

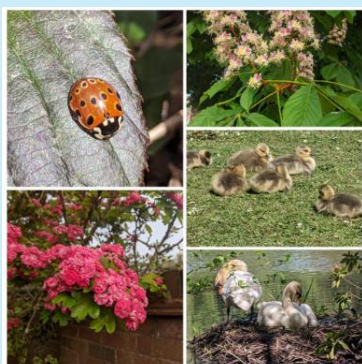
St Paul's C of E Junior School



Dear all,

This week saw the return of many of our Year 6 pupils and what a joy it is to have more children back in school where they belong! As each pupil stepped onto the playground, they were met with a round of applause from the staff and Keyworker children who were stood waiting to welcome them back. Year 6 impressed us with the way they rose to the challenge of the 'new normal' and even though classmates have been spread across three different rooms, often with a teacher other than their own, they quickly adapted to the way in which things have been organised to ensure their safety. The staff did a wonderful job of helping them settle in and allay any anxieties they may have had about returning to school.

It is not just the children and staff we have been working hard to keep safe but also the parents. Thank you to those of our Keyworker children for accommodating the changes that had to be made to the existing routines now that children from 6G, 6B and 6W are back in school. We are also grateful to Year 6 parents for observing social distancing and helping us execute a staggered start and end to each day (even when parts of the playground flooded and we had to move to Plan B!).



Congratulations to Emilia (5S) winner of the Signs of Spring Competition. Father Richard and Mrs Wallace found it very difficult to decide on their favourite entry and could not agree, so Miss Plumley (Art Subject Leader), had to step in this week and help with the final decision.

Congratulations to Jaidon Elliott, a past pupil of St Paul's, who has just won a music scholarship to Eton. Jaidon is a talented musician, and his hard work has obviously paid off. Well done Jaidon! This fantastic achievement will no doubt inspire the other talented musicians we have in school.



The teaching staff have been extremely excited about catching up with children from those year groups who are not yet able to return to school and as well as hearing about the work that they have been completing, we have also loved the stories they have shared about Zoom birthday parties, daily reading sessions with grandparents who are far away, the earning of Blue Peter Badges and attending virtual band practice. We now have expert trampoliners, coders, bakers, crafters, photographers, artists, gardeners and goal scorers – these are just a few of the achievements and successes shared with us so far. If your child has yet to receive a call, rest assured they will as staff continue to work their way down class lists over the coming days. If you have a missed call, don't worry about calling back, the teacher will ring again. We are very grateful for the lovely messages, cards and emails we have received from parents wanting to express their thanks about the work that the staff team have been putting in during lockdown – we really appreciate your feedback.

Schools have been at very heart of public debate throughout this pandemic – it has turned the world upside down and inside out! Like every other setting, we have and will continue to navigate our way through these uncharted waters with what we have available to us and in the best way that we can, whilst we try to manage the expectations of the government, our parents and pupils. In the last few days, you will have heard about additional funding for schools for 'catch up'. Schools are not privileged with information or guidance in advance of announcements made at government daily briefings – we hear when you hear about the changes that will affect schools.

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.

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Should you have any concerns please speak to Mrs. J M Taylor, Designated Child Protection Officer.

Parents have shared that some pupils have been anxious about whether their teacher might catch Covid-19. A number of staff from across the school have been affected by the virus, as have some of their children and other family members but, at this moment in time, anyone who has been unwell is now on their way back to good health.

Mrs Hamer and the 'bump' are both thriving and very shortly Mrs Hamer will be commencing maternity leave. Mrs Vickers has been appointed to cover her absence. She joins us from a school in the borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, is a very experienced teacher, and comes highly recommended. She is very excited to be joining the team and is looking forward to working with the new pupils from Year 2.

In last week's Newsletter, I wrote that there would be an update regarding the purchase of uniform for September. Parents of existing Year 3, 4 and 5 pupils are able to order uniform online using our Tucassi (Scopay) system. Orders will be processed by Miss Perkins and once your items are available, she will contact you via email to arrange collection. We appreciate that most parents may wish to wait a while before ordering and as it will not be possible to return items, we will measure the dimensions of the various cardigans and sweatshirts that are available and publish a size guide on our website. We will send out a hyperlink to the guide via Parentmail towards the end of next week.

With the weather we have been experiencing recently, it is hard to believe that it will be Midsummer's day next Wednesday! Fingers crossed that things improve over the weekend and that everyone is able to enjoy being outside more than they have in the last few days!

Next week's schedules will be available on the website from 4pm today.

Have a good weekend,

Mrs Taylor

Headteacher

Support

For families struggling to pay for food – we can help. Please get in touch by ringing 0118 978 5219 or send a message to admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk.



Happy Birthday to those pupils celebrating in June:

Jourdan, Jenson, Amelie, Charlie, Julieta, Jamie, Stefanos, Livia, Edie, Arabella, Hayley, Dolly, Cayden, Leila, Joseph, Elena, Freya, Sofie, Ffion, Bradley, Surya, Marco, Akshaya, Sathvik, Jessica, Elliott, Daniel, Lohith, Jai, Molly, Ruby, Nayan, Emily, Sophie, Nulan, Evan, Poppy, Alexander, Sukirthan,

Climate Rap by Megan

Follow this link to Twitter to see Megan's brilliant rap about climate change. As Twitter is for ages 13+, please ensure that your child has adult supervision when viewing so they cannot access any further features on Twitter which may not be suitable.

<https://twitter.com/Jay39743390/status/1265567628891959300?s=20>

A reminder of useful tips regarding your child's use of the internet and social media can be found on the website - [e-safety children using the internet & social media](#)

For parents with older siblings, Net Aware have produced a [Twitter Guide for Parents](#) which you might find useful.

Forest School's First Produce



This is the first Forest School produce to be picked. As we went into lockdown, Mrs McBain and Mrs Carless took all of the vegetable plants home, planting them in their gardens. Apparently, the peas tasted delicious and the broad beans are growing well and are almost ready to harvest.

First News Online Edition

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 found [here](#).



Wokingham Borough Council Adult Education Courses

WBC Education Service is funding another CAP Money course via small group Zoom meetings. The course is designed to be accessible to all no matter what learners' financial circumstances are. It is a simple, yet highly effective 3-part money management course that gives people budgeting skills and a simple system of managing their money that makes a real difference. The course details are attached and as follows:

Introduction:	Thu, 2nd July
Workshop Sessions:	Thu, 9th, 16th and 23rd July
When:	7:30pm for 1½ to 2 hours
Where:	Remote Learning via Zoom videoconferencing
Price:	Free
Registration:	www.capmoneycourse.org or contact Brian Allan on 07787 522306

Community Education Coordinator, WBC

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