

St Paul's C of E Junior School



Dear all,

In this last newsletter of the year, I would like to thank you all for your patience and support throughout this difficult time. You have been amazing and, as difficult as it has been for everyone, your support has been invaluable! We have been overwhelmed, particularly these last few days, by the number of e-mails, cards and messages of thanks, and throughout lockdown, we have loved receiving examples of the children's work, pictures and photos, as well as hearing about some of their lockdown 'adventures'. Most importantly of all, we would like to thank you for all that you have done for the children in supporting them working at home.

Leavers

Yesterday, we said goodbye to the most amazing group of Year 6 pupils who are now officially 'too cool' for primary school! It is hard to believe that it is time for them to leave St Paul's when it seems like only yesterday that we welcomed them on their first day. Their four years have flown by and we couldn't be prouder of them, their progress or their contribution to our school family. They are a very special group of children and one which we will remember long after they have left St Paul's. It is the end of an era for many of our families and for one, a partnership with school that has lasted 15 years! To all of our families leaving us, thank you for choosing St Paul's. Our best wishes go with you too.



Other leavers are Teddy Inns, who is heading off overseas to live and attend school in China, Georgina Millen, who is moving to a new school in Farnham and Amelia Pinches who is off to Gorse Ride Junior School in September. We wish the three of them much happiness at their new schools.

We are also bidding Mrs Carless farewell. She has had a very long relationship with St Paul's, as a parent, Learning Mentor and then as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. During her time here, she has made a significant contribution to the education and wellbeing of so many of our pupils for which we would like to offer our thanks. Mrs Careless is leaving to embark on the next exciting leg of her career, the path to becoming a fully qualified teacher at St Teresa's Primary School in Wokingham. This is a long-held ambition and although we will miss her hugely, she leaves with our very best wishes for the future.

Mr Millen has been the very best Site Controller ever! In the short time that he has been with us, he has ensured that our school and site has been the very best that it can be – something that is close to all of our hearts! He is off to pastures new as Site Controller at Highfield South Farnham. What a lucky school to be receiving such a hardworking, dedicated and conscientious colleague. He leaves big boots to fill and we hope that he will be very happy as he sails off into the sunset.

Our Leaver's Assembly was just as special as those of previous years. We may not have been together as a whole school community and the Year 6 children were spread across the site but nothing could dampen how special it was. Our parting wish for everyone moving on today is that they are strong, brave and fearless on the next leg of their journey.

Thank You

Congratulations on a job well done to our School Councillors and House Captains. Both teams had a successful year and although the business of both groups has been cut short, we will still build on the work you have completed this year and take lots of your ideas and suggestions forward into the next school year.



Special thanks to the PTA members and parent volunteers for their fabulous work this year and to our volunteers and governors who usually come in to hear readers every week. The pandemic may have brought a premature end to this work, but your contribution has been very much appreciated and the children have benefitted greatly from your help. Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Jayne Lewis, a much valued and instrumental member of the PTA Committee, who has worked tirelessly for the good of the pupils for many years – Thank you, Jayne, for everything you have done for St Paul's.

Arrangements for September.

A letter went out today to all of our existing Year 3, 4 and 5 parents, containing our initial plans for September, timings of the day, drop off and pick up arrangements, lunches and lots of other information regarding how we will manage the safe return of all of pupils, including our lovely new Year 3 pupils.

Summer Challenge

School will be closed over the summer and during the holiday, we will not be publishing weekly schedules. You will find details of a summer reading challenge and fun holiday maths activities on our website [here](#). The maths challenges start on page 4 of each booklet.



Have a good summer everyone.

Mrs Taylor
Headteacher

Message from the Governors

The School Governors would like to mark the end of this remarkable and unprecedented School Year by thanking all of the St Paul's family for their amazing commitment and understanding and willingness and adaptability and kindness over these last 4 months.

Thank you to pupils for everything you have had to give up and miss out on and for the way you've kept trying to do your best even when it felt really hard.

Thank you to parents and carers for supporting your children so well and for working so hard to balance everything and to maintain their emotional wellbeing alongside their learning.

Thank you to all of the School staff- we couldn't be prouder of the way in which you have, in different ways, put the needs of the pupils first even under intense pressure.

And thank you, above all, to Mrs Taylor, Ms Edwards and the team who have worked tirelessly to obey the Government's ever-changing guidance, liaise with staff, draw up risk assessment after risk assessment, reimagine what the School day and landscape will have to look like and keep putting the children first.

Thank you all.

This Note comes for three reasons. The first is to thank the whole of the School family for pulling together and for working together. The second is to explain a little of what the School has been learning and developing and dealing with over the last months. Every School has had to work out how the Government's changing instructions can be applied to their context and situation- what is the building like, how many staff are available, how many children can come in at any one time, what tech systems are in place etc. The Governors have been kept fully informed at every step and have been fully supportive of the decisions made. There has been a remarkable amount of planning and decision-making happening, predicated on the safety and learning of our students and staff.

Which is to say that different schools locally have each been applying the same instructions for their own context. Sometimes they have been able to go further than the advice of the Government requires because of having spare rooms or a better tech system or less of a commitment to equality of opportunity to learn. The Governors are hugely proud of the energy, vision and leadership shown by the School.

The third is to ask our parents or pupils for any comments or feedback they would like to offer to the Governing Body as we assess what has gone well and what we can focus more on in the future. A number of parents have been in touch with the School already, to offer both thanks and questions, and that is excellent and as it should be. The system works in that sense- but we would like to get an overview of how things have been and whether there are experiences and ideas we can capture now as we think about the new school year.

What has been the biggest surprise of the last four months? How has your child's learning style changed? How has their attitude to learning changed? What will they be carrying with them into the classroom in September that will be a firm foundation for the year? What have they not missed about School that you thought they would? What has been missing from their learning? And what are you most grateful to the School for which we can keep on doing in the new year?

Things have changed a lot over the last few months and we know that if, in the future, we face lockdown or have to close a bubble we now have the technology, infrastructure and expertise to set and respond to work remotely, provide virtual access to classmates and teachers and provide lessons taught by our own staff. We are still keen to capture any other thoughts and experiences which we can then bear in mind for the year to come. Please can you send anything you'd like us to know to the Clerk of Governors: pauline.wells@stpauls.workingham.sch.uk, worthy of celebration as well as things for us to consider.

Thank you for that- thank you for everything you have been doing and will do over the summer. Have a wonderful summer, whatever you are doing. It will be amazing to see you again in September.

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Summer Reading Challenge and Teen Reading Challenge



This year the Summer Reading Challenge is back and online with the Silly Squad. It's all about funny books, happiness and having a laugh.
Weblink for information is - <https://cutt.ly/JaatG2n>

Sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge on the [Summer Reading Challenge website](#).

If you don't have a Wokingham Borough Library Card you can [Join the library online](#) then borrow e-Books, e-Audio books and e-Comics for the challenge.

Summer Events will all be virtual for this year, so visit our facebook group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/555747501973618/?source_id=171172089600164 for a weekly selection of activities to watch and try, including storytime, lego club, creative writing and more.

Teen Reading Challenge



Can you read six books before the end of the summer?

Download one of our challenge cards from [Teen Reading Challenge Weblink](#)

Read a selection of books following the challenges, you can download ebooks, eaudio and comics for free by logging onto [RB Digital from Wokingham Borough Libraries](#)

Email libraries@wokingham.gov.uk with a completed list, name and library card number to be entered into a prize draw before September 1.

Wokingham Library

Energy Kidz Sumer Holiday Club



Full information on Energy Kidz Holiday Club at St Paul's can be found by following the link below.

<https://www.energy-kidz.co.uk/holiday-club/wokingham-holiday-club-st-pauls-junior-school/>

All camps will be running in accordance with refined measures to ensure the safety of all staff, families and schools. You can find more information via [our website](#) where you will find a detailed view of our [Safe Practice Guidance](#), [Safety Measures & Checklists](#) and [FAQ's](#).

Energy Kidz