

St Paul's Newsletter – Summer 03.05.24

'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 St Paul's Families,

A mixed week in terms of weather but not in terms of effort put into learning by the children! They have worked really hard since Monday and we ended this morning on a high, with an excellent assembly, courtesy of 5M. We learned some very technical information about why natural disasters occur and then they serenaded us with a song about the Big Bang Theory. It was a really well delivered assembly and enjoyed by everyone. Well done 5M!

A very small minority of parents continue to double park outside the gates at lunchtime and at the start and end of the day, preventing Walter staff from being able to enter and exit their car park. Their gates are in constant use and this has resulted in members of their team arriving late for work and others being prevented from leaving with enough time to collect children from childcare. The spaces at the gate are for staff, so please park elsewhere and with consideration.

The School Councillors and House Captains have been helping with the planning of the next phase of our playground development work, a Wellness



Gym with 9 pieces of outdoor fitness equipment. This is going to take some serious fund-raising and the next event the children have planned is Break the Rules Day. This will be held on Friday 10th May and it will cost 50p for every rule broken.

Rules

• Wear school uniform	• NO squash/juice in water bottles
• NO temporary tattoos	• NO makeup
• No jewellery	• ONLY healthy playtime snacks
• ONLY neat, tidy hair	• NO soft toys
• NO odd/brightly coloured socks	

Message for Y6 parents - if you are one of the 12 who have yet to respond to Monday's SATs breakfast message, we would be grateful if you could do so today.

Enjoy the long weekend

Mrs Taylor

Safeguarding - WhatsApp



Recently, several parents have raised concerns about how some pupils are conducting themselves on WhatsApp, particularly the inappropriateness of the language and content of some messages. As pupils' phones are locked away during the school day, the issues have arisen outside of school, when pupils are in the care of parents.

If you allow your child to use WhatsApp, we would recommend that you regularly check the content of what they are sending/receiving to keep them safe. We would also stress the importance of checking their settings. By default, group privacy settings are set to 'everyone,' which means anybody can add your child to a group without their consent. This is easy to change to 'My Contacts' so only their contacts can add them to groups without their approval. To further protect your child, we would also recommend that you teach them how to use the reporting and blocking tools <https://faq.whatsapp.com/414631957536067>

For us to follow up on any concern, we require screen shots of the messages your child has received and details of the sender. This information should be emailed into admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk to enable us to investigate the matter and take appropriate action, including reporting it to the police where necessary.

2024 Challenge – message for the children from the PTA



THANK YOU to those children and families who took part in the 2024 Challenge over the Easter break. You awesome people have raised a whopping £669.20!!

You baked, sewed and made your beds for 2 weeks! You washed cars, rode your bikes, did forward rolls, swam laps, did garden jobs and dog walks, unloaded the washing machine and helped out around the house.

Some of the money you have raised will go towards new playground equipment and because you enjoyed the challenge so much, we are planning to do it again.



Imagine how much you will be able to raise in the summer holidays!

Thank you once again.

PTA

Polite Plea



If your child forgets their PE kit, water bottle, pencil case or any other equipment for school, we will provide a spare for them to borrow. You do not need to worry about calling into school to drop things off, particularly as the office is exceptionally busy. On average, we have anything between 30 to 40 forgotten items dropped off each day. Whilst enabling us to get our 10,000 steps in, it is hugely disruptive as this causes constant interruptions to lessons when items are taken into class and takes admin staff away from real emergencies, answering the phone, administering first aid, looking after sick children and from dealing with the other important jobs they do to ensure the smooth running of the school.

The same is true about ringing in – we often have parents who ring us to check that we have received the email they sent only moments ago and some who phone in each day to check what is on the menu, even though this has been sent to everyone via ParentMail and is available on our website.

We would be very grateful if children could arrive each day with everything they need, including items for extracurricular clubs as this will avoid disrupting learning. Getting your child to pack their bag the night before is a good step towards independence and can save the stress of trying to get everything organised first thing in the morning 😊.

Breaktime Snacks

The children have been reminded that crisps, biscuits, chocolate bars and other sweet sugary snacks are not permitted at playtime and we would be grateful if you could reinforce this message and avoid sending them into school with anything other than fruit and vegetables or a nut free cereal bar for morning break.



Sports News



Congratulations to the Y4 boys who played in the County Cup semi-final against Birch Copse. They fought hard and did not give up at all during the match. There were some great saves from Albie backed up by tenacious defending. They didn't come away with a win but played well and demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship. Well done to Evan who was the player of the match for his tireless energy and encouragement.

The Y4/5 mixed team played in the Wokingham District Tournament. The children played extremely well despite being in a tough group. They came a close 3rd place but they all had a great time and enjoyed playing together. Congratulations to Faith who was the player of the tournament.



Well done to our team of Y5's who took part a Crossfit competition on Monday. The competition was designed to test all areas of fitness including muscular strength, endurance, core strength, jumping and propulsion as well as fundamental movement skills. They did so well, taking maximum points in the endurance and core strength events, and Charlie took joint first place for completing the highest box jump.



Slip, Slap, Slop

With the summer months coming, please ensure your child is ready for the sun. We recommend that a once-a-day sun screen is applied before school and that children come with a hat and sunglasses (named) as well as their water bottle.

Well Done Aston!



Last weekend Aston (4P) was awarded a Black Belt in Mixed Martial Arts. This is a fantastic achievement, especially for someone so young and all of his hard work and training over the last five years has led up to this very special moment. He had to pass a total of 13 hours of exams but didn't let that put him off!

Well done Aston! – we are very impressed!

District Football Team

Theo's (6T) district football team will be playing in the National Cup on Sunday against Liverpool in the bet360 stadium in Stoke. It's a huge achievement for the team and can be streamed live on YouTube using this link:



ESFA TV
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

PTA Vacancy – Treasurer

The PTA are looking for a new treasurer to join their committee as soon as possible. Ideally, they need someone who is good with numbers and used to handling cash. This is a vital role in the small, friendly and supportive team. For an informal chat, please contact the PTA directly: PTA@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

Swimming and Outdoor Games

Due to the Bank Holiday – 3D, 3H and 5D will swim on a different day next week.

3D and 5D will be swimming on Tuesday 7th May. 3H will be swimming on Friday 10th May.

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. Swimming hats can be purchased from school.

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

Outdoor Games

All classes will have outdoor Games on Thursday. **Pupils should come to school dressed in PE kit.** (navy or black shorts or tracksuit, plain white t-shirt). Games lessons take place every week in all but the most extreme weather and, therefore, we ask that pupils bring their uniform too, in case they have to change into dry clothes.

Outdoor Games
Thursday - all classes

Class Assemblies

Just a reminder about upcoming class assemblies, the majority of which will take place on Friday morning. These events last approximately 15 minutes and start promptly at 9.00 am. Parents of the class performing are welcome to join us for these occasions and should **enter the school via the Oxford Road entrance.**

3/5	10/5	17/5	24/5	14/6	21/6	28/6	5/7	12/7	19/7
5M	3B	4P	5D	3H	4B	5K	3D	4R	5M

Forest School News



It was 5K's turn to join us in the woods on Monday and an afternoon full of enthusiasm, curiosity and awe was enjoyed by all.

Our afternoon groups have been learning how to tie a reef knot and many mastered it so quickly that they were then having blindfolded reef knot tying races against each other! They used this newly learned skill to retrieve the 'treasure chest' from our crocodile infested swamp! This needed teamwork, communication and collaboration skills for the task to be achieved successfully – lucky for us that our St Paul's pupils have bucketsful of all

three skills.



We have finally finished digging over our allotment patches and now also have pumpkins, leeks, marjoram and peas planted. Now to nurture them...

During our reflection the children have thought about who, or what, they are grateful for. They spoke about the food on their table, friends and family, opportunities that are available to them and pets.

29/04	13/05	20/05	17/06	24/06	01/07	08/07	09/07	15/07	16/07
5K	4P	3H	6B	3D	6S	5D	4R	6T	3B

Absence Reporting

If your child is not able to attend school due to illness, please email absence@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk by 8.15am on each day of the absence. Please ensure you give your child's name, class and symptoms: stating that your child is 'unwell' is not sufficient information for our records.

The Next Week at School

Thursday 9 th May	Year 3 Viking Workshop
Friday 10 th May – 9am	3B Class Assembly
Friday 10 th May	Break the Rules Day – 50p for each rule broken
Diary Dates	
Monday 13 th – 17 th May	Year 6 SATs – NO CLUBS WILL RUN THIS WEEK
Friday 17 th May 3.30am	PTA Bake Sale (after school)
Friday 17 th May – 9am	4P Class Assembly
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th May	Walk to School Week
Friday 24 th May	5D Class Assembly

Friday 24 th May	Break up for half term – 3.30pm finish
Monday 3 rd June	INSET Day
Friday 7 th June	PTA Silent Disco
Thursday 13 th June	Sports Day 9.00pm – 1.00pm
Friday 14 th June	3H Class Assembly
Thursday 20 th June	PTA - Bag to School and Frozen Thursday
Friday 21 st June	4B Class Assembly
Friday 28 th June	5K Class Assembly
Friday 5 th July	3D Class Assembly
Saturday 6 th July	PTA – Summer Fair
Friday 12 th July	4R Class Assembly
Friday 12 th July	PTA – Frozen Friday
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Disco
Friday 19 th July	5M Class Assembly
Friday 19 th July	End of Term – 2.00pm finish



PLAYERS WANTED

To support the growth of our Girls' and Women's teams, we will be starting another **Girls-only** age group in September 2024.

Are you starting Year 3 or 4 in September?
Do you like playing football with your friends?

OPEN TRAINING SESSION
Thursday 16 & 23 May @ 6-7pm
Cantley Park Grass Pitch by Car park

If you are interested, please contact us via the website or scan the QR code.

www.ashridgepark.co.uk


