last Friday. They had lots of fun participating in a variety of different activities designed to teach the skills of golf. They were brilliant, working together as a team gaining lots of points and just missing out on the top spot by 2 points. What a fantastic performance. Well done everyone.

Forest School



It has been another busy week in the allotment area with our new groups. They have planted pumpkins, radishes and some cosmos flowers, as well as ensuring that all of last week's plants were kept well- watered. The children were excited to see the tiny pears and apples that have started to form on our fruit trees too. It has the potential to be a bumper crop this year!

The children also took the opportunity to spend some time in our pond area and delighted in finding dragonfly nymphs, hoglouse and newts. Some children also helped Mrs McBain

and Mrs Gray to start tidying up some of the borders by removing weeds and turning over the soil. In the coming weeks, we aim to add some more plants to the borders to bring some more colour into this area.

During our reflection, we asked the children what gift they could give someone (that didn't cost any money). The children spoke about the gift of kindness, appreciation, love, respect, a hug and helping with chores at home.

Please remember to send your child to Forest School in **long trousers** as the nettles are out! 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.





| 12/05 | 19/05 | 09/06 | 16/06 | 23/06 | 30/06 | 14/07 | 15/07 | 16/07 | 21/07 | 22/07 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|
| 5M | 4P | 3H | 5K | 5B | 4L | 6D | 6T | 6S | 4R | 3D |

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium

Some of our families are entitled to Pupil Premium Funding for their children; this helps us to provided curriculum enrichment and support for our Pupil Premium children. Your child may be entitled to this funding which can be used to pay for clubs, uniform, additional support, one to one nurture, Canine Assisted learning etc.

If you are in receipt of one the following benefits you may be eligible for free school meals or the pupil premium:

- 1) Income Support.
- 2) Income based Job Seeker's Allowance.
- 3) Income related Employment and Support Allowance.
- 4) Child Tax Credit Where the family's annual income is not more than £16,190 and Working Tax Credit is not in payment.
- 5) Guarantee Pension Credit.
- 6) Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- 7) Universal Credit.

Please contact Mrs Collins in the office to find out more or follow this link https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-information-and-services/free-school-meals-and-extra-funding-your-childs-education

NEXT WEEK IN SCHOOL

| Monday 12 th – Thursday 15 th May | SATs Week |
|---|---|
| Monday 12 th – Thursday 15 th May | NO BEFORE SCHOOL CLUBS: Badminton, running, gymnastics, Little Musketeers |
| Friday 16 th May | 5M Class Assembly |
| Friday 16 th May | Year 6 – Mind the Gap Workshop |
| Friday 16 th May | Silent Disco |

| Diary Dates | |
|---|---|
| Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd May | Walk to School Week |
| Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd May | Year 6 Bikeability |
| Thursday 22 nd May 9.00am | 6S Class Assembly |
| Friday 23 rd May 3.30pm | Break Up for Half Term – 3.30pm finish |
| Monday 2 nd June | INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS |
| Tuesday 3 rd June | First Day Back After Half Term |
| Tuesday 3 rd June | Class Photos |
| Friday 13 th June 9.00am | 3H Class Assembly |
| Thursday 19 th June – morning | Sports Day |
| Friday 20 th June 9.00am | 6T Class Assembly |
| Friday 27 th June 9.00am | 4L Class Assembly |
| Friday 4 th July 3.30 – 6.00pm | Summer Fair |
| Thursday 17 th July | Year 6 Leavers' Disco |
| Wednesday 23 rd July 9.30-10.30am | Leavers' Service at St Paul's Church – Year 6 Parents Welcome to Attend |
| Wednesday 23 rd July | End of Term – 2.00PM finish |
| Thursday 4 th September | Start of New Academic Year |
| Monday 8 th December 2.00pm | Christmas Celebration at St Paul's Church |
| Tuesday 9 th December 2.00pm | Christmas Celebration at St Paul's Church |
| Wednesday 10 th December 2.00pm | Christmas Celebration at St Paul's Church |



