



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 8th December 2017 | No. 8

It's been delightful walking round the school this week as the corridors are full of the sound of music. It's definitely an example of creativity in action!



All year groups from Year R to Year 4 are busy learning songs for their Nativity plays and Key Stage 2 children have been practising their songs for the church services next week.

On Tuesday, Ian Stott (one of the Surrey Arts music teachers) treated Key Stage 2 children to a mini concert, playing Star Wars and other pieces on a variety of instruments (including a hosepipe!) to show the children how much fun playing a brass instrument can be. On Thursday afternoon the Year 5/6 choir entertained the residents at Garth House with a selection of well-known carols and this afternoon the orchestra played for the older children in school. We really are so fortunate to have such a wealth of musical talent within our school and are especially grateful to the parents who give up their time to support us in this area.

Mrs D Malia
Acting Headteacher

Do you have a pre-school child?

Surrey CC would like us to remind you that the closing date for primary school applications is 15th January 2018– sooner than you might think once the Christmas rush is over!

Online is the preferred option but paper is available too. The web address is www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions or you can ask for more information from our office team.

Physifun!

This week, lunchtime supervisors and some Year 6 children had a training session led by Active Surrey's Ally Read.

This training was called PhysifUN and, as the name suggests, is focussed around fun and inclusive active play, delivered by our lunchtime staff as well as some of our year 6s.

During the session we discussed, and tried out, many lunch time activities to engage all children from Year R to Year 6.

There were so many amazing games, which, we're sure, lots of children will be showing you when they get back home in the coming weeks!



Fishy Fractions!

Year 4 have been fishing around for new knowledge this week, making Fraction Fish to help them recognise fractions as parts of a whole, building towards learning about equivalent fractions. To create their under-the-sea scene, they cut 5 circles and kept one whole, whilst the rest was divided into halves, quarters, eighths and sixteenths.



We are stars- it's official!

2016/2017 was a very successful year for St Paul's Sport. Not only did we have 75% of KS2 children taking part in clubs, of which 62% were selected to represent the school, reaching 5 county finals and competing in 15 different sports, KS1 were also busy with their own sporting achievements.

As recognition of the KS1 sports curriculum, assessment and varied sporting opportunities for the children, St Paul's have been awarded the KS1 Active Surrey **2 Star Mark**. This is an amazing achievement, which stands alongside our KS2 Gold Schools Games Mark. We are told that it is very rare for a school being assessed for the award for the first time to achieve 2 stars, so we are even more proud.

Huge thanks are due to Miss George for her boundless energy, enthusiasm and skill in achieving so much towards increasing our children's participation and enjoyment of sport over the last year.



Coming up!

- Tues 12th Dec** 9.30am- **Key Stage 2 Christmas Service** at the church
- 2.00pm- **Key Stage 1 Performance** at the church
- Weds 13th Dec** 9.15am- **Reception Nativity-** in the hall
- 7.00pm- **Key Stage 2 Christmas Service** at the church- children from Years 3-6 attending.
(Y4 arrive 6.30pm; Y3/5/6 arrive 6.50pm)
- Mon 18th Dec** **Christmas Clothing Day!** Wear jumpers, tinsel, festive tights, glittery MUFTI etc in exchange for a **£1 donation** to charity to be decided by the school council.
- Tree of Prayer service** for the children.
- Christmas Lunch**
- Thurs 21st Dec** Term ends at 1.30pm

It's all Greek to Year 5!

Year 5 enjoyed the experience of being Ancient Greeks when the school hall was turned into Athens for the day by Theatre Exchange. Their knowledge of Ancient Greece was extended through drama activities which included: making decisions in the assembly hall, battling the Persians, building their great ships (triremes), trading wine, metal and clothes in the market place as well as worshipping the great Goddess Athena at her temple.

The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves (especially the battles!) and learnt lots too!



In case you missed it: **Dates for your diary**

We have now confirmed the date of our second spring INSET Day. These INSET Days- training days for staff in which we work on larger projects or bring in outside consultants for training- will focus on improving the already very good progress our children make with their reading, as well as mindfulness and emotional wellbeing for children and adults.

INSETs for the Spring Term will be held on **Monday 29th January 2018** and **Monday 19th February 2018**. This is in addition to the September INSET, and the already announced **Monday 23rd July 2018**. One further INSET will be confirmed later in the year.

Competition Time!

Mole Valley Youth Voice, the youth council for Mole Valley, are in partnership with the Dorking Community Fridge for a poster competition.

They would like to invite children to design posters around the theme of preventing food waste and giving food to those who need it in order to advertise the project. More information about this very worthwhile local idea can be found on the Community Fridge Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/dorkingcf/>

You'll find the poster template attached with today's newsletter, so please do print them off if your children would like to take part.

The deadline is January 15th, with submissions to be scanned and sent to David.Watts@molevalley.gov.uk

If you don't have the ability to scan, hand them to Mr Hogan-Fleming or the office and we will send them in on your behalf.