# St Paul's C of E Junior School



Dear all,

I hope that everyone managed to get some kind of break over Easter and enjoyed time outside in the sunshine. As I said in my letter earlier today, we are missing everyone very much - St Paul's is not St Paul's without its school family!

It is a worrying time for all, especially those families facing uncertainty in job security and income. Health and wellbeing of family members is on the agenda of every household and there are days when the end of lockdown feels a long way off. We are all in the same situation, wanting things to return to normal as soon as possible and when schools might reopen is still unclear.

Inevitably, the current crisis will take its toll and it can be hard to know how best to support your child. In the <u>Mental</u> <u>Health and Wellbeing</u> section of our website, you will find a resources, tips and strategies, for ways to talk to your child about the pandemic.

We have been asked why we are not live streaming lessons on Zoom. The issue isn't a simple one by any means. Zoom is not a secure platform and shortly after closure, all schools were advised not to use it. More guidance quickly followed about the associated risks of having live images of children on screen and the potential safeguarding problems this could lead to, particularly where pupils are streaming unsupervised. Consequently, like many other Wokingham schools, we have decided that this is not an appropriate tool for supporting learning at home.

You will have already seen news about the daily schedules for each year group, linking to online lessons and other curriculum activities. These make it possible to incorporate a greater variety of learning than we could in the workbooks and will hopefully be more interesting and enjoyable for the children and enable them to work with a good level of independence.

Teachers are continuing to keep in touch with the children, messaging them via the learning platform. To log in, use the green button at the top right-hand corner of our website welcome page. The children were given a user name and password before school closed. Please encourage your child to respond to the messages they have been sent so that we are able to keep in touch with them.



We've received messages about difficulties using various online resources and have therefore produced <u>video</u> <u>user guides</u>, showing how to access and navigate each platform. For mislaid user names and passwords, contact <u>IT Tech@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u>

Should you be facing particularly challenging circumstances or feel that there is important information regarding your child it would be helpful to share with us, please email <u>admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u>. And we will respond as soon as possible.

Take care and have a good weekend.

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. Page 1 of 5

## Support

For families who do not have the financial means to purchase food, we are able to make an online referral to the Wokingham Food Bank. Please email <u>admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u>. All enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Other support available to our families is the Wokingham Borough Community Hub. To access this service, you can contact Citizen's Advice Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm on 0300 330 1189 or visit their website and complete the online form <a href="http://citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/coronavirus/">http://citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/coronavirus/</a>.

The Hub also needs donations and if you are able to spare extra food and other essentials, you can take them to the no contact drop off centre at St Crispin's Leisure Centre, London Road. For the latest information, check the Hub Facebook Page. <u>https://www.facebook.com/wokinghamcommunityhub/</u>

## Support for Children

Everyone is being made aware of the physical effects of the Coronavirus and what we should look out for if symptoms arise but the mental effects of the pandemic itself are not yet known, nor are we able to assess the effects of the fear generated by potential contamination. Social distancing and isolation for weeks will undoubtedly affect children and the government have issued some excellent guidance for parents on how to support the wellbeing of our young people.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak

#### Support for families

**NHS Berkshire** West have also put together some reliable and free sources of information and advice to help you and your family to cope under lockdown.

https://www.berkshirewestccg.nhs.uk/media/3923/coping-family-life-during-lockdown-guide.pdf

**Reading Well and Mental Health** Check out the NHS Every Mind Matters website. It has some useful tips for mental wellbeing while staying at home. There's a host of advice, support and tools to use. Just visit: <u>http://ow.ly/4dBb30qsCNl</u>

#### **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 downloaded <u>here</u>.

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# Tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online



# **Social Distancing**

Stay home  $\widehat{\mathbb{M}}$  Protect the NHS  $_{\overline{\mathbb{M}}}$  Save lives  $\heartsuit$ 

Whenever we step foot outside our home, for whatever essential reason, we must observe social distancing.  $\checkmark$  Only go out when absolutely necessary for food, medicine, work or exercise  $\checkmark$  If you do go out always stay 2 metres apart  $\mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{A}$  $\mathbf{X}$  Do NOT meet others outside your household, even friends and family

For more information visit: http://nhs.uk/coronavirus

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# Wokingham Borough Libraries Newsletter for April 2020 weblink - https://wp.me/p5mHbU-4tY

At present Wokingham Borough Council has taken the difficult decision to temporarily close all of its libraries. A large number of online library services are still available, including eBooks, eNewspapers and audiobooks. While the libraries are closed we have suspended the fines so there is no need to renew/return your books. Please look after the books, until such time as the libraries reopen, then you will be able to return.

Check out the Libraries Blog on <u>https://wokinghamboroughlibraries.wordpress.com/</u> for different book themed ideas and activities to do at home.

#### **Reading Well Schemes**

- <u>https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries/reading-schemes-for-children-and-adults/reading-well-schemes-to-improve-health/</u> Some of the titles are available on eBooks for you to listen to but check out <u>https://reading-well.org.uk/resources/mental-health</u> for more resources.

#### **E-Services**

Did you know you can borrow a range of e-books, e-audio, e-comics newspapers and magazines completely free of charge if you are a library member? Just go to <u>https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries/library-services/e-books/</u> or download the RB Digital app and use your library card number to create a free account with a username and password.

#### E-books

- Read books on your home computer, smartphone or tablet
- Borrow 6 books at a time for up to 21 days
- Choose from over 2000 books, with new titles added every month

#### E-audio

- Listen to audio books on your phone, MP3 player, iPod or computer
- Choose from over 1000 books, with new titles added every month
- No limit on the number of titles you can borrow

#### **E-Comics**

- Read graphic novels on your home computer, smartphone or tablet
- Choose from over 1000 titles, including Marvel Comic titles, which can be borrowed for 30 days

#### **Press Reader**

• E-newspapers and magazines are available via the Press Reader App, please visit: <u>https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries/library-services/e-magazines/</u> for more information.

The service allows you to:

- Read and download newspapers and magazines on your computer, smartphone or tablet
- Read the current copy of most daily and Sunday newspapers, many local newspapers and a wide selection of magazines
- Access a selection of newspapers and magazines from all over the world

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# Important Information about the School Nursing Service During Covid 19

The School Nursing Team continues to offer support during school closures, where you can seek advice and support on non Covid19 related issues such as bedwetting, toilet training, behaviour, and sleeping, and we endeavour to answer all responses within 1 working day, your local telephone number is: 0118 949 5055, and by email is: <u>csnwokingham@berkshire.nhs.uk</u>

## **Bikeability Resources**



We have put together some Bikeability resources on the My Journey Wokingham website for children who have not yet been able to attend a Bikeability course due to the current Corona virus crisis. The aim is to get children practising Bikeability Level 1 skills at home, which will give them a head-start in case they are able to attend a Level 2 course in the future.

By following the link below, you with find a Bikeability Level 1 skills checklist and Highway Code Written test (which are on the website page under "Related downloads").

See all the details at: <u>https://www.myjourneywokingham.com/schools/bikeability-resources/</u>

Please encourage children to have a go at these. The My Journey team are happy to mark Highway Code quizzes if people just email us their answers (e.g. Question 1: Answer A; Question 2: Answer C) along with the child's name and school. Please email me at: <u>MyJourney@wokingham.gov.uk</u>

You may also be interested in the Road Safety resources on the My Journey Wokingham Schools page, which has activities suitable for all ages: <u>https://www.myjourneywokingham.com/schools/road-safety-resources/</u>

Cycle Training Co-ordinator, My Journey Wokingham

## **Photos**

Please keep your Signs of Spring photos coming in. The last batch we received via the Learning Platform should appear in the Gallery by Tuesday. As soon as Mrs Hamer saw Mr Day had entered, she was off for a walk, camera in hand ③

We have received three photos of rainbows/NHS thank you signs so far, but need a few more to have a good collection for the Newsletter. If you are having trouble uploading photos, you can send them directly to Mrs Brook at <u>IT Tech@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk</u>. Remember to include your name and class.

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