

# St Paul's Newsletter – Autumn 29.11.24

*'One body, every person, growing together.'*



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

## Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,

On Monday, we welcomed Fara Punjwani to St Paul's. Fara is profoundly deaf and delivered a whole school assembly in British Sign Language (BSL) with the support of her interpreter. Hearing her story about how despite being bullied at school and being told she would never have a job, her determination and hard work has earned her three different degrees and led her to become a teacher. She was inspiring, not only for our pupils but for the staff as well. Fara will return to St Paul's next term to run our new BSL Club.

Thank you, 5M, for a brilliant assembly this morning. It was a fascinating presentation and every member of their audience left having learnt something interesting - who knew that there is a time difference of a few seconds between Manchester and London. The icing on the cake was when 5M sang a song to us in two parts and then six. It was absolutely fantastic!

The children have worked hard to complete their Autumn Term assessments this week and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts. They have definitely earned their weekend.

Rehearsals for the Christmas Celebration are well underway and the singing in this week's hymn practices has just got better and better. We are really looking forward to performing in church as it promises to be a very special occasion. Please do read the Waiting List for Tickets article in this newsletter as we would not want anyone to miss out.

My quote of the week came from one of the seventy six visitors we have had through the doors of late on one of our tours for prospective parents, "No wonder you are so proud of this school. It is warm and welcoming and the children clearly love being here." It doesn't get better than that!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Taylor

## No Indoor PE Next Week

Next week we will be using the school hall to rehearse for our Christmas Celebration. For this reason, we will be moving our indoor PE lessons outdoors. **On your child's indoor PE day please can they wear school uniform but bring full outdoor PE/Games kit, including gloves and hat if the weather is cold.**

PE			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
5B 3D 3H	5K 3B 4P	5M 4R 6S	6T 6D 4L

All classes will also have Games on Thursday. Pupils should come to school dressed in PE kit (navy or black shorts or tracksuit, plain white t-shirt).

**Games lessons take place every week in all but the most extreme weather and we ask that pupils bring their uniform too, in case they have to change into dry clothes.**

## Christmas Celebration – Waiting List For Tickets

We have a waiting list for tickets for the Christmas Celebration at 5pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. If you have tickets for this performance and are no longer able to make it, please advise the school office so that the tickets may be released. **If you are on the waiting list, we recommend you secure tickets for one of the afternoon performances to avoid disappointment.**

If you have not yet had the opportunity to secure your tickets for our Christmas Celebration at St Paul's church, there are tickets still available to order for the 2pm performances on both Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. **Order Christmas Performance Tickets Here!**

## Dressing the Christmas Tree Competition

Well done to all the children who made wonderfully creative pieces for the Dressing the Christmas Tree competition.

The entries were judged by our Year 6 house captains.

### Runner Up Entries

Gingerbread man- Emma 5M

Wooden plaque- Esme 3D

Glass jar with merry Christmas/tea light -Elissa 5M

Glass jar with string lights- Josiah 3B



### Winning Entries



Huge congratulations to Phoebe 4L, who made a pom-pom hat adorned sparkly snowman and Jenson 5K who made a wooden mobile featuring our St Paul's badge.

During the 'Dressing of the Christmas Tree' ceremony On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, the decorations will be presented to the Mayor and hung on the tree by Wokingham Town Hall.

## PTA Christmas Fair – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Our hardworking PTA are busy organising the Christmas Fair.

### Donations and Non Uniform Day:

We are once again asking for your help with the tombola. In return for a **non-uniform day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December**, please bring the following items in for the tombola:

- Y3 & Y4 – please bring boxes of chocolates or sweets
- Y5 & Y6 – please bring bottles, alcohol and non-alcoholic are fine. Bubble bath or soft drinks are also welcome, anything in a bottle.

Tombola donations will be collected every morning next week at the Murray Road Gates.

Come and join the festive fun on the day, or get involved by volunteering with preparations or helping on a stall. As always, if we do not have enough volunteers, we will not be able to run all of the stalls so please do give 30 minutes of your time if you can. <https://volunteersignup.org/QMT47>

One more plea from the PTA, you can pay by cash or card however if you are paying by cash, please can you avoid using large notes as we will have a very limited amount of change available.

## Winter Mini Challenge



**Running 1 December 2024 – 20 February 2025**, children can take part in the Reading Agency's Marvellous Makers winter reading challenge for free on [wintermini.org.uk](http://wintermini.org.uk), where they will unlock a special digital badge and a new certificate of achievement once they meet their reading goal.

Encourage children to borrow books from their local library, then log and review them on our website, where they'll discover fun activities related to amazing children's books and book recommendations from their peers.

## Piano Looking for a New Home



Our piano is in need of a new home. If you are interested in giving it a new place to be loved, please be aware that it will need to be collected from our premises. The piano's dimensions are as follows: 1160mm high, 1400mm wide and 620mm deep. We hope that it can bring joy to one of our families.

Please email [office@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk)

## Sports News

### Vacancies

We currently have three vacancies:

Learning Mentor: Monday – Friday 8.50am – 3.30pm

Learning Mentor with added Lunchtime Controller duties: Monday – Friday 8.50am – 1.30pm

Lunchtime Controller: Monday – Friday 12.15pm – 1.45pm

Please share if you know anybody who may be interested in applying for a position. Full details can be found on our website <https://www.stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk/web/>

### Absence Reporting

We no longer to subscribe to the Absence Reporting section of ParentMail.

Absences must be reported in writing by emailing [absence@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:absence@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk)

If your child is not able to attend school due to illness, you must email by 8.15am on each day of the absence, ensuring you give your child's name, class and symptoms. Stating that your child is 'unwell' is not sufficient information for our records.

Any request for term time leave must be in writing on our Leave of Absence Request Form, which can be found on our website under parents > absence reporting

### Next Week at School

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	3H Forest School
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Tombola Collections Each Morning
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	Anxiety Workshop for Parents
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	4R Class Assembly
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Non Uniform Day in exchange for tombola donations
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm – 5.30pm	Christmas Fair

### Diary Dates

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 5.00pm	Christmas Performance at St Paul's Church
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	4P Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Lunch – Non uniform. Christmas Jumpers encouraged

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	6S Class Assembly
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00PM	Last Day of Term – 2PM FINISH
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	First Day of the Spring Term

# Library Event

## Christmas Storytime with Tina MacNaughton

Wokingham Library  
Monday 2 December 3:45 - 4:15pm



There will be an opportunity to buy Tina's book after the session.  
Free session Suitable for 5 - 10 years  
Booking recommended









🎄 Join us for festive fun & activities this December at JAG! 🎉

As December arrives, our wraparound clubs are gearing up to bring festive sparkle to your child's days. Every day will shine with seasonal games, activities, and crafts from our **Adventure Programme**, giving every child the chance to celebrate, create, and explore.

Here are some of the special occasions we'll be celebrating this December:

🌐 **Antarctica Day (W/C Monday 2nd)**

We're diving into the wonders of the "coolest" continent! To celebrate Antarctica Day, children will explore the signing of the Antarctic Treaty through quizzes, games, and activities from our **Brain Boosters** category.

🎅 **Christmas Jumper Day (Thursday, December 12th)**

It's Christmas Jumper Day! Children can wear their silliest, **sparkliest** jumpers and enjoy fun activities from our **Wellbeing Warriors** category, including selfies at the Christmas Jumper Station and mindful colouring.

🎄 **Christmas Celebrations (W/C Monday 16th)**

The countdown to Christmas begins! Children will dive into festive activities from our **Creative Inventors** category, creating crafts and learning about holiday traditions from around the world.

Don't miss out on December's festive fun, discovery, and celebration!

📄 **Secure your spot here:** <https://bookings.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/>

💖 **Parent Support:** <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/>

❓ **FAQs:** <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/frequently-asked-questions/>

💰 **Payment Options:** <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/payment-options/>

Come join the fun with JAG today!