



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Wednesday 21st July 2021 | No. 21

Inspiring Learning, Nurturing Wholeness

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have finally come to the end of a very exhausting and turbulent year. We have certainly had to hang on to our school values at times—in particular Hope. Our school value statement says “We believe that God never gives up on us, his forgiveness is a gift and He gives us hope for the future. This means that, at St Paul’s, obstacles and wrongdoing do not have the last word, and good things can come from any bad situation. We seek to be a community of hope and aspiration that inspires and motivates every child to live their life to the full.”. We have certainly not allowed obstacles to ‘have the last word’ and we can testify to many ‘good things’ that have come out of the ‘bad situation’. Since returning in March, we have seen the children thrive and though lots of our usual activities have been curtailed we have done our utmost for the children to have as many opportunities as possible. We took both our Year 5 and Year 6 to activity centres, and though we were unable to be residents, they had an absolutely fabulous time and have banked experiences that will last a life time. It was a pleasure to be with both year groups and nearly all have mentioned it on their reports as a highlight of the year. We have also managed to have day trips or visitors in for every year group, right up to the end of term, with Reception going yesterday to Bockett’s farm. It has been lovely that even when we have had restrictions in place we have been able to deliver our inspiring curriculum.

It is such a shame that our Year 6 had to isolate and could not complete their final week at St Paul’s. We know how disappointing this is and we are so sorry for them that this had to be the case. We are having them back early in the Autumn term to have an evening gathering so they can say a proper farewell and to sign their leavers books and shirts. We will be in touch directly with these families so please look out for an e mail from us. But we have done incredibly well, and fared much better than most—one school I know had every year group apart from one out last week!

At this stage of the year it is the norm that we have to say farewell to colleagues as they embark on pastures new. Mrs Cruickshank has decided it is time to turn off her interactive white board and to retire from teaching. Mrs Cruickshank has been at St Paul’s for 20 years and has impacted over 600 children in her classes, teaching many of these to embark on the pleasure of learning and to start to read and write. We will really miss all she has given to St Paul’s, and particularly her leading of Art and her creative flair in scenery design. All the best.

We also say a fond farewell to Mrs Speight who is moving on to a new school and new challenges. Mrs Speight has been with us for 9 years, and in that time has been very influential in the leading of Science as well as being a superb class teacher to many children. Wishing you all the best in September.

We also say cheerio to Mrs Cole (Miss Stanley-Ward) who has decided that she wishes to spend time with her young family and will not be returning following her maternity leave.

We are also saying farewell to some of our support staff: Miss Wharmby is off to university to read Archaeology—thank you for all you have given to Year 5 this year, Mrs Kingsnorth is retiring, and again thank you for the support you have given to individual children.

Miss Masters will also return in September with a new name, Mrs Hall. Congratulations in advance of her wedding and we look forward to hearing about the day in September.

We are welcoming Ms Irvine to job share with Mrs Saunders and then Miss George following her return from maternity and Mrs Spooner and Mr Nelson are joining our support staff.

PLEASE NOTE FOR YOUR CALENDAR THAT FRIDAY 22ND OCTOBER WILL BE AN EXTRA HOLIDAY DAY IN LIEU OF THE QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE HOLIDAY, WHICH TAKES PLACE DURING JUNE HALF TERM



Thank you so much for your incredible support this year and for your very kind words of encouragement to myself and to individual staff. One parent wrote last week "I really do think that all staff and the school are such an example to other schools in the area, I am constantly telling friends how much our children love and thrive under the care of all the staff at St Pauls."

I hope that you will be able to have some quality time together as a family over the summer and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, With kind regards and thanks for all of your support this year, Mrs Alden

Sports Day

We had seven sports days over the last couple of weeks and I am delighted to share the results with you:

1st Sapphires 2382
2nd Emeralds 2277
3rd Rubies 2213
4th Citrines 2123
5th Diamonds 1377



And a flavour from some year groups



Farewell to our Super Year 6

Please return for your final farewell on Friday 3rd September @ 5pm to 7pm

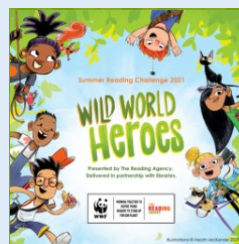


Wishing you all the best at Secondary school



Summer Reading Challenge

We have been supporting your children to read more regularly and to help them to gain more enjoyment in reading. What better way to continue with this enthusiasm than to engage in the National Library Summer Reading challenge.

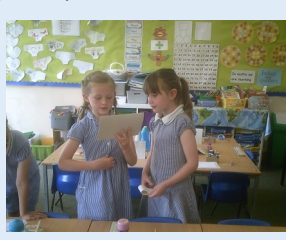


The children have discussed it in their classes this week but follow the link to get involved:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

YEAR ONE'S TRANSPORT MUSEUM

Last week, each Year 1 class had great fun creating a transport museum. Each child chose a vehicle to make and used different materials to make them. Some children used pegs and lolly sticks to make bi-planes and there were also some super pipe cleaner bikes! Each child then wrote down some information about their vehicle before displaying it. In the afternoon we took turns to be a guide in our class museum and we also spent time visiting the class next door to see what they had created. It was a fantastic day and a super way for everyone to show what they had learnt in our Transport topic!



Please see page 3 for dates for next year...



The exciting in-school museum experience was following on from our amazing trip to Brooklands Museum.

We had a fantastic day learning about all kinds of transport.





The ever popular Dorking to Brighton cycling challenge will take place on Sunday 26th September and is open to all parents and carers, family, friends and teachers of children at St Paul's School (all riders must be over 18 years of age). The event is designed to be a fun and enjoyable social day out for all cycling abilities (training guides available), it is not a race! The 50-mile/ 80km route is on a mainly flat, off-road cycling track (The Downs Link), and there are plenty of refreshment stops along the route.

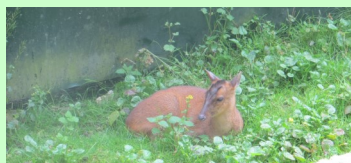
All you need is a mountain bike/hybrid or gravel bike, cycling helmet, puncture repair kit, water and snacks and you are ready to take on this great bike challenge for FOSPA. This year's ride is being generously supported by Head for the Hills bike shop, so our fundraising has already got off to a great start! Thank you Dan, Y2 Dad.

* See attached poster and register at [Dorking Brighton Cycle Ride](#)

* £25 entry fee + minimum £25 sponsorship (100% going to FOSPA). Fundraising tips will be provided. Finishers medal and prizes for the highest fundraisers!

Year 4 British Wildlife Centre

Last Tuesday, Year 4 had an amazing visit to The British Wildlife Centre. The children were fascinated to learn all about the incredible wildlife that can be found in our own back gardens. We were very fortunate to catch a glimpse of red squirrels, foxes, harvest mice, owls, otters and even the kittens of the Scottish wildcats. Our tour guide, Tom, was extremely informative and the children put him through his paces with their challenging questions. The highlights included meeting Dave the Hedgehog, Florence the Tawny Owl and the breath-taking view of the deer park, with several species of deer.



Year 5 Music Evening

Last Wednesday evening, Year 5 hosted two terrific musical performances for parents, the first in school for over 18 months! The sun was shining, the children sang beautifully, and we were even treated to some fabulous solo and duet performances by several students. Well done to everyone in Year 5; the concerts were outstanding!



Puppet bonanza

Year 4 have been excited to show their puppets which they have designed, made and evaluated in DT this term. They made puppets based on well-known children's stories and then used them to perform these stories in groups to their class peers. We think they all look amazing! What do you think?



Dates for next year (2021/22)

Wednesday 1st September: Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Thursday 2nd September: 1st Day of Term (8.45 am)

Saturday 4th September: FOSPA Big Top Circus Event

Friday 17th September - Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Sunday 26th September - Dorking to Brighton Sponsored Cycle Ride

Thursday 30th September - School Photos

Friday 22nd October - School Closed for Holiday in lieu of Queen's Platinum Jubilee holiday during half term

25-29 October - Half Term

SCHOOL START/FINISH TIMES FROM SEPT

Doors Open at 8.45 am

KS1/Year R - Finish time 3.10 pm

KS2 - Finish time 3.20 pm

Letter to follow with further details.

