

# St Paul's Newsletter – Spring 10.01.25

*'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,



Happy New Year and a very warm welcome to the new term. On behalf of everyone here, I wish you the very best for 2025.

The children returned full of vim and vigour and despite having been back for only four days, have already made an excellent start to what promises to be another very busy term.

You may have seen some new faces around this week as we welcomed Mrs Ng, our new lunchtime controller and Miss Dutton, our new learning mentor. Tiffany Yam, joined 4L and along with our other new joiners are being well looked after as they find their feet.

Along with this Newsletter comes the January edition of our Online Safety Bulletin, containing advice about Age Ratings for a wide range of social media and apps, as well as information about Fortnite. Should you need advice in keeping your child safe online, most broadband providers include parental controls for free.



**CONGRATULATIONS!** Congratulations to Mrs Dwyer, Year 6 Team Leader, who tied the knot during the holiday, returning to us as Mrs Harris. As you will see, she made a beautiful bride and the happy couple enjoyed their special day.



Heartfelt congratulations to Mrs Hargreaves and the pupils, staff and governors of Walter Infants on their fabulous Ofsted outcome!

In conjunction with Walter Infant School, we are looking to recruit a Clerk to Governors to work across both schools. If this is a role you may be interested in, further details can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

The cold weather is set to continue, so if you are out and about this weekend, wrap up warm.

Mrs Taylor

## Punctuality

In this four-day week we have had 60 children arrive late for school. This means that whole class learning has been interrupted 60 times due to late arrivals. Arriving late into the classroom is also stressful for the child coming into school. We ask that all children arrive in good time so that they can have a calm and positive start to learning.

Can we remind everyone once again that the Murray Road gates close promptly at 8.40am – this is the time that school starts. The traffic in and around school can be very congested but as this is a historical problem, it is something that all parents should be well aware of and if you choose to travel to school by car, additional time should be built into your journey to ensure a prompt arrival.

We appreciate how tricky it can be to get everyone out of the house and in the right place at the right time but we would politely request that parents arriving late, however flustered, avoid becoming irritable and do not shout at staff if the gates are locked. They too need to start their working day on time.

If late, you should accompany your child all the way into the school office, entering via the Oxford Road entrance, to sign them in and notify us as to the reason why your child has missed the start of school.

## 2025 – 2026 Term Dates

### Autumn 2025

Thursday 4th September - Start of Term  
27th October to 31st October - Half Term Break  
Friday 19th December - End of Term (2pm finish)

### Spring 2026

Monday 5th January - Start of Term  
16th February to 20th February - Half Term Break  
Friday 27th March - End of Term (2pm finish)

### Summer 2026

Monday 13th April - Start of Term  
Monday 4th May - School Closed - Bank Holiday  
25th May to 29th May - Half Term Break  
Monday 1st June School Closed - Inset Day  
Friday 18th July - End of Term (2pm finish)

## JAG After School Club



 Kick off the Year with Special Days & Enriching Adventures with JAG this January & February! 

As the new year begins and we welcome the start of the 2025 Spring term, we're thrilled to bring a fresh wave of fun, learning, and creativity to our JAG Clubs!

Our Adventure Programme comprises seven exciting categories:

-  **Flavour Fest**
-  **Brain Boosters**
-  **Power Teams**
-  **Creative Inventors**
-  **Global Kids**
-  **Wellbeing Warriors**
-  **Super Sports**

We'll also celebrate special themed days in January and February  
Some of the celebration days include:

#### **Lohri (13th Jan)**

Say goodbye to winter and welcome the harvest with vibrant festivities through activities in our Global Kids category. Let's embrace the lively spirit of this Punjabi celebration!

#### **Winnie the Pooh Day (18th Jan)**

Join Pooh and friends for a day of friendship and sweet wisdom through activities in our Brain Boosters category. Kids will explore the joys of friendship and curiosity.

#### **International LEGO Day (28th Jan)**

Get those creative gears turning through activities in our Creative Inventors category! Kids will build, explore, and unleash their imaginations with LEGO fun.

#### **Children's Mental Health Week (W/C 3rd Feb)**

Well-being is the focus this week through activities in our Wellbeing Warriors category. Kids will dive into mindfulness and self-care activities to promote a healthy mind and happy heart.

#### **Valentine's Day (14th Feb)**

Show some love through activities in our Creative Inventors category! Children will make special gifts to celebrate the friendships and connections that matter most.

#### **Random Acts of Kindness Day (17th Feb)**

Spread joy and kindness through activities in our Wellbeing Warriors category—because the more kindness, the better!

 [junioradventuresgroup.co.uk](http://junioradventuresgroup.co.uk)

## Sports Assembly



This morning we celebrated the sporting achievements from last term.

Football  
It is a tremendous honour representing your school – especially for the first time, as was the case for some of our Y3 girls who played in a mini tournament against Willowbank, Nine Mile Ride and St Teresa's. It is wonderful to be able to acknowledge this in front of the whole school. We also celebrated the achievements of both our Y5/6 teams – Girls and Mixed.

Indoor Athletics  
Both of our Indoor Athletics teams performed incredibly well coming in 4<sup>th</sup> out of the 24 schools that took part. Our 3/4 team missed the bronze medal position by just 1 point. There were lots of fantastic performances including both boys' and girls' obstacle teams taking first place overall. Our 5/6 team missed the medal places by 4 points but there was only 21 points separating us from the gold medal winning school. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

TVRL  
The race at Lightwater Country Park was extremely well attended with over 50 children running. We continue to hold 6<sup>th</sup> place in Division 1 with our Y3/4 boys currently in bronze medal position overall. We are very much looking forward to the next race at the end of the month.

Inclusion and Boccia  
Our final two School Games events included the Inclusion festival and Boccia competition.

For most of the children it was the first time they had stood up in assembly and received a certificate. It was wonderful to see the smiles on their faces. We are looking forward to another busy term.

## Well Done Saskia!



Saskia (3B) recently passed her dance exam with an amazing 93% which gives her an 'honours' grade! We are all very proud of her.

## Year 5 – Liddington Information Evening

We are already some way into planning our residential trip which will be taking place in October. Year 5 parents are invited to attend an information evening which will be taking place in our school hall on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm.

## Forest School

### A guide on how to stay toasty in the great outdoors.

As the temperature drops and winter wraps its frosty fingers around us, here are some clothing ideas for how to keep warm during our Forest School adventures.

- Baselayers – thin long-sleeved tops and leggings (they trap heat without being bulky)
- Midlayers – fleeces, hoodies, gilets and jogging trousers.
- Outer layers – coats to keep the wind and rain out. We have a supply of waterproof trousers for the children to wear, but you're welcome to bring your own if you have them already.
- Accessories – Hats, gloves, warm socks.
- Footwear – Sturdy shoes/boots or trainers.



Remember to only wear items that you are happy to get **muddy!**

Top Tip: Dress in layers – it's easier to peel off if you get too warm during the session.

Please make a note of this term's Forest School sessions. 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.

13/01	20/01	27/01	03/02	10/02	24/02	03/03	10/03	17/03	24/03	31/03	01/04
6S	5K	4R	3B	6D	5M	4L	3H	6T	5B	4P	3D

## Indoor PE and Games

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

On indoor PE days, pupils should come to school in uniform, bringing their kit with them to change into.

## Outdoor Games

All classes have Games on Thursdays. 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, therefore, we ask that pupils bring a gloves, scarves and hats if the weather is cold alongside their school uniform, in case they have to change into dry clothes.**



## 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>

Diary Dates	
Week Commencing 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Clubs Start – barring running club and netball club
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> /Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Running/Netball Clubs start
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 9.00am	3D Class Assembly
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January 9.00am	6T Class Assembly
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 6.30pm	Year 5 Parents Meeting re Liddington
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 9.00am	6D Class Assembly
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 9.00am	4L Class Assembly
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 3.30pm	Break up for Half Term – 3.30pm finish
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 8.40am	First Day Back After Half Term
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March – after school	Parent Consultations
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March – morning	Parent Consultations
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 9.00am	5K Class Assembly
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 9.00am	3B Class Assembly
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 9.00am	5B Class Assembly
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 9.00am	4P Class Assembly
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2.00pm	Last Day of Term – 2PM FINISH



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RG41 2YJ

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[finance@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:finance@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk)

## Clerk to the Governing Bodies

We are looking for someone who is reliable, confident, good with people and with an interest in school governance, to work with both governing bodies

**Salary: Grade 5** (point NL12 – NL17, £26,421 - £28,770 pay award pending) **pro rata per annum (term time only) – hours to be confirmed at interview to be confirmed at the interview.**

The Governing Bodies of Walter Infant School and St. Paul's CE Junior School are looking for someone who is reliable, confident, good with people and with an interest in school governance. You will need skills in good administrative practice and experience of minute taking. You will also need to be confident in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel and email and have access to the internet.

Most meetings will take place via TEAMS and will be recorded to aid minute taking. The successful candidate will be able to work from home.

Responsibilities will include working effectively with the chair of governors, headteacher and other governors to secure the continuity of governing board business.

To advise on procedural and legislative matters to ensure the Governing Board works to the legal framework. An understanding of confidentiality is essential for this role.

Tasks include the preparation and circulation of papers, taking minutes at meetings, providing procedural and legal advice as appropriate, record keeping, and other duties as agreed with the governing board.

**Full training and ongoing support will be provided.**

**We warmly welcome visitors, so if you are interested in finding out more about us, please contact Mrs Anita Pugh at Walter Infant School and Nursery on [finance@walter.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:finance@walter.wokingham.sch.uk) to arrange a visit or to request an application pack.**

**Closing Date: Applications considered upon receipt**

*Walter Infant School & Nursery and St. Paul's CE Junior School are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. DBS Clearance will be sought from the successful candidate. Our Schools welcome applicants from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds.*