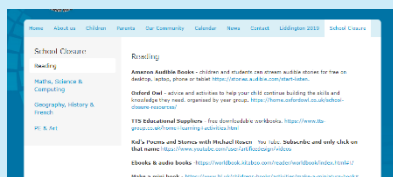


St Paul's C of E Junior School

Dear all,

Thank you so much for all of your comments and feedback regarding how well the teachers and support staff cared for the children over the last few weeks. Their calm, measured approach and willingness to go the extra mile to reassure pupils and allay their anxieties, ensured that the days leading up to the closure were happy ones.



We know the coming days and weeks are going to be difficult and as well as work packs, we have set up a new area on our website called School Closure. Here you will find links to a range of resources we've come across that might help you to keep the children busy https://www.stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk/website/school_closure/464188. If you haven't already heard, Amazon have made Audible free for children and

students can stream stories for free on desktop, laptop, phone or tablet. Follow the link to explore the collection, select a title and start listening: <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>.

School opened this week for the children of key workers and despite having to observe social distancing, our amazing skeleton crew of staff and pupils have still managed to enjoy their time together. We haven't let the lack of friends and colleagues and the usual hustle and bustle of school life, stop us from making the very best of every day.



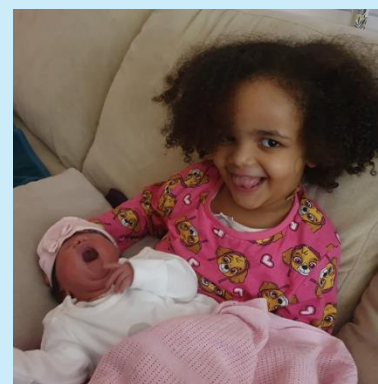
St Paul's doesn't feel right without classrooms brimming with pupils and a playground buzzing with laughter and we are missing being with the children and seeing all of you. We can't wait for the day when it is safe to come together again as a whole school.

Welcome to the world!



The newest addition to our school family arrived bright and early last Friday morning. This beautiful bundle of joy is Miss Richardson's new daughter, Annalise Richardson Benjamin. Born at 4.35am, weighing a healthy 8lb 9oz, she delighted her parents and especially her sister, Amelia.

As you can see from the second photo, Amelia is thoroughly enjoying being a big sister and I'm delighted to be able to report that mother and baby are doing well.



We have sent flowers from the staff, children and parents and our good wishes to Miss Richardson and her partner Marcus (and of course, to big sister Amelia!).

Take care
Mrs Taylor
Headteacher

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.



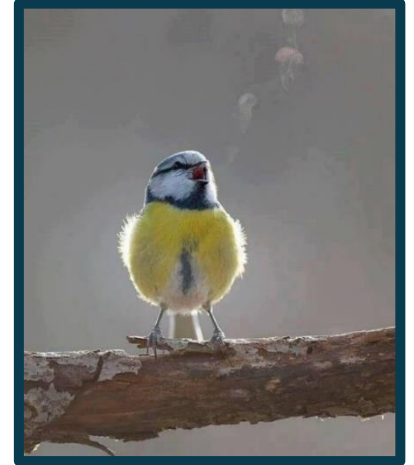
Hello Spring!

It is great that the sunshine has finally arrived as we need sun exposure to make vitamin D, a vitamin that plays a crucial role in many body processes, from bone development to our immune system.

Sun exposure is also helpful for healthy sleep and to retain a positive state of mind. Our bodies work best when they get a little sunshine every day.

Not only is the sunshine good for us but it is also transforming our gardens with earlier sunrises and warmer temperatures. The birds suddenly seem to be louder and livelier than usual. Why not encourage your child to research garden birds over the coming weeks and keep a record of the number and types of visitors they see?

The RSPB website contains lots of helpful tips and advice on attracting birds to the garden <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/feeding-and-attracting-birds/>



Competition

School may be closed but that doesn't mean that we can't have some fun together! The photograph below is the first entry in our Signs of Spring Competition.

When you are next out in the garden or taking your daily walk, encourage your child to look for evidence that spring is well and truly on its way and capture it on camera. Email their photo to admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk and we will post them in a Signs of Spring Gallery on our website. Remember to include your child's name and class.



Parents, you are also welcome to enter the competition - but please remember to enter under your own name and not your child's.

Keeping fit and active



As well as the Joe Wicks live daily PE lesson, Jack and the Soccer in Schools Team are posting 20-minute PE sessions for children of all ages on YouTube. They will be adding more sessions in the coming weeks.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8wKUUAAnpdhJIAKm29YkUWQ?view_as=subscriber

Message for Year 6 parents and pupils

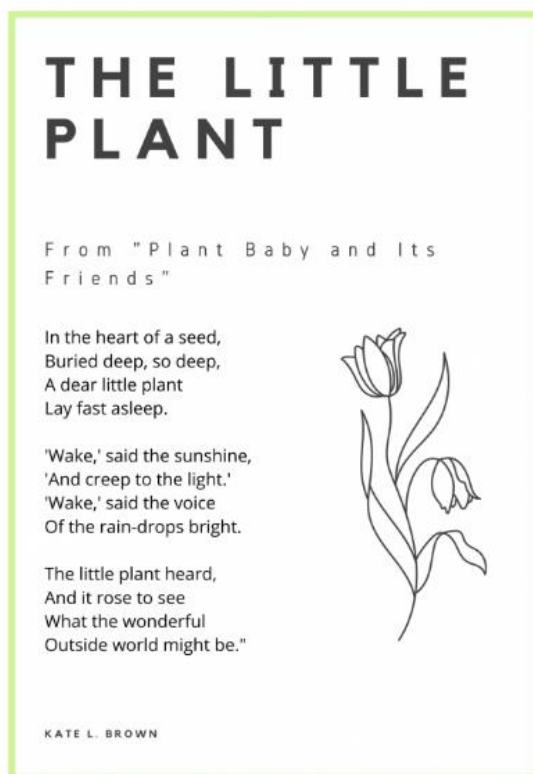
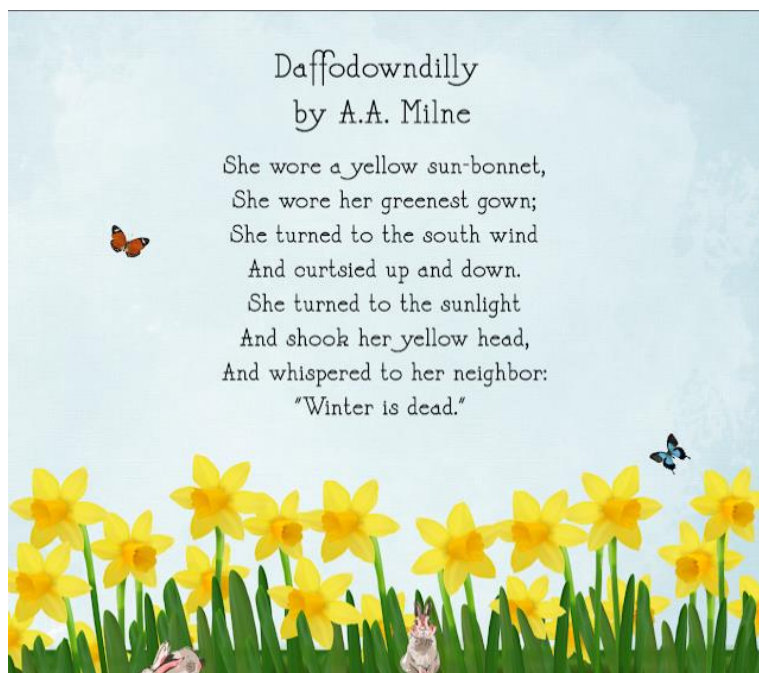
The initial Home Learning pack for Year 6 was set up to enable the children to revise for their forthcoming SATs assessments. Since the SATs are no longer happening this year, the Year 6 team felt the work set should now be more structured, in line with the other year groups. With this in mind, a pack has been uploaded to the homework page of the learning platform ready for next week. Of course, should you wish your children to continue accessing the revision work as well, it will remain on the learning platform - there is a wealth of valuable material there for them to access.

Please remind the children that they can be in contact with their teachers via the learning platform - it has been lovely to hear from individuals and see photographs of some of their achievements.

The Year 6 team

Talking of Spring

Why not keep the brains in your house busy by learning a spring poem off by heart?



Kids' Radio Station

Fun Kids – the UK's children's radio station – is still operating on-air as normal. They have a brand new series called **Stuck at Home**, a free daily podcast for children aged 8 to 12 packed with things to do.

Win £500 for school

Medicspot is calling all primary school children to share their creative ideas to help encourage frequent hand washing – the best way to keep yourself and others safe from coronavirus. Find out how you can enter and win £500 for St Paul's C of E Junior School here: www.medicspot.co.uk/handwash

And finally.....

Hi everyone,

Hope you are still managing to have some fun. It's weird because you're not here with us at this time, but we hope to see you again soon.

We are still doing the things that you are doing, working through our packs, doing the Joe Wicks PE lesson first thing each morning and having some fun in the sun.

You might not recognise the playground when you get back because we have chalked all over it. It is quite odd playing together but being 2m apart. The teachers have to keep reminding us to keep our distance. Most days, there has been less than ten of us and so we are getting to know people that we wouldn't normally have the chance to spend time with. We have also been busy learning how to do things differently.

So far this week, we have made rainbow art, catapults in DT, tangram animals as one of our maths activities, and cards for the residents of West Oak. We are still working on how we can send the residents our best wishes and are planning to photograph ourselves with the cards and 'post' them via email.

We are on page 145 of The Land of Roar by Jenny McLachlan. If you haven't read it yet, we would recommend you do. It is an adventure about a fantasy world and to get there, you have to crawl through the middle of a musty old fold-up camp bed.

Instead of Run the World, we now have Scoot the World. Yesterday we scooted so many laps of the playground, that we needed to lie down for 10 minutes just to cool off. Mrs Foster would have been very impressed!

Anyway, we need to sign off now because it is almost Storytime. Remember, you can keep in touch with your teacher and classmates via the Learning Platform.

More news next week - bye for now!

Daisy, Oliver, Freya, Grace, Erfan, Amir, Dylan, Kieran, Miss Lavrich, Mr Day, Mr Millen & Mrs Taylor.

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