St Paul's C of E Junior School



Dear All,



Every member of our staff team is missing the pupils and the wider school community, including all of the St Paul's parents and carers.

We have received lots of messages and photos from the children via the Learning Platform and we are enjoying hearing about what they have been up to. If you have a missed call from school, please do not worry. We are not checking up about work, just steadily working our way through the list of the 159 pupils who have not logged in over the last couple of weeks, ringing to make sure that everyone in the household is safe and well. For mislaid or forgotten log in details, please email: <u>IT Tech@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u>.

Many parents have told us how challenging it is to home school. It is not easy to teach! Teachers undertake four years of training, plus an NQT year in which they learn further behaviour for learning strategies, ways to represent a variety of subjects in different ways and how to meet a range of needs. None of us, teachers included, have had training for this current situation, where children are in lockdown, learning remotely, away from their teachers and friends. It is impossible for any school to meet the expectations of every family within its community, but that will not deter us from continuing to do our best to make learning accessible, interesting and as varied as possible for as many pupils as we can, whilst, at the same time, our staff team try to stay well, care and support their families, and attempt to home school their own children. Next week's Year Group schedules are available here.

Home schooling is hard for everyone and this report is what a very experienced, wellrespected educational consultant and school inspector wrote about the quality of the homeschooling he is currently delivering to his own children during lockdown.

If you are doing as much as you can to support your child within the constraints of your

raising standards Jeffrey Home School improving lives Kitchen Table, Nr. Brighton. Number on Roll: 2 Inspection dates April 2020 Previous inspection: Good 2 **Overall effectiveness** 3 This inspection: **Requires Improvement** Leadership and management Shocking 3 3 Behaviour and safety of pupils **Requires Improvement** Quality of teaching **Requires Improvement** 3 Achievement of pupils Requires Improvement 3 Early years provision Not Applicable

Summary of key findings for parents and pupils

This is an atrocious school.

School report

 School leaders have ensured that the school's overall effectiveness has tanked since the last inspection.

✓ Pupils enjoy learning. They just don't enjoy lessons. Except making a game where they throw a ball into various cardboard boxes. That one seems to have caught on, at least.

✓ The headteacher is eminently qualified but is regularly seen wearing nothing but dressing gowns and underparts. This sets a very poor example to the pupils. Also, in the evening, both members of staff are often observed drinking alcohol in front of the pupils.

The school development plan lacks rigour. Our team did not feel 'get everyone showered and dressed by lunchtime' was sufficiently aspirational.

✓ Pupils are regularly late to lessons, and often leave the class without permission. Absenteeism is a daily occurence, despite the school only having two pupils on roll. One child was found watching a Netflix boxset without adult supervision.

The school consistently fails to provide lesson objectives, nor does it signal clearly enough in pupils written work that aural feedback has been given. So that's something.

✓ The Key Stage 2 pupil was recently caught playing Fortnite and claimed it was a Geography project. He was excluded for two weeks.

✓ One pupil in Key Stage 4 does not arrive at school until around 1pm, but when inspectors questioned him he could give no clear reason why he was not at school.

home/work life then you are doing a great job and when the time comes for schools to return to a normal routine, we will move heaven and earth to get them settled back in and making good progress. Stability and security are what children need in these uncertain times and any support with home learning is a bonus.

Take care and have a good weekend. Mrs Taylor

St Paul's C of E Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all pupils, staff, volunteers, visitors and external agencies to share this commitment. Page 1 of 4

Support

For families who are struggling to pay for food, we are able to help. Please get in touch with us by either ringing school 0118 978 5219 or by sending a message to <u>admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u>.

Safeguarding

As always, if you have any safeguarding concerns linked to anyone in our school, please notify us via <u>safeguarding@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u> and we will be in touch as soon as possible.

NHS Berkshire West CCG have contacted all schools with regard to their social media campaign #Coping; family life during the lockdown, and have asked that we share a link to their resources with you: www.berkshirewestsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/scp/helping-you/coronavirus

Wellbeing

For children

Everyone is aware of the physical effects of the Coronavirus and what we should look out for if symptoms arise but the mental effects are not yet known. The government have issued some excellent guidance for parents on how to support the wellbeing of young people.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoplesmental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoplesmental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak

For families

NHS Berkshire West have also put together some reliable and free sources of information and advice to help you and your family to cope under lockdown.

https://www.berkshirewestccg.nhs.uk/media/3923/coping-family-life-during-lockdown-guide.pdf

Reading Well and Mental Health Check out the NHS Every Mind Matters website. It has some useful tips for mental wellbeing while staying at home. There's a host of advice, support and tools to use. Just visit: <u>http://ow.ly/4dBb30qsCNI</u>

First News Online Edition

FirstNews

We subscribe to *First News*, the UK's national newspaper for young people. During lockdown this publication will be available online. It is full of interesting articles containing age appropriate information and a great way to introduce some non-fiction reading material into your child's diet. The latest edition can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

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VE Day Celebrations – Wokingham Borough Library

Join us for our virtual Library VE Day celebrations to mark this important anniversary. Check out our libraries blog at <u>https://wokinghamboroughlibraries.wordpress.com/</u> for VE Day activities which will include:

A look at how Wokingham celebrated VE Day with an article put together by our local history volunteer Jim Bell Recommended books from our digital library about WW2 and how it ended A play list of contemporaneous music available on our free music streaming service Freegal

A "Bake along" with wartime recipes. One of our members of staff will be baking the cakes and posting pictures of the results on our blog

Amazing Animal Adventures with book ideas and activities about animal heroes during the wars. Links to virtual activities taking place nationally

We will also be running the following on our Facebook page and keep checking as we start more activities over the coming weeks - https://www.facebook.com/wokinghamboroughlibraries/_

Online Origami Club Online storytime every Tuesday on our Facebook Page Rhymetime – a rhyme a week will be coming out on Friday on our Facebook page Online Writing Club Lego Club weekly challenge

Wokingham Borough Libraries

Important Information about the School Nursing Service During Covid 19

The School Nursing Team continues to offer support during school closures, where you can seek advice and support on non Covid19 related issues such as bedwetting, toilet training, behaviour, and sleeping, and we endeavour to answer all responses within 1 working day, your local telephone number is: 0118 949 5055, and by email is: <u>csnwokingham@berkshire.nhs.uk</u>

Photos

Please keep your Signs of Spring photos coming in. The last batch we received are all now posted in our Gallery.

We would still like your rainbow/NHS thank you signs send in, but need a few more to have a good collection for the Newsletter.

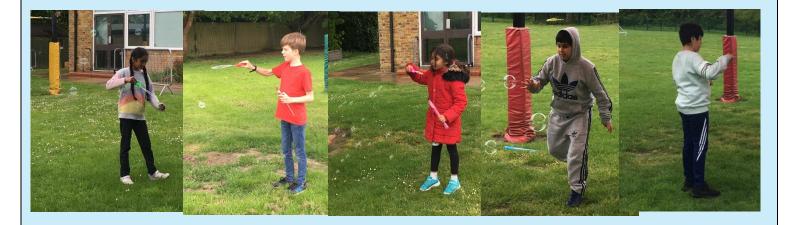
If you are having trouble uploading photos, you can send them directly to Mrs Brook at <u>IT Tech@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u>. Remember to include your name and class.

And finally..... please see below

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Hi everyone,

Like you, we have been stuck inside a lot more this week! We did brave the rain a couple of times armed with bubble wands - we got wet but had lots of fun.



We have been cracking on with our Oak National Academy lessons and have decided that lots of us like the history sessions the best. We have also been busy writing thank you letters to some of the keyworkers filling supermarket shelves, delivering groceries, delivering parcels and letters and emptying our bins.

It has been the quietest week in school so far, with an average of just seven children each day. We think the biggest difference about being in school at the moment is how quiet things are. Even if we are very excited and boisterous, with so few of us there is never too much noise.

We are all looking forward to the weekend. Fingers crossed the weather will improve and we can all stop dodging the rain.



From Harriet, Erin, Freya, Amir, Erfan, Miss Edwards, Miss Plumley, Mr Millen and Mrs Taylor.

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