

St Paul's Newsletter – 20.1.23



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Safeguarding Team: Julianne Taylor – Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead
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Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,

It has been a very busy but successful week!

Year 5 had a fabulous time visiting Winchester Science Centre on Tuesday. They spent the day trying out a range of 'hands on' practical science activities, rounding off with a visit to the planetarium. Thank you to Mrs Spinks, Mr Guo and Mrs Nair, our parent volunteers, who helped ensure the children enjoyed their day.



Well done to all of our TVRL runners. As always, they were excellent ambassadors for St Paul's, standing out from the crowd with their impeccable behaviour. The lovely thing about our pupils is the way in which they support, encourage and cheer for one another and their wholehearted participation in every competition. Thank you, Mrs Foster and Mrs Judd, for taking such good care of the children at this event.



4P delivered a brilliant assembly this morning, with all the professionalism of the BBC! They brought us up to speed with the latest news about their learning and we enjoyed hearing extracts from their stories, non-chronological reports and extensive knowledge of Chinese New Year. It was a great way to round off this week!

To all of our families celebrating Chinese New Year this weekend 新年快樂! We hope that you enjoy this special time with your family and friends and wish you a happy and prosperous 2023.

Have a good weekend, everyone!

Mrs Taylor



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Strike Action

You will be aware from the media that the NEU teaching union is declaring strike action in February and March. The dates that will affect Wokingham schools are as follows:

- Wednesday 1 February 2023
- Thursday 2 March 2023
- Wednesday 15 March 2023
- Thursday 16 March 2023

There will inevitably be some disruption to learning at St Paul's but at this stage, it is not possible to predict the extent. We would therefore recommend that you consider making child care arrangements for these dates, just in case your child's class is one that will be affected.

We are working closely with union representatives to keep up to date with the situation and will inform you of the final arrangements as soon as we can.

St Paul's remains committed to providing a safe, happy and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high quality teaching. Whilst this situation may be frustrating, I would ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

New cost of Living help hub

Wokingham have pulled information, help and support together in one place to help families who are struggling to pay for food, energy bills and other essential household items. There is also additional support available in the school holidays for families who have children eligible for Free School Meals. To access any of the following areas, please use this link [cost of living help hub](#)

➤ Financial support Find out what financial support is available	➤ Food and fuel Find out how to get support with food or fuel	➤ Family and home Find out how to access support for you and your family	➤ Health support Find out how to get help with your physical and mental health
➤ Donate to Surviving Winter crowdfunder £2 from us and partners for every £1 you donate	➤ Tackling Poverty Strategy How we're reducing poverty in the area	➤ Household bills Help with getting discounts or reducing bills at home	➤ Household Support Fund Money and vouchers for essentials and feeding children
➤ Warm spaces Where you can go to stay warm near you during cold months	➤ Run a warm space Tell us if you're running or planning to run a warm space in your area	➤ Priority services Register for priority help during power cuts if you're vulnerable	➤ Help with essentials Services you can use to get food, clothes, furniture and more
➤ Period poverty partnership How we're helping people in period poverty	➤ Warmer winter project Items for free if you're struggling with energy costs at home	➤ How to help others Volunteering and other options if you want to help others with the cost of living crisis	➤ Employment Get support with finding a job and explore job opportunities

A booklet will also be delivered to all households in Wokingham in the coming weeks to support residents who are unable to access online services.

Families eligible for Free School Meals

More than 1,000 local children and their families who are entitled to free money to support them this winter are yet to apply for £120 to help with goods and bills. This is open to all families who have a child who receives means-tested free school meals.

Apply for the Household Support Fund if your child gets free school meals

If your child gets means-tested free school meals you are entitled to financial support this winter. Wokingham Borough Council and First Days Children's Charity are working together to provide payments to help during school holidays. We know this could be even more important as people struggle after the festive period. [Apply through First Days Children's Charity.](#)

Note you do not need to apply again if you have already had a successful application since October.

You can get £15 per week, per eligible child, during school holidays. This applies for half terms, Christmas and Easter holidays. It will be back paid to October half-term if you've not already applied.

The amount you get in total depends on the number of children in your family who receive free school meals:

- One child - £120
- Two children - £210
- Three children - £315
- Four children - £420
- Five children - £525
- Six children - £630

Y5 Parents' Liddington Information Evening – Tuesday 24th January 6.30pm



This meeting is for parents of our current Year 5 pupils and will be held in the hall. **Please enter via the Murray Road gates as the main office will be closed.** The meeting will be an opportunity to hear from members of the Year 6 team about what the trip entails and the kind of activities that the children will be involved in. There will also be time for any questions. The dates of the residential are Tuesday 17th – Friday 20th October and there will be a second 'housekeeping meeting' to discuss the final details in September. The total cost of the trip per pupil is £357.00 per pupil, which can be paid in instalments. For families with twins, a subsidy is available which will bring the cost down per pupil to £254.00. To secure each child's place, PGL require a non-refundable deposit of £70 per child. The cost of the trip can be paid in instalments, details of which will be included in the trip letter sent out yesterday.



Punctuality

Despite repeated reminders, we still have a significant number of pupils arriving late for school most days. School starts at 8.40pm, the time that the Murray Road gates close. If your child arrives after this time, they will need to enter school via the Oxford Road entrance to be marked present.



New free after-school youth session for mental wellbeing delivered by Sport in Mind



Sport & Games - for Youth Mental Wellbeing

Time Thursdays 4-5pm, every week during termtime (10-14 year olds)

Venue Wokingham Leisure Centre, Wellington Road, RG40 2AF

Description Fun, free and interactive sessions to help improve the mental wellbeing of young people. A great way to help build confidence and self-esteem and meet new people!

This group is provided **FREE** by the mental health charity Sport in Mind for the benefit of local young people. Your local representative is Kieran.

Working in partnership with



There is a new free after-school youth session for mental wellbeing delivered by Sport in Mind. This session is to teach children and young people lots of ways to take care of themselves physically and mentally and build emotional resilience whilst improving their sporting ability. There will be a maximum of 10-12 children places available per session and to book a place please **please click here**, complete the form, and then email the team at youth@sportinmind.org

Sessions are free.

Dogs at the Gate



Thank you to those parents who bring dogs to school and are now avoiding standing in or near the mouth of the gate. If everyone who brings a dog could do the same, no child will feel frightened as they enter and exit school.

QR code - a guide to Staying Safe Online



The internet, social media and online gaming are being used to groom and radicalise people and they actively target, exploit and groom children and young people.

This **QR code** provides quick access to the Internet Matters website which provides trusted resources, information and support to keep children and young people safe online including:

- Advice on a range of online issues so that your child can enjoy the digital world safely and smartly;
- A free online learning platform to teach online safety through interactive lessons and dynamic story telling;
- A digital toolkit for families with tailored online safety advice;
- Online gaming advice hub to help get to grips with the basics of online gaming and how to stay safe.

Winter Mini Reading 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.

Healthy 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 permitted. Could we also take this opportunity to ensure that children's water bottles contain water – no juice or other drinks, please.

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/>

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

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.

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

Class Assemblies

Each class will deliver two assemblies per school 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.

27/1	3/2	10/2	10/3	17/1	24/1
6B	4C	5S	5K	3B	3H

Diary Dates	
Next Week:	
Tues 24 th January	Year 5 Parents' Liddington Information Evening 6.30pm – 7.30pm.
Upcoming	
Tues 7 th February	Safer Internet Day
Tues 7 th February	Reading Information Evening 6.30pm – 7.30pm
13 th -17 th February	HALF TERM
Mon 20 th February	New Summer Caterlink Menu starts
22 nd -24 th February	Book Fair
1 st and 2 nd of March	Parents' Consultations
Thurs 2 nd 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
Mon 8 th May	Bank Holiday – The King's Coronation
Tues 9 th May- Fri 12 th May	SATS week – NO MORNING CLUBS
29 th May – 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Mon 5 th June	Inset Day – school closed
Tues 6 th June	Start of the Summer Term
Sat 17 th June	PTA Summer Fair 11.30am-2.30pm
Wed 19 th July	PTA Year 6 Leavers' Disco – 7.00pm -9.30pm
Thursday 20 th July	End of Term – 2pm finish



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





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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

