# St Paul's Newsletter – 23.6.23

Safeguarding Team: Julieanne Taylor – Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead Linda Edwards – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

# Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,



As you will see from this Newsletter, it has been a busy week of special events, not least last Saturday's Summer Fair! Thank you to everyone who contributed, particularly our tiny, but extremely hardworking, PTA Committee. It was a great success and we certainly had the weather for it! Thanks to those who helped set up, man stalls and serve food, and to those who stayed until the very end and helped to clear up. We are very grateful to everyone who came along and spent so generously in support of the

school. It was a brilliant team effort and lots of fun.

We had a lovely time meeting Year 2 on Monday. Our fabulous Year 3 children did an amazing job of showing them the ropes by acting as guides for the Treasure Hunt. This was closely followed by New Parents' Afternoon on Wednesday, giving families joining us in September a flavour of our school. For those unable to attend, Welcome Packs have been sent over to Walter Infants for distribution on our behalf.

Sadly, we will soon be saying goodbye to Francisco, 4P, who will be leaving us to move with his family to Sweden. We wish Francisco and his brothers, Thor and Bruce, every happiness at their new schools and we would like to thanks Mr and Mrs Bergljung for their donation of paper and resources for Lunch Club.

Rehearsals for the Y6 production are well underway and if the singing is anything to go by, it will be a show stopper! Please note, due to the threat of further industrial action, the evening performance originally planned for 5th July has now been moved to 11th.

Next week's swimming lesson, 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June, will focus on self-rescue! All pupils will need their swimming kit as normal and a pair of long trousers (ideally joggers, not jeans) and a long sleeved top or PJ's to be worn in the water over of their normal swimming costume.



Have a great weekend! Mrs Taylor

# **Forest School Award**

Over the past few years, through our Forest School Curriculum, the children have been working towards The Woodland Trust's Green Tree Awards and recently achieved the Gold Award by taking part in activities such as planting a hedgerow and fruit trees, exploring a different woodland while on a field trip to Holt Copse and then comparing it to our own from different perspectives. All of these activities, as well as learning about tree dressing, gave the children and Forest School staff a deeper understanding of not only our woodland environment but also those around the world.

Our plaque will be displayed in pride of place in the entrance hall and we are about to begin working towards the Platinum Award. Congratulations to all of the children and staff who contributed to us achieving this brilliant award!

# Year 5 Gurdwara Trip

Year 5 were extremely fortunate this week and had the opportunity to visit Reading Gurdwara. There they learned about Sikh Worship and about the Sikh Holy Book; the Guru Granth Sahib Ji. The children saw some traditional instruments played and were lucky enough to taste some vegetarian Indian food in the Langar community kitchen. Thank you to all parent helpers who accompanied us on our trip.







We had some wonderful feedback from Reading Gurdwara, see the message below.

"Dear Mrs Dwyer,

I just quickly wanted to say thank you for coming down today and visiting Reading Gurdwara.....The children were a real joy to teach and were so well informed about Sikhism. I literally had nothing new to teach them!



One thing we picked up on and really appreciated is that despite being a Church of England school, your teachers encourage students to learn more about other religions. At school I was not privileged enough to have RE teachers like yours and therefore missed out on learning about different religions and cultures.

You are more than welcome to visit us at any time and I look forward to booking your school in again next year!"

#### World War II Day

Year 5 immersed themselves in their Evacuation Day on Friday, re-enacting what it might have been like to be a child evacuated from Wokingham to Devon. The children spent the day acting out a range of scenarios based on written accounts of the war and enjoyed sampling foods rationed during WWII.







## **Online Safety**

This week's film is the seventh and wraps up the series. The link to the film and other useful resources are included in the ParentMail message accompanying this Newsletter. We hope that you have found them a useful resource and they have helped keep you abreast of the rapidly changing digital landscape for children.

#### **Sporting News**

What a week of highs and lows! It began with disappointment as the School Games Wokingham Dynamo cricket tournament was cancelled due to the weather. Ultimately, it would have been fine to proceed but unfortunately the organisers had to make a call based on the weather forecast on Monday. This is very disappointing for the Year 6 pupils, especially as this event will not be rescheduled. Let's hope for excellent results in the cricket league. Good luck to our team taking on Loddon Junior School on Friday and Oaklands Junior School on Monday.



On Wednesday, we saw our year 3/4 girls taking on Francis Baily, a school from Thatcham, in the <u>U9 County Cup final</u>. The girls were magnificent and dominated most of the match, winning 3-2 to become the County Champions!! This was an incredible achievement particularly as at the beginning of the season we had many beginners. The girls have worked so hard and have been inspired and supported by those who are more experienced in the squad to create a wonderful team. Thanks to Justin Smith for coaching the girls and the parents for supporting them on their journey to success. Congratulations girls what a group of superstars!!!!

Thursday was the School Games Tennis Skills Festival. Our team of four boys and four girls all from Year 3, enthusiastically took part in a number of different activities and fun games to develop their skills. They were so successful, they will now go on to represent Wokingham at the Berkshire Summer Games next Thursday. Congratulations to all of you and have a wonderful day next week!





Congratulations to Evan Barnes who wrote into the Match of the Day magazine after spotting a news item congratulating Watford on winning the South Regional finals. Using all of his persuasive writing techniques, he requested a mention for St. Paul's as the runners up in the competition!! Well done Evan!

Young Ballers: This fouly team made it all the way to the South regional finals in their local competition. Keep it up, boyst 600m run, long jump and throw. They scored a superb total of 1,567 points, coming in silver position by a narrow margin of 20 points. They will now to go on to

represent Wokingham at the Berkshire Games. Congratulations to all of you!



Mrs Foster.

#### **Poetry Star**

#### Nature

Wind whistling, trees swaying, Young, little children happily playing, Cute bunnies hopping, nightingales singing, Brass church bells loudly ringing.

Plants growing, trees tall, Boys shouting, playing basketball, Leaves dancing and branches twitching, Trying yet failing to cease their itching.

Rivers bubbling, opening their mouths wide, Seas and oceans spreading the tide, Lush green forests housing life, The howl of a wolf, sharp as a knife.

Chiping and rustling everywhere, Woods so peaceful, not even a flare, Flowers flourishing, fruits ripe, All animals joyful, every single type. Along the house, long vines grow, Column by column, row by row, The bright sun shining in the sky, Way, way up, up, up high. Nature's finest, all is calm, No panic, no alorm, 'Cause all is fine and all is great, Nature will have nothing but a wonderful fate. Ethan Ang (10) Well done to Etah, 5D, who is now a published poet! Having entered two of his works in a national poetry competition, both were chosen to feature in the anthologies below. What an amazing talent!



#### Year 3 Draw Scholastic Draw-along Live!

Year 3 joined many other schools from around the country on a Scholastic live video call - story time and draw along with the author and illustrator husband duo James Matthew and Toto. They heard them tell the beginning of their new book called The Frog's Kiss. Then they were shown how to draw the main character- The Frog and then Toto showed them how to draw a Princess with a big ball gown. They discussed all the stages before the book was published ready to be sold; the writing process and all the editing needed to make it perfect. Also, they learnt that making mistakes was fantastic because it made their writing and illustrations even better. James and Toto worked together in collaboration with some of the drawings and commented that actually this was a great way to work as they could bounce ideas off each other. 3K even got their two questions they submitted to James and Toto answered!

The message given in response to their question; why did they choose to write about a Prince kissing the frog, not a princess? they wanted to give the message it's ok to be different, to be who you want to be and love comes in different shapes and sizes.



# Uniform

We are changing the way that you order school uniform. This can now be ordered directly through the Gooddies website using the following link: <u>https://www.gooddies.co.uk/product-category/schools/st-pauls-c-of-e-junior-school-schools/</u>

We hold samples of garments to allow parents to see the quality and to try on for size before ordering. Please ask at the School Office for further information. The cut off dates for orders are 15th and 31st of the month (or last day of the month). Delivery is normally 10 working days following the cut off dates. Order up to midnight on the 15th of the month; receive delivery at the end of the same month. Orders placed before midnight on the last day of the month will be delivered approximately the middle of the following month. Please allow up to 20 working days from cut off during busy months of June – September.

For orders placed by Friday 30th June for school delivery can be collected from the school office on 20th and 21st July. Orders placed during the Summer holidays can be collected from the school office on 4th September. You can choose from free delivery to school, or a home delivery service at an additional cost of £5.95. Please note home delivery is not an express option.



We currently have a large amount of stock in school that we are selling at the 2022 prices and these can still be purchased via SCOPAY while stocks last. Please see below for the current available stock and prices.

Ag	Adult - Small Age 13 Age 11-12	SOLD OUT	The following items will continue to be available from the school and can be purchased via SCOPAY.		
	Age 9-10 Age 7-8	SOLD OUT £9.30 – LOW STOCK	PE Bag	£4.50	
	Age 5-6	£9.30	Swimming Hat	£2.50	
Cardigans	Age 13	£9.80			
	Age 11-12 Age 9-10	£9.80 SOLD OUT			
	Age 7-8	£9.80			
	Age 5-6	£9.80			

## **Cost of Living Help Hub**

As the cost of living crisis continues to impact our communities, many are being forced to go into debt to buy the essentials for daily life.

Our partners can provide £100 per household with a food, fuel or cash voucher through the Household Support Fund. It's open to anyone to apply. You don't need to receive benefits to be eligible.

There is also special support for families where children receive means-tested free school meals. This can be used for food, bills, energy costs or other everyday items. <u>Apply now.</u>

A round up of the latest support and help options can be found at cost of living help hub.

#### Families eligible for Free School Meals

If your child gets means-tested free school meals you are entitled to financial support. Wokingham Borough Council and First Days Children's Charity are working together to provide payments to help during school holidays. <u>Apply through First Days</u> <u>Children's Charity</u>.

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.

## Swimming Timetable

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

On swimming days, pupils should come to school in uniform, bringing the following kit with them:

- Girls one-piece swimsuit
- Boys swimming trunks no long, baggy shorts please!
- Towel
- Swimming hat (these can be purchased online through the school website)
- Optional extra: Goggles with the BSi mark.

For children to participate safely in PE and Swimming lessons, all earrings must be removed and we advise they remain at home for safekeeping.

## **Forest School Sessions**

26/06	03/07	5/7	10/7	17/7	18/7
4C	3B	4P	6D	3H	4R

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.

#### **Diary Dates**

Next Week		
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> June	5D Class Assembly 9.00am	

Upcoming	
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Production 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Production 6.00pm – 7.00pm
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Big Swap Week
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Reports sent home to parents
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Enterprise Day
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Leavers' Service at St Paul's Church (tbc)
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> July	PTA Year 6 Leavers' Disco – 7.00pm -9.30pm

#### Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> July

#### End of Term – 2pm finish



O @justplaysports\_

justplaysports.co.uk
info@justplaysports.co.uk

0333 577 1533

Ofsted

junioradventuresgroup.co.uk



FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

# Drowning is Preventable Stay safe in the water this summer

Did you know?

- More than **300 people** accidentally drown in the UK and Ireland every year. Inland waterways, such as **rivers**, **lakes**
- and **canals**, are where most drownings happen.
- Alcohol and drugs are a factor in almost one-third of all UK accidental drownings.
- Anything below 15°C is defined as cold water. Average UK and Ireland sea temperatures are just 12°C. Rivers and canals can be colder.

#### Our Advice:

- If you are in trouble in cold water, remember 'Float to Live'. Try not to panic. Float on your back for up to 90 seconds until the shock passes, swim to the edge or call for help. If someone else is in trouble - Call, Tell
- If someone else is in trouble Call, Tell and Throw - Call 999, tell the person to float on their back and throw something to help them float, like a throwline.

#### Safety around water:

- If you are thinking of entering the water, consider your **exit point** before you enter.
- 'Tombstoning' Do not jump into open water from bridges or ledges. There maybe hidden dangers beneath, such as sharp objects, reeds and strong
- currents which could pull you under.
  Avoid swimming alone. Join a group if taking part in sports such as paddle boarding or kayaking.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you are likely to return.
- Stay clear of the water's edge if you are running or walking. Riverbanks and cliff edges can be unstable. Keep an eye out for slip or trip hazards.
   Never enter the water to try and save
- Never enter the water to try and save someone or an animal, even if you are a strong swimmer. Call 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service if you are inland. If you are at the beach or near the sea, ask for the Coastguard.



- Confidence-building by learing new skills and tryin new things under expert guidance
- Positive interactions that nurture friendship ar social awareness
- Enhanced wellbeing through a focus on happine mindfulness, kindness and being active

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