



# NEWSLETTER

## ST PAUL'S C of E JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS & INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

[www.stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk](http://www.stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk)

Autumn 1

Welcome back and a very special welcome to those families joining us for the first time. Along with our newest recruits in Year 3, we have been joined by Rowan Thatcher, Asia Maheswaran, Ishani Gupta, Bharat Jasti and Ananya Rajesh. It is always a pleasure to welcome new pupils to our school family and we are glad to report that all of the new children and staff are settling in well.

The children have made a tremendous start to the term and already I have used a box and a half of Headteacher's Awards!

Transition questionnaires for Year 3 parents were sent home last week and we would be grateful if they could be returned to school as soon as possible. We will use the feedback to help us evaluate this year's arrangements and explore possible improvements.

We welcomed 81 visitors to Friday's Open Morning and were delighted with the feedback, particularly as so many comments reflected the learning taking place in classrooms. *"The children were learning lots of interesting things."* ... *"Really good to see such varied activities and engaged children"* ..... *"Love the St Paul's ethos. Very welcoming and children are at the heart of everything."* were just some of the remarks we received.

Thank you for supporting Jeans for Genes. The non uniform day raised £365.65 and Friday's Macmillan Coffee Morning raised another £200. A special thank you to our staff cake bakers!

Despite the torrential rain, we celebrated Harvest at St Paul's church yesterday. It was good that so many parents were able to join us for this special service, despite the weather. If you are able to support our Harvest Appeal, please send a toothbrush, toothpaste and bar of soap into school by Thursday.

### Democracy in action!

Pupil voice impacts significantly on our school and our pupil elected School Council play a strong role. Its members are chosen by their peers and tasked with helping to make St Paul's a better place in which to learn. They meet with the Head and Chair of Governors every other week and School Council business is usually an agenda item at Full Governing Body meetings. This year's Councillors are:

3D	Grace Byfield	5L	Phoebe Tomsett
3H	Natalie Foster	5N	Jessica Bettridge
3M	George Newton	5P	Leila Hogg
4B	Samuel Duckworth	6P	Luke Cutler
4P	Emma Conaghan	6V	Tilly Searle
4W	Florence Blinkhorn	6W	Jake Warsap

### House Captains

Our Year 6 House Captains are elected by pupils across the school and candidates who wish to stand, prepare and deliver a two minute speech as part of the Hustings process. The speeches are made in front of all pupils and teachers. An election is then held and the pupils of each House vote for the girl and boy they would like to represent them.



This year's House Captains are:

Lewis  
**Harry McBain**  
**Sunny Lawrence**

Selwyn  
**Jonathan Dodd**  
**Eleanor Blinkhorn**

Jameson  
**Kieron Jones**  
**Amelia Duckworth**

Walter  
**Christian Melhuish**  
**Nell Craft**

### Diary Dates

You will find diary dates in the calendar on the front page of our website as well as in newsletters. The website calendar is where you will find details of assemblies. If for any reason a teacher decides to change a date, they have been asked to provide parents with at least a week's notice.

### Texting Service

We are in the process of changing providers for our texting service and for a short while will be without this facility. We will advise parents as soon as our new system is up and running but in the meantime, **please check email regularly.**

### Assessment Information Evening

17th November 6.30pm—7.30pm

This session is to give parents the opportunity to hear about the changes to how pupils are assessed and progress is reported now that NC levels no longer exist.

### St Paul's Talent



'Rebecca Brown and Francesca Barron took part in a Great British Bake Off event, with fundraising for the Tearfund Charity with Martha Collinson (last year's GBBO quarter finalist and youngest contestant). Out of 200 people, 10 names were chosen to bake a show stopper cake to be judged by Martha. They had to decide on the flavours and design, take photos and a video of them making it and then take it to the event.

The girls decided to make a Neapolitan layer cake consisting of chocolate brownie, strawberry cream, strawberry sponge, jam vanilla sponge, vanilla cream and fried dried strawberries. It looked just like a slice of Neapolitan ice cream.

Martha thought the brownie was delicious and the girls came runners up!'

Well done to Molly Cairns who won a bronze medal at the primary team gym challenge cup at the British championships in August.

Kieron Jones and Christian Melhuish were also awarded a gold medal in the same competition.

Ethan Slater has been busy. He is a member of the 1st Wokingham Cub Group and loves working towards the various badges he can earn. He has recently been presented with the highest badge you can earn as a Cub, The Silver Chief Scout Award. Well done Ethan.



### St Paul's Football Team

Thank you to the children that attended the St Paul's Football Team Trials. There was a great standard of football and the decision of who to select for the team was very difficult.

The team attended the Wokingham District Primary Schools Year 5 & 6 Football Tournament on Friday 25th September at the Madjeski Stadium. The first half of the day saw us in a group of 4 teams with Hawthorns, Colleton & Willow Park. We played each team twice in 7 minute games. In the group stage we won 3, drew 2 & lost 1 and this led to us winning the group. After a short lunch break the winners from the morning were put into a separate elite competition and we were up against some tough opposition! We played Highwood, Bearwood, Keep Hatch, Robert Piggott & Oaklands. In this we won 2 games and narrowly lost the other 3.

Overall we therefore finished 5<sup>th</sup> out of 24 teams from across the Wokingham District. The boys did fantastically and felt they could have won it!

Rob Melhuish

### Dropping off before school

A number of children are being dropped off/are arriving in the morning some considerable time before the doors open. Some are being left on the playground as early as 8:15am and are then unsupervised until 8:40am when school opens. Children should not be left unattended by an adult before 8.30 unless attending an early morning club.

### Pupil Safety

The yellow zig zags may seem like a convenient place to drop pupils but according to the Highway Code, it is illegal to park here, wait or even stop momentarily to drop off or pick up passengers.

It is not a safe place to drop children AT ANY TIME, particularly after the gates have closed as this means that children are then forced to walk alone round to the Oxford Road entrance of school and then navigate the car park which is often busy with traffic.

We would encourage parents to put the safety of children above all else, even on those days when they are running late.

### Forgotten Items

Just got home and realised your child has left something important behind? Don't panic! If you are able to bring it into school, please drop it into the wooden box in reception. If you can't make it back in, then any child who has forgotten packed lunch will be given a school dinner and if a child forgets their PE kit, we will loan them a spare set.

Any items left in reception should be clearly labelled with pupil name and class. Children who forget their musical instruments will still be sent to lessons as the teacher may have a spare.

### School Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear full school uniform, including school shoes. No jewellery, other than a plain watch and small, plain ear studs may be worn. Jewellery, including earrings, must be removed before sports activities and therefore we recommend that it is not worn on PE and Games days. We ask that long hair is tied back at all times and excessive gel and hair adornments are saved for special occasions like the discos.

### Dates for your Diary

12th Oct	Year 6 Heights & Weights Check
14th & 15th Oct	Bassistry Arts Workshop
20th - 23rd Oct	Year 6 Osmington
20th - 22nd Oct	Year 3 Stone Age Workshop
4th & 12th Nov	Autumn Parents' Evening