

# St Paul's Newsletter – Autumn 25.10.24

*'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,



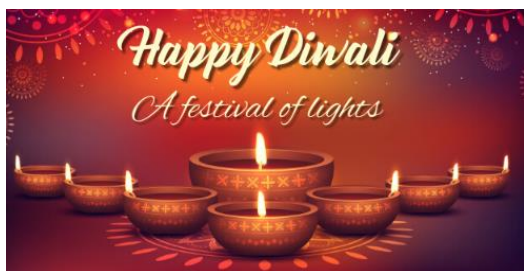
It is hard to believe that we are already half way through the term and what a busy time we have had. Our fabulous pupils and fantastic staff team most definitely deserve a break as they could not have worked any harder over the last seven weeks. Our lovely Year 3 children look like 'old hands' and I am immensely proud of all that they have achieved since joining St Paul's just a short time ago.

On Wednesday, we welcomed Annette Medhurst from Wokingham Foodbank who talked to the whole school about the vital role the Foodbank plays in supporting members of our local community. At some point we will all face short term moments of difficulty in our lives and for many families a simple box of food can make a huge difference. The Foodbank is a charity that our pupils love to support and it has been the focus of our harvest donations for a number of years now. The list of the items they need can be found below and we will send out a parentmail during half term, reminding you about the date to send items in.

Thank you to 6D for an excellent assembly this morning. It was lovely hearing about their learning in such a wide range of subject areas. They should be very proud of the way they presented themselves and of the quality of the work they are producing - we are!



A huge thank you also from Mrs Dwyer and the Liddington Team to those Y6 parents who showed their appreciation for the effort that went into ensuring that the residential was a huge success. The chocolates were gratefully received and there will be lots of Starbucks cups raised in thanks to your thoughtfulness and generosity. It was such a lovely surprise.



To all of our families celebrating Diwali next week, we wish you, your family and friends, good health, prosperity, peace and contentment. Finally, I would like to wish you to wish you a very happy half term and I am looking forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

Have a great half term, everyone! - Mrs Taylor

## Harvest Festival - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November



We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November and supporting the work of the Wokingham Foodbank. Attached is a list of the items that are low in stock at the Foodbank that they would particularly like to receive. **Collection boxes for your donations will be at the Murray Road gates on the morning of Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.**

## PTA Events - Autumn Disco and Christmas Fair

Our fabulous PTA are busy organising events for the coming half term.

The Autumn Term Disco is taking place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. If you haven't already done so, please book your tickets:

**Y3/4 – 6:15PM – 7:15PM** - [St Paul's CoE Junior School PTA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](http://pta-events.co.uk)

**Y5/6 – 7:30PM – 8:30PM** - [St Paul's CoE Junior School PTA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](http://pta-events.co.uk)

Our Christmas Fair will be taking place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December: 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Northwood Estate agents will be sponsoring us again this year and the PTA have created a link to sign up to having a board. If you are able to support our school by having a board outside your house, please sign up here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/RHKcXFRV2D>

## Sports News



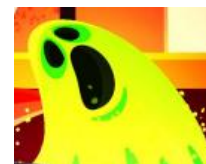
Congratulations to the girls who finished their third week of the School Games Netball Stingers League on Wednesday. It has been fantastic to see the enthusiasm and skills develop over the last few weeks. The girls finished as joint winners of the league so will now be going to The Holt in November to play in a tournament against the winners and runners up of all the other leagues. Thank you to all our club netballers who were very vocal in supporting the team!

What a fantastic turnout we had at the TVRL race yesterday at Cantley Park. It was wonderful to see over 60 runners from St Paul's and everyone tried their very best. They were all great ambassadors for St Paul's. Special mention to our top finishers in each race: Florence and Cora, Noah, Adelaide and Samuel and also to everyone who was running in their first ever race. We can't wait to see you all at our next race in November.



## Wake up Wednesday – Horror Films and Age Ratings

This week's Wake up Wednesday was about horror films and age ratings and was full of advice for parents. With Halloween just around the corner and the 'on demand' availability of streaming platforms, there are extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to scary and age inappropriate content. Children scare differently and material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety or nightmares, especially since it can be hard to grasp that what is being viewed may not be real. We would always advise parents to read Wake up Wednesday as it is a quick, accessible read, packed with helpful tips and advice to empower and equip parents with the skills to have well informed age appropriate conversations with children about online safety. there is also a p[odcast version [accompanying podcast version](#) of this guide, so you can access this valuable guidance whilst on the go.



## Walking Home from School



During the early hours of Sunday, 27 October, the clocks go back one hour, rewarding some of us an extra hour in bed and making it a bit lighter when we wake up. The downside of the change is that it begins to get dark earlier and earlier.

If your child is allowed to walk home alone, please remind them of the importance of coming straight home without any detours if they haven't checked with you first!

## Trick or Treating

### For those who plan to go trick or treating:

- Only visit the homes of people you know well or who are clearly displaying Halloween decorations.
- Respect the wishes of those who display a “No Trick or Treat” sign
- Be considerate of those who may find large groups of people in scary costumes intimidating

Police officers will be conducting extra patrols around Halloween.

### If you feel unsafe or don't want to be disturbed:

- Download the attached “No Trick or Treat” sign and display it where it can be clearly seen at the front of your home. [No Trick or Treat.jpg](#)

If you have a porch or outside light ensure it is switched on during the evening so individuals approaching your door can be seen.

- Don't open your door if you're unsure who is there. Use your spyhole, look out of a window, and use your door chain if you do decide to open your door.
- Have a contact number of a close relative, friend or good neighbour to hand by your telephone, just in case you need to phone them.



## Photo Ordering Deadline

Please be reminded that the **deadline to order photographs is Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**. As it is now half term we will not be able to provide any lost photo codes. You will need to contact Simon & Cardwell via their website if you have any queries <https://www.cardwellandsimons.co.uk/contact-us/>

## Forest School News



4R came to the woodland for their class session on Monday and embraced the challenge to create autumn rainbows. The children also chose to go bug hunting, create masterpieces in the Mud Kitchen and build a zip line!

Our afternoon groups have been looking at tracking and designed trails for each other around the woodland. These included obstacles, no entry signs and plenty of arrows.

The children on Thursday also spent time in the pond area, raking up the leaves and ensuring that any wildlife made it back to the pond safely.

During our reflection, we thought about the message that Mrs Taylor had given to the whole school during assembly on Monday, “When we root for each other, we grow together.” The children recognised times during the afternoon when they had supported and encouraged each other.



04/11	11/11	18/11	25/11	02/12
3B	6D	5K	4L	3H

**Please remember to send your child to their Forest School session with long trousers and a warm, waterproof coat.** It won't be long before we'll all need to have our hats and gloves with us!

## Indoor PE and Games

**Our swimming pool is now closed for the winter.** From half term until Easter, we will be having indoor PE classes in place of swimming. On indoor PE days, pupils should come to school in uniform, bringing their kit with them to change into.

## Outdoor Games

All classes will continue to have Games on Thursdays. 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.

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

Outdoor Games
Thursday – all classes

## New Parent Tours

If you know any prospective new parents who may be interested in a tour of our fabulous school, we are now taking bookings.

Tour dates are:

9am Thursday 28th November

2pm Friday 29th November



Due to high demand, we have added a further date of 9am Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November

Prospective parents can book a place on a tour via TicketSource using this link: [Click here to book on our tour](#)

If you or anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2025 please do book onto one of Walter Infant School's tours: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/walter-infant-school](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/walter-infant-school)

## Free Half Term Activity – Monday



Monday 28 October, 10am-2pm

Diamond Jubilee Room, in Wokingham Town Hall

As part of the themed activities for the Museum Open Days at Wokingham Town Hall, the children can have a go at making a mini brick themselves to take home next Monday 28th October, 10am to 2pm.

In the past, there were many brick works dotted across the town. The busiest and perhaps the best known was located near Molly Millars Lane, owned by a businessman named Thomas Lawrence. Visit the town hall next Monday to learn more about bricks, see different brick markings, and the children can have a go at making a mini brick.

## Absence Reporting

We no longer to subscribe to the Absence Reporting section of ParentMail.

Absences must be reported in writing by emailing [absence@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:absence@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk)

If your child is not able to attend school due to illness, you must email by 8.15am on each day of the absence, ensuring you give your child's name, class and symptoms. Stating that your child is 'unwell' is not sufficient information for our records.

Any request for term time leave must be in writing on our Leave of Absence Request Form, which can be found on our website under parents > absence reporting

## Next Week at School

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Deadline for Ordering School Photographs
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Children Return to School
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Harvest Festival – Foodbank Donations
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 3.40pm – 7.00pm	Parents' Consultations
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 8.40am – 11.40am	Parents' Consultations

## Diary Dates

Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 9.00am	5B Class Assembly
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 9.00am	6T Class Assembly

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 9.00am	5M Class Assembly
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	4R Class Assembly
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm – 5.30om	Christmas Fair
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 5.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	4P Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Lunch

**October  
Tennis Camps**

31st October

9:30-11:30 Red/orange  
11:30-13:30 green/yellow

non members welcome

Prizes for best dressed

Please email  
[office.mattreidprocoaching.co.uk](mailto:office.mattreidprocoaching.co.uk)  
if you have any questions



**READING MUSEUM**

**OCTOBER  
HALF TERM**

**SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER - SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER**

**THE BIG PUMPKIN AND LITTLE MOUSE TRAIL**  
From Saturday 5 October onwards

**ACTIVITY CART**  
All week

**MAKE & TAKE: POM POM  
SPIDERS AND BATS**  
Thursday 31 October  
Families, half-hour sessions  
10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm

**THE BIG ARTWORK EVENT**  
Tuesday 29 October  
All ages, 10.30am – 3.30pm

**ROMAN MODELLING**  
Wednesday 30 October  
Ages 5+, Families, 1-hour  
sessions starting at 10am,  
11.15am, 1pm & 2.15pm

**VICTORIAN SCHOOLROOM  
EXPERIENCE IN THE  
GATEWAY**  
Friday 1 November  
Ages 5+, 11am & 2pm  
(meeting at the Abbey  
Gateway)

**RHYMETIME AT READING  
MUSEUM**  
Wednesday 30 October  
Families, 10.30am-11.30am

**OBJECT HANDLING**  
Friday 1 November  
All ages, 10.30am - 12pm

[www.readingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.readingmuseum.org.uk)

