Newsletter: 12.10.18

# St Paul's C of E Junior School

Dear Parents,

Today, we enjoyed a very special Harvest assembly led by Father Richard. Our newly elected House Captains reminded us of how lucky we are to have clean water on tap all of the time, and what we will be using your donations for. Thanks to your generosity today, we reached £500. We will make a final count at half term, before sending the money off to Unicef, so there's still time to donate should you wish to.



Next Tuesday, we wave farewell to Year 6

for the rest of the week. They are off on a residential trip to PGL Liddington. You will be able to keep up to date with the latest news and photographs as the trip unfolds, on our dedicated Liddington page on our website.

We send Get Well Wishes to Mrs Hooper, our Lunchtime Supervisor, who is poorly at the moment. We are hoping that she has a speedy recovery and that we will soon be welcoming her back soon. In her absence, Mrs Burgess is doing a marvelous job of overseeing the team and ensuring that things run smoothly for the children.

Have a good weekend.

Mrs Taylor

#### Wednesday's African Dance Workshop

The staff and children had a fabulous time and there was a buzz around school for the whole day. Our instructors, Steven Kasamba and Lydia Olet, were impressed with how enthusiastic the children were, how quickly they picked up the traditional dance steps, and by their behavior throughout each session. The day kicked off with a demonstration of traditional African dance, song and drumming and it wasn't only the children that were seen dancing out of the hall!





# **Upcoming Events**

October 16 - 19

Year 6 residential – PGL Liddington

#### October 16

Flu immunisation for Years 3, 4 and 5

October 22 - 26

Half Term

October 29

Inset Day

# Safeguarding

The riding of bikes or scooters on the playground (before or after school) is not permitted.

We are a **NO NUT** school. This includes any foods that have nuts in the title, or in the ingredients – pesto, chocolate and hazelnut spread, fruit and nut cereal bars, coconut etc. We have several children in our school with and acute nut allergy and if they come into contact with any sort of nut, could quickly become seriously ill. Please help us keep them safe.

If your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhea, they must remain absent from school for 48 hours after the last episode of illness.

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.

#### Holidays Attached to a School Holiday

We are receiving an increasing number of requests for authorisation for term time absence. Please be aware that like all other schools, we actively discourage families from taking children out of school during term time. Term time holidays are not permitted.

Authorisation for leave requests is only ever granted for the most exceptional circumstances, such as attendance at a sibling's wedding, a family funeral, music exams, participation in sporting competitions and events or religious observance. Whilst this list is not exhaustive, it gives an indication of the type of requests we feel we are able to support.

Our attendance registers are regularly monitored by the Education Welfare Service and poor attendance, any unauthorised absences of 5 days or more, or cases of persistent lateness, may lead to the issuing of a Penalty Notice, the cost of which is £60 per parent, per child. Unless paid within 21 days, the cost increases to £120 thereafter and non-payment may result in Court proceedings.

## **Pupil Premium Grant**

The Pupil Premium Grant is a valuable resource and hugely benefits the children and their families who are eligible. The identities of the families who qualify for the grant are protected and the funding enables us to provide additional support and resources. If you qualify for any of the benefits below, the school (through the local authority) may be able to claim additional funding to support your child's education (please note this funding will not impact on your current benefit claims). If you wish to register please call at the School Office for a form or download one from the website.

To be eligible at least one parent must be in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal credit;
- Income Support;
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance;
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Child Tax Credit provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190;
- The Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit.

#### **Packed Lunches**



If you choose to send your child to school with a packed lunch, please can you ensure that it is a healthy lunch which includes a savoury option such as a sandwich or a pasta salad, as well as fruit or desserts. Some children have brought in lunches with only sweet food and fruit. The children will need protein and carbohydrates to keep them going throughout the day. Remember we are a no nuts school! That includes any foods that have nut in the title or in the ingredients.

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## Can you help?

In our efforts to continue to improve the site, we would like to remove the raised planting beds from the Prayer Garden. The beds have served us well over the years but they have reached the end of their life expectancy and are beginning to disintegrate. Sadly we have had only 1 person volunteer and we could really do with more pairs of hands! If you have a wheelbarrow and a spade and could spare a couple of hours on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November from 9am – 11am, please email <u>admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk.</u>

uesday 16th October	Flu Immunisation for Years 3, 4 and 5
Tuesday 16th – Friday 19th October	Year 6 residential to PGL Liddington
Monday 22nd – Friday 26th October	HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 29th October	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 31st October	Year 6 Height and Measurement Programme
Thursday 1st November	Open Morning – 9.00-9.55am
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November (AM) and Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November (PM)	Parent Consultations
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Celebration 2pm and 5.30pm
Wednesday 12th December	Christmas Celebration 5.30pm
Friday 14th December	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 19th December	End of Term