



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Monday 5th March 2018 | No. 13

Dear Parents/Carers,

It was good to see everyone again this morning after our 'snow day' on Friday.

The closure was as a result of the advice received on Thursday evening from Surrey County Council and the Met Office regarding the Dorking area and the strong possibility of potentially hazardous travelling conditions. Forecasts are not always accurate but, for the safety of our pupils, staff and parents (and in common with other schools in the Dorking and surrounding villages), we made the reluctant decision to close.

We appreciate the inconvenience this may have caused and thank you for your support. Roll on spring!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Malia

Acting Headteacher

Newspapers wanted

Mrs Cruickshank needs old newspapers for a Batik project she will be running for a group of children soon.

If you have any lurking around, please give them to her directly or via the office by Wednesday 14th March.

Thank you.

Name Labels

If you donate clothes to the second-hand uniform sale, please could you remove old labels.

If buying second-hand uniform, again, please check & remove any old labels and, most importantly, please add the new name. While going through the lost property last week, we found a jumper belonging to someone who left in 2011, but no evidence of who it belongs to now!

Garden

THANK YOU to Fospa for organising the very successful clearing of the garden last week- and to the parents and children who gave up their time on a cold, crisp Saturday morning. It is so much tidier and ready for children to get stuck in planting and growing.

We will be starting to think about planting soon and may well need seeds or seedlings to get started- don't forget to think of us when sowing those early crops!



Online Safety Parents' Information Evening- March 14th

Together with St. Paul's, FOSPA have pleasure in inviting you to an evening talk for parents on **Wednesday March 14th** given by Tim Barette, an experienced computing and online safety expert from the team at Babcock International- the training provider for Surrey County Council.

The evening will be a great chance to gain tips and advice on how to monitor and keep our children safe in today's online world. Children regularly outpace us as they discover new technology, social media and online experiences- it is important that we try to keep up so that we have the tools we need to keep children enjoying their online experiences in the right way.

The talk will start at 7pm in the school hall and last just over an hour. If online safety isn't enough of a draw already, FOSPA will also be provided wine-shaped refreshments!

We hope to see lots of you in the school hall on the 14th for what promises to be a very useful and interesting talk. **If you have friends from other schools, they are also most welcome to attend the evening.**



Times Tables Rockstars

Children from Year 2 to Year 6 will receive a letter (on paper) this week giving details of how to log in and set up an account for 'Times Tables Rockstars' this week. This is a website and app which aims to get children practising their tables facts, becoming more secure and confident in the speedy recall of key facts through its use over time.

Children will be asked to set up a character and choose a 'rockstar name' for themselves before getting started on either a PC, mobile browser or the app. (free from app stores) They can earn virtual 'coins' for playing and improving, which they can then use to buy new guitars, clothing or hairstyles. (Mr Hogan bought a very fetching blue Mohican with his newly earned coins while testing it!)

Teachers will set appropriate tables over time- sometimes one, sometimes more, sometimes a revision week of all the tables for their yeargroup, aiming to build to a secure recall of all x and ÷ facts to 12x by the end of Year 4 each year.

Dates for the next few weeks

Tonight-	Musical Celebration, 7pm in church- performers to arrive at 6.45pm.
Tues 6th March	Birch Assembly, 9am
Weds 7th March	Sycamore Assembly, 9am
Fri 9th March	Y6 Leavers' Fund Cake Sale
Sat 10th March	Surrey Schools Cross-Country Competition in Reigate Priory Park
Mon 12th March	Funeral at church in afternoon- no parking in St. Paul's Road West
Tues 13th March	Y3 trip- Butser Farm
Weds 14th March	Oak Assembly
Weds 14th March	Y6 trip- Junior Citizen
Thurs 15th March	R/1/2 'Perform' drama workshops
Thurs 16th March	(rearranged) Y6 Hindu Dancing
Tues 19th March	Hawthorn Assembly, 9am
Weds 21st March	Chestnut Assembly, 9am
Fri 23rd March	Sport Relief World Record Attempt!
Fri 23rd March	School Discos
Mon 26th March	Y1 trip- Wakehurst Place
Tues 27th March	Easter Pause Day
Thurs 29th March	Easter Service in church, 9.30am, all welcome.
Thurs 29th March	End of term, 1.30pm
Mon 16th April	Summer Term starts

St. Paul's CE Primary School presents

A Musical Celebration

Featuring our choirs, orchestra and some fantastic soloists. Come and support our talented young musicians!

Monday 5th March
7pm
St. Paul's Church



www.stpaulsschool-dorking.co.uk | [@spsdorking](https://twitter.com/spsdorking) | www.facebook.com/spsdorking



All welcome!
TONIGHT! 7PM

Online Safety - have you met PEGI?

PEGI stands for *Pan European Game Information*. Not the most inspiring title is it? However, it is a very important name we should all be aware of as parents.

A PEGI rating is displayed on the front of every console or PC game sold in the EU, including the UK. Much like a film or TV programme, the rating describes the age above which a game is suitable for various reasons, including explicit content, language or violence. For example, a PEGI 7 sticker indicates the game is only suitable for children aged 7 or over.

In Online Safety lessons in school, we do often, including in lessons as recently as this term, find children telling us they have been bought games- by their parents- as high as PEGI 18 (for example, Grand Theft Auto and its sequels are all PEGI 18-rated), containing highly unsuitable content for young children.

Do check the labels when buying games and think if they are suitable for anyone likely to have access to them in your family, in the same way that you would when deciding whether to let children watch a film.

Other games to watch out for this month include **Roblox** and **Fortnite**- both are apps/games designed to appeal to children, but with online chat and user-generated features that have been recently shown to have exposed children to strangers, adult content, language and images that are very concerning. Most games of this nature have a 13+ limit for children to sign up- and with good reason. **More information on Online Safety can be found on the website under the 'parents' menu.**

