# Newsletter | Friday 4th May 2018 | No. 17

Dear Parents and Carers.

Well since I wrote last, we have had a heat wave and torrential rain—all within a fortnight!

We have all settled back into the routine of school and there has been some amazing learning going on. When you are dropping off, do have a look at the 'Star of the Week' board. The Year 3 and 4 choir performed beautifully at Dorking Halls and the audience were 'wowed' by the quality of their singing and the memorisation of so many words! Year 3 fully participated in their Viking Day, not only did they look the part but they developed their learning tremendously—Willow Class helpfully summarised it within their lovely class assembly this week. It has been a very busy fortnight for Year 3 as they also visited Wisley on Wednesday to support their science learning.

Ash Class also had a class assembly this week, explaining the role of the fire service and what we should do in the event of a fire. They confidently read their lines and performed two songs. Well done Ash!

Your children have probably mentioned that we have launched the 'Daily Mile'. Research has shown that encouraging children to run just for 10 or 15 mins a day significantly improves their concentration as well as improving their fitness levels. We have used some of our ring-fenced sports premium funding to build the track and the children are really enjoying regular running. I ran with Year 2 this week and it was a very positive experience for everyone. (for further details, please see below)

Last Friday we said goodbye to Mrs. Aga Hollaway (TA in Reception) after many years here at St. Paul's. I am sure you would like to join me in our thanks for all she has given to our school and to wish her well as she starts the next chapter.

Wishing you an enjoyable long weekend,

Mrs. A. Alden

Thank you to you all for returning your tubes and to FOSPA for organising the annual Smarties tube collection.

Together we managed to raise £930. A great achievement with 20ps! Well done to Zoe O (Sycamore) who had her tube pulled out of the bag and is the lucky winner of a £20 Amazon voucher.



# Don't forget: MONDAY IS A BANK HOLIDAY! See you on Tuesday– enjoy the extra day!

Parking is much better at the moment– thank you. Do remember, when opening your doors, there may be tiny tots toddling by– we've had one or two near misses this week.

## The Chris Speller Cup

Mr Coombes, manager of St. Paul's Panthers, came to assembly on Monday to talk about how brilliant the team have been this year. They've worked really well together, including battling back to win some tricky matches- how many Premier League teams could come back to win 4-3 from 3-1 down?! As a result of their hard work, the team have won the South-East Surrey trophy for the season, and they were all presented with their medals.



Mr Coombes then brought out a very special extra prize- the Chris Speller Cup. This trophy, awarded in memory of Panthers' late chairman, Chris Spellerand featuring red and white ribbons in honour of his favourite club, Bristol City- is given to a Year 6 player who demonstrates the values of sportsmanship. effort and friendship to his fellow teammates over the course of the season. It is engraved with the names of the winners, and is a very special recognition of everything we would want to see in



The cup was presented to this year's winner-Lucas- who said he was very surprised and happy to receive it. Even better, he was congratulated warmly by every member of the team as he received the cup. What a brilliant example of friendship towards a very deserving winner. Well done Lucas!

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With today's newsletter, you will also find attached details of several local events & opportunities happening soon: VIAM Summer Musical Theatre courses, LBP Football training sessions (with an opportunity for a free session) and a Leith Hill-connected art event happening in St. Martin's walk. We hope you find the information useful.

#### The Daily Mile-what's that then?!

Your children may be coming home talking about their Daily Mile. As you will know, our new track, using the Sport Premium funding that all schools must spend on sustainable improvements to sporting life, (for full details, see the Sport Premium report on the website) was installed recently, and we have now begun to use it in earnest.

The long term aim of the initiative is that, by the time they leave us in Year 6, every child is able to confidently run a mile and be physically and mentally fit. Children can walk, jog, run- whatever they feel able to do. The track is specially designed and constructed so that no specialist running shoes are required; it's simply a case of up, out and run- and 15 minutes later, we're back in class! Learning breaks are a proven way to improve concentration, and combining them with gentle exercise in this way has also been shown to boost children's attainment in class by test schools. Children run about at break time in the same shoes, so are quite comfortable jogging on our track in them. We'll be encouraging the children to gently improve on their distances each time and seeing how they do over each term. We're all- staff and children-loving the new idea and even the staff are joining in!

local facility. Thank you.

## Dates for the Summer Term (new info in RED)

- Mon 7th May: Bank Holiday
- Sat 12th May: FOSPA Fest at the Cricketers-7.30pm—late!
- Mon 14th May: SATs Week
- Mon 14th May: Y5 Isle of Wight trip begins
- Thurs 17th May: Royal Wedding School Lunch
- Fri 18th May: Y6 to Horsham, Y4 to Fishbourne
- Sun 20th May: FOSPA Dorking to Brighton ride
- Tues 22nd May: Juniper Assembly
- Mon 28th May-Friday 1st June: Half Term
- Mon 4th & Weds 6th June: Fencing taster sessions for Years 2 & 3
- Weds 6th June-Class Photographs
- Thurs 7th June: Y6 to Buddhist Temple
- Fri 8th June: FOSPA Summer Cinema Club- 4.30pm
- 11th-14th June: Book Fair in school
- Tues 12th June: Cedar Assembly
- Weds 13th June: Rowan Assembly
- Sat 16th June: FOSPA Summer Fair
- Mon 18th June: INSET Day
- Thurs 21st June: Y5 Astronomy Roadshow in school
- Tues 26th June: Year R, 1 & 2 Sports Day
- Weds 27th June: Y6 to Guildford Cathedral (shirt and tie required)
- Thurs 28th June: Y5 Languages visit to Ashcombe
- Fri 29th June: Y4 to Box Hill
- Thurs 5th July: Pixham Athletics–6pm
- Fri 6th July: Yarrr, it be Year R Pirate Day!
- 10th-12th July: Year 5 & 6 Production-7pm
- Thurs 12th July: YR to Painshill Park
- Mon 16th July: KS2 Sports Day
- Weds 18th July: Open Afternoon-2pm-4pm
- Weds 18th July: Year 6 Leavers Party-6pm
- Fri 20th July: Leavers' Service-9.30am in church (shirt and tie required for Year 6)
- Fri 20th July: Summer Term finishes at 1.30pm
- Mon 23rd July: INSET Day

## A message from Dorking Children's Centre

From pregnancy to primary school, Sure Start Children's Centres support children and their parents and carers. They offer services for all, but especially for families at times when life is a struggle.

Surrey County Council proposes to cut £2.2m from these vital support services when families need them most. They are safe, welcoming, supportive environments for parents with young children who need help. In order to keep the issue at the top of the agenda with Surrey County Council, a local parent has created a petition on the Surrey website. If you are able to, please visit the site and support this very important

https://petitions.surreycc.gov.uk/childrenscentres/

# Royal Lunch in Celebration of Prince Harry and Meghan's Wedding—Thursday 17th May

You will have received a letter about having the option of having a school dinner on Thursday 17th May. If you wish to take up this option and your child **does not** normally have a dinner, please complete the form (incl.£2.25) and return it to the office by this Tuesday, 8th May.

On the website this week: visit <u>www.stpaulsschool-dorking.co.uk</u> to find out about Year 3's busy week being Vikings and studying plants at Wisley Gardens (not at the same time!), Ash's awesome fire assembly, and much more! Check out the SCHOOL NEWS and GALLERY pages.

## Commonwealth Hockey Player visits St. Paul's

Last week, we were very lucky to welcome Rose Thomas, a Commonwealth Hockey Player, into the St Paul's assembly. Rose was hugely inspirational, talking about the importance of nutrition, resilience and determination.

Rose started to play hockey when she was 11 years old and progressed in the sport by using skills she had learnt from other sports, including taekwondo and football. During the years, Rose showed great determination even when she had set backs, she never gave up. In 2018, she achieved three of her hockey goals: to play in a premiership club, to represent Great Britain and to play at the Commonwealth Games in Australia.

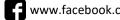
We hope to see Rose in the 2020 Olympics!

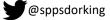


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A huge thank you to Paul Woodman and Dave Wingrave, our two awesome dads who took up the Snowdon 'Dawn to Dusk' cycling challenge. Having left Dorking at 5am, they drove to north Wales, cycled three hours up the 1080 metre climb, then had to cycle down again! (at least it was a bit quicker!)

They have, so far, raised a HUGE £1010 for FOSPA and the school-WOW!

If you've been inspired by their feat, you can still donate via their fundraising page at <u>cafdonate.cafonline.org/7932</u>.







### **FOSPA Chair & Treasurer roles**

A longer version of this message will be coming through on ParentMail, which will outline everything in more detail and also list all the items FOSPA has paid for this year, but the long and short of it is.... no-one has come forward for these roles yet. FOSPA will struggle to raise the much needed funds the school depends on and operate properly if these positions are not filled! I think it has become clear that these roles would be much easier if shared. We do have someone willing to share the treasurer role, so if you can be the **second person** on this team, please contact Fiona: for the chair role, this could be shared between two or three people, so please come forward if you would be willing to share the role. We really need to get these posts filled so please give me a call if you're thinking about it and I'll fill you in on what's involved and start to get a team together!

## Summer Fair - 16th June

Class stalls and rotas will be heading your way soon... Here are a few specific jobs that need doing in the mean time:

- We need more driveways to put the summer fair estate agent boards up (currently only have four!)
- Calling round to local shops to ask for fair prizes and to put the fair poster up
- Helping a kind parent tasked with sorting out our gazebo and marquees taking them out of shed and assembling them to see what we have! Also, if you have one we can borrow for the fair, please let me know!
- Someone with a large car / van to collect the tables from the church and then take them back after the fair
- Face painters!!!
- People to help **set up** / **clear up** on the day
- Organising the Year Six Leavers' water games (knock down bottles & sponge soak)
- Finding a great children's entertainer who wants to do a free performance (great showcase op)

If you can help with any of the above, please get in touch with Serena (chair.fospa@gmail.com)

## Help to finish off the fence painting needed!

Can you **help** us finish off the last few bits of **fence painting** round the garden and reception classes? We can work round when you are free - evenings / weekends - please let me know when you can do and I can arrange access. Maybe a few people can team up; it won't take more that a few hours!

### Garden Club

We now have a few parents volunteering for an hour once a week to work in the school garden with the kids. **We could do with some more help**; if you can spare the time, please get in touch with Emi who is running the rota: emistonebridge@hotmail.com

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