



St Paul's School News

www.stpaulsschool-dorking.co.uk

No. 1 (September 16th, 2016)

Welcome back to school!

I do hope you had the chance to enjoy a restful and re-energizing break over the Summer holidays. It is always a joy to see the children back and settled in well to school life. Our new YR children embarked upon their school career earlier this week. Thank you to all those YR parents who were able to join us for school dinners during the week.

We go into a new school year with very few staff changes. We give a very warm welcome to Mrs Sally Shrestha who has joined us as teacher of Y1 Maple. We wish her a very successful and enjoyable time at St Pauls School.

News from the Governing Body

The role of Chair of the Governors is a key role in the life of any school. This role has now been taken on by Mrs Helen Wharmby, a parent at the school. The Vice-Chair role has been filled by Mr Steve Lister, also a parent at the school. You can find out a bit more about them by reading their pen portrait on the school web-site. Huge thanks and gratitude are extended to Mr Rich Tanton the out-going Chair. He has been a wonderful servant of the school for many years in many guises. I am pleased to say that he remains on the Governing Body, enabling us to draw on his vast store of experience in all things school and Governors.

We also extend our thanks to Mrs Julia Bernal and Mrs Ruth Cornish who have also stepped down from their roles as School Governors in recent weeks. Their input over time has been greatly appreciated, and will also be greatly missed.

Later this term we will be holding elections for new Parent Governors... watch this space.

YR Reading Information Evening

This will be held on Thurs 6th October at 7pm. All parents of our new YR children are invited to join us to hear about supporting children with their reading.

FOSPA AGM

This will be held on Thurs 6th October at 7.45pm, straight after the YR Reading Information Evening.

Superstars Board

We are looking for more photos and achievements for our Superstars Board. We want to hear what the children have been up to!

School Lunches

The Scopay system has now been updated for the new year. Please check your child's balance and pay for this half term's meals as soon as possible. Online payments are preferred but if you wish to pay by cash or cheque (payable to Surrey County Council) please bring your payment into the office.

We have noticed that a number of children who were having school meals last term are now bringing packed lunches - please ensure that you inform the office of any changes in meal arrangements to avoid being charged and to help the caterers prepare the correct number of meals.

If your child would like to have regular school lunches, but only on certain days of the week, the kitchen are now able to offer this service. Please speak to the school office if your child would like to do this.

Inset Days so far

We have set two more Inset Days: **Wednesday 21st December** ; **Tuesday 3rd January**

Free Money to Help the School and Your Child ...

The DfE have published research which shows that Surrey does not receive its full Pupil Premium entitlement, with **one in three eligible pupils not claiming free school meals**. Pupil Premium is a vital additional source of funding for us to support learning in our school and that of specific pupils.

If you are in receipt of certain benefits you may be entitled to free school meals which automatically brings in extra money for us to use to support the school and your child.

If, in complete confidence, you provide us with your NI number, a check can be carried out to validate your entitlement, which will lead to additional funds being made available to us.

This is particularly critical for pupils in years YR, Y1 and Y2 for whom the universal infant free school meals policy applies. So even though your child is already getting a free 'Infant' school meal the school may be missing out on extra funding.

If you think this applies to you please speak to me or the office in complete confidence. Thank you.

School Photos

Individual photos will be taken on Tuesday 27 September. More info to follow.

Sharing Your Faith Celebrations in Assembly

If you are a parent of a faith other than Christianity we would love to hear about it and your celebrations / festivals. If you are willing to talk for 10 minutes in assembly we will be all ears. Do let me know.

Bramble Bashing in the Copse

With all the sun and occasional rain the brambles have had a great summer holiday spreading through the Copse. If you are able to help us reclaim the Copse please join us on Friday 23rd September at 3.30pm with appropriate weaponry.

Registration Time : 8.55 a.m.

Do please remember that the register is taken promptly at 8.55 a.m.

School starts at 8.55 a.m., and that means in class ready to learn at that time, not walking through the school door or hanging up coats.

School Open Days for Prospective Parents

These are as follows:

Wednesday 9th November (afternoon)

Thursday 10th November (morning)

Times on Dates List. Y6 are very much looking forward to their tour guide responsibilities!

Illness—Important Reminder

To enable us to contain diseases and infections please follow the '48 hour rule': keep your child off school for 48 hours after showing the symptoms of an upset tummy or sickness.

This keeps bugs out of school and out of other families. Thank you.

