

St Paul's Newsletter – Autumn 20.12.24

'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,



It is a privilege working with our incredible pupils and they have been a joy to teach this term. It is also amazing to work alongside such a tremendous team of teachers and learning mentors who help each child to thrive. Of course, we would be nowhere without our admin, lunchtime and site teams and our marvellous governors who support every aspect of our work. Thank you also to you, for your support of the school this term.

On the subject of staff and pupils, today we say farewell to Mrs Judd, who is off to Bracknell to work for the Mental Health Team, supporting the emotional wellbeing of primary aged children. Much loved by pupils, staff and parents, her contribution as a Learning Mentor has been significant, both in the classroom and out on the sports field. We wish her every success for this exciting role and have no doubt that she will be an asset to the service. Good luck Mrs Judd! We gave her and Theo Stark (5M) a great St Paul's send off earlier today. Theo will be joining Windmill Primary School in January, where we hope he will quickly settle in and make lots of new friends.

Wednesday's lunch was a mammoth undertaking. Jason and his team did a brilliant job of cooking 342 delicious Christmas dinners, ably assisted by an army of lunchtime controllers, admin staff, teachers and learning mentors who laid tables, served food and cleared away over a two hour period. Lunch went off with a bang, thanks to the 400 crackers supplied by the PTA. The week rounded off perfectly with another excellent class assembly, this week from 6S. It was great fun for their audience, particularly the interactive quiz, and the singing was superb. Well done, 6S!

Huge thanks to Angela Crabtree, who with a wave of her wand, had our Christmas tree shipped up to church this morning, with the help of Mr Pearson and the admin team who did a valiant job of carrying it in and out of the van!

Finally, on behalf of the pupils, staff and governors, I would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. See you on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Mrs Taylor





School Uniform

We would be very grateful if you could ensure that when your child returns in January, they come to school dressed in full uniform. Trainers, football underlayers and items covered in sports logos are not permissible items as regular school wear and should be saved for non-uniform days. Long hair should be tied back at all times, particularly as we have had an increasing number of reports of headlice.

Head Lice

Head lice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They are not caused by dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact.

- Head lice are small insects, up to 3mm long.
- They can be difficult to spot in your hair.
- Head lice eggs (nits) are brown or white and attached to the hair.
- Head lice can make your head feel itchy.

The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice. You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies.

How to get rid of head lice

Treat head lice as soon as you spot them. You can treat head lice without seeing a GP. Check everyone you live with, or have close contact with, and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day. There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You do not need to wash your laundry on a hot wash.

Wet combing

Lice and nits can be removed by wet combing.

You can buy a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits.

There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, using the detection comb, from the roots to the ends

It usually takes about 10 minutes to comb short hair, and 20 to 30 minutes for long, frizzy or curly hair. When you've finished combing the hair, comb through all the hair again for a second time. Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.

Medicated lotions and sprays

If wet combing has not worked or is not suitable, you could try a medicated lotion or spray. These kill head lice in all types of hair, and you can buy them from pharmacies, supermarkets or online. Head lice should die within a day. Some lotions and sprays come with a comb to remove dead lice and eggs.

Some treatments need to be repeated after a week to kill any newly hatched lice.

Check the pack to see if they're OK for you or your child to use, and how to use them.

If lotions or sprays do not work, speak to a pharmacist about other treatments.

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium

Some of our families are entitled to Pupil Premium Funding for their children; this helps us to provide curriculum enrichment and support for our Pupil Premium children. Your child may be entitled to this funding which can be used to pay for clubs, uniform, additional support, one to one nurture, Canine Assisted learning etc.

If you are in receipt of one of the following benefits you may be eligible for free school meals or the pupil premium:

- 1) Income Support.
- 2) Income based Job Seeker's Allowance.
- 3) Income related Employment and Support Allowance.
- 4) Child Tax Credit - Where the family's annual income is not more than £16,190 and Working Tax Credit is not in payment.
- 5) Guarantee Pension Credit.
- 6) Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

7) Universal Credit.

Please contact Mrs Collins in the office to find out more or follow this link <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-information-and-services/free-school-meals-and-extra-funding-your-childs-education>

Forest School

We rounded off the term with 3H joining us in the woodland. They talked about the colours that created memories for them and thought about the autumnal colours all around them before exploring the woodland to find leaves to create their own autumn rainbows.

Our afternoon groups finished the term off by toasting marshmallows on the fire and making s'mores. They spoke about the traditions within their own families at this time of year and events that they were looking forward to.

During our reflection, the children gave their Forest School wishes. Some spoke about wanting to spend the whole day (and night!) in the woodland, others wished that they could spend more time with new friends, while some children wished to cook a variety of foods on the fire.



It has been a privilege to see the children grow over the term, develop new friendships, build resilience and confidence, supporting and encouraging each other to try new things.

We look forward to seeing what 2025 brings in our woodland at St Paul's!

Please make a note of next term's Forest School sessions. Pupils will need to bring suitable clothing with them on that day e.g. track suit bottoms, hoodie, T shirt and trainers. Shorts and skirts are unsuitable for the woodland area. Most of these are taking place on Monday afternoon, barring 3D's session which is taking place on a Tuesday.

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|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 13/01 | 20/01 | 27/01 | 03/02 | 10/02 | 24/02 | 03/03 | 10/03 | 17/03 | 24/03 | 21/03 | 01/04 |
| 6S | 5K | 4R | 3B | 6D | 5M | 4L | 3H | 6T | 5B | 4P | 3D |

Spring Term Extra Curricular Clubs

There are still spaces on some of our Spring Term extra-curricular clubs. Please see our website (parents >> extra-curricular clubs) if your child would like to join dance, gymnastics, Spanish, French, Just Play Sports (football and multi-skills). For our Sing-Along-Fun Club, follow this link [Sing-Along-Fun Booking Form](#)

Well done Minha



We are delighted that Minha (4L) has passed her Taekwondo grading with flying colours.

Minha passed the grading to receive the green tag (7th Kup). She demonstrated persistence and perseverance despite not being well for a while.

Minha joined Thames Valley Taekwondo in March 2024 and has excelled to 7th Kup in a short span of time! Well done!

Pharmacy First

NHS Pharmacy First Service

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that we can help children feel better and get back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local Boots pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

| <u>Common condition</u> | <u>Patient eligibility</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Earache | 1 to 17 years |
| Impetigo | 1 year and over |
| Infected insect bites and stings | 1 year and over |
| Sore throats | 5 years and over |
| Sinusitis | 12 years and over |
| Uncomplicated urinary tract | Women 16 to 64 years |
| Shingles | 18 years and over |

A summary of the service is available as an [animation](#) and more information can also be found at nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst as well as at <https://www.boots.com/healthhub/a-z-services/pharmacy-first>.

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

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

| Diary Dates | |
|---|---|
| Tuesday 7 th January 2025 | First Day of the Spring Term |
| Friday 10 th January | Friday Clubs Start (taekwondo, chess, football) |
| Week Commencing 13 th January | All other Clubs Start – barring running club and netball club |
| Monday 20 th /Wednesday 22 nd | Running/Netball Clubs start |
| Friday 24 th January 9.00am | 3D Class Assembly |
| Friday 31 st January 9.00am | 6T Class Assembly |
| Friday 7 th February 9.00am | 6D Class Assembly |
| Friday 14 th February 9.00am | 4L Class Assembly |
| Friday 14 th February 3.30pm | Break up for Half Term |
| Monday 24 th February 8.40am | First Day Back After Half Term |
| Friday 7 th March 9.00am | 5K Class Assembly |
| Friday 14 th March 9.00am | 3B Class Assembly |
| Friday 21 st March 9.00am | 5B Class Assembly |
| Friday 28 th March | INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS |
| Friday 4 th April 9.00am | 4P Class Assembly |
| Friday 4 th April 2.00pm | Last Day of Term – 2PM FINISH |
| | |



Sing along fun

Does your child just love to sing?
Do they sing in the car and around
the house?
Then we have just the club for you...

When: Tuesday lunchtimes
at 12:50

Where: 5M classroom



ADULT EDUCATION COURSES WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Upcoming Events January 2025

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| JANUARY 07 | Digital skills for Beginners Wokingham Library 2pm - 3pm |
| JANUARY 08 | Build your confidence to get back into work or volunteering - (over 4 weeks) Online Zoom 10:30am - 12pm |
| JANUARY 13 | Excel for Beginners - (over 5 weeks) Wokingham Library 10:15am-12:15pm |
| JANUARY 14 | First steps to iPads and the internet - (over 4 weeks) The Cornerstones 10am -12pm |
| JANUARY 15 | Understanding Teenage Anxiety (over 2 weeks) Online Via Zoom 7:30pm - 9pm |
| JANUARY 15 | Introduction to being a Teaching Assistant and working in schools - (over 5 weeks) Oakwood Centre 12:30pm - 2:30pm |
| JANUARY 16 | Introduction to working in Care or the NHS - (over 5 weeks) FBC Centre 12pm-2:30pm |



To find out more and to book visit our website:
www.wobenrol.com/wokingham








Let's come together to celebrate Christingle

Christingle is a great way for communities everywhere to get together this Christmas to catch up, make some special memories, and have fun.

Come and join us!

Location: ST. PAUL'S CHURCH
READING ROAD
WOKINGHAM

Date: 23rd December **Time:** 3.0pm and 5.0pm and

To find out more, contact:
Louise on 0118 979 2122



Scan the QR code to find out more.



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