



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 28th February 2020 | No. 11

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had a good half term break and that your children have had a good first week back.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the parents evenings before half term—thank you to FOSPA who held a second hand uniform sale during this time—I hope that you were able to pick up some bargains!

Thank you also to all the parents who responded to the parent questionnaire. In the next newsletter I shall be sharing some of the ideas and suggestions around what we are doing well as a school and suggestions that were made on how we could improve.

Looking at the amount of homework that is set, 73% of parents who responded felt that the amount of homework that is set each week is roughly right—with varying percentages of parents across the different year groups feeling that there was too much or too little homework set. I have been looking at the different comments that have been made and will be presenting this to staff so that we can address some of the concerns and points raised moving forward. We will be sharing our new homework policy with parents in the summer term.

One thing that was raised on the questionnaire was SLT presence before and after school. I am always on the main pupil entrance door every morning and it has been a good opportunity for me to get to know some of you as parents and a chance for you to speak to me if you have any concerns. I have also started to stand in the lane at the end of the day, which has highlighted to me that we need to ensure that children are walking their scooters and bikes down the lane at the end of the day as there have been a couple of near misses where children have collided with each other - not a good end to the day! I shall mention this to the children in assembly next week, but would appreciate it if you could reinforce this as well.

We are all very much looking forward to World Book Day next Thursday and we can't wait to see who the children and staff are going to dress up as! We will make sure that lots of photographs are taken that can be shared in the next newsletter. On Wednesday we are collecting donations of fiction and non fiction books for the charity Delight—these books will then be shared with children in areas of deprivation in Surrey. Thank you in advance for your support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Bryan and Ms Lanham



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR
OUR
MUSICAL CELEBRATION
ON MONDAY 9TH MARCH
AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH
AT 7 PM**

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

WOW Travel Tracker

A huge thank you to all our children and families who have been able to work towards making our walk, cycle and scoot to school campaign a huge success. The children have been very excited at recording their travel to school and delighted in receiving the badges each month. We have seen a real increase in the number of families who are using sustainable travel to come to school. Don't forget, if you want to park and stride, our parking permits for Sainsbury's carpark are available from the school office. Hopefully, as the weather improves, we will see more children and families walking all or part of their way to school. Attached with the newsletter is a leaflet to help you on your journey.

Many thanks.



Spring Term Dates: (new info in RED)

- **4th March - Y2 London Inspiration Day**
- **5th March - World Book Day (Dress Up)**
- **5th March - Y5 Parents Isle of Wight Meeting, 3.30 pm**
- **6th March - Full Orchestra Rehearsal, 1.45 pm**
- **6th March - Y2 Cake Sale**
- **9th March - St Paul's School Musical Evening, 7 pm**
- **10th March - Y1 to British Wildlife Centre**
- **11th March - Beech Class Assembly**
- **11th March - Y6 Junior Citizens Event**
- **12th March - Y6 Parents SATs Meeting, 3.30 pm**
- **16th March - Y4 to Fishbourne Palace**
- **16th March - YR to Bocketts Farm**
- **17th March - Chestnut Class Assembly**
- **17th March - Y3 to Butser Farm**
- **18th March - Willow Class Assembly**
- **20th March - Y6 Doughnut Sale after School**
- **24th March - Sycamore Class Assembly**
- **25th March - Cedar Class Assembly**
- **27th March - Year 1 Cake Sale**
- **27th March - School Disco (KS1 5-6 pm, KS2 6.15—7.30 pm)**
- **31st March - Easter Pause Day**
- **1st April - Birch Class Assembly**
- **1st April - FOSPA Easter Egg Hunt**
- **3rd April - End of Term, 1.30 pm**

Year 4—Pizza making

To finish off our Italy Topic we had loads of fun making our own Italian pizzas from scratch in Year 4! Beech made their pizzas before half term and Birch on Wednesday this week. We all followed a recipe to make our own dough from scratch - making sure to measure all the ingredients accurately. We then topped our pizza with whatever we fancied - one even had a fried egg! "They look very professional" commented Mr Hill. The smell was delicious and they tasted even better!

Of course, this experience wouldn't have been possible without the help of such a fantastic group parents from both classes! We are so grateful and we hope you had as much fun as Year 4 did!



Year 6 Earthquake Buildings

This week in geography Year 6 have been looking at earthquake proof buildings. They had to design and build a simple building which would be able to withstand a minor and major earthquake. All the groups worked really hard to try and use cross bracing to make a strong structure. Unfortunately, the earthquake was very strong and not all buildings survived.

Year 3 Stone Age

Just before half term, Year 3 children planned their own stone circles and worked in groups to bring their ideas together and build some Stone Age ceremonial sites!



Ultimate Frisbee

On Tuesday 25th February, six children from Year 5 were fortunate enough to attend an Ultimate Frisbee Event at The Greville School in Ashted - with 5 other local schools.

Each activity concentrated on working in different ways - individually, in pairs, in groups and then against other schools. The whole event was based around showing sporting values - respect, honesty, determination, self belief and teamwork rather than about winning. The children were then assessed on how well they applied their values to the different activities they were taking part in.

'It was good and really fun and I really enjoyed it!' Tom - Year 5

Year 6—Hindu Dance

On Thursday, Year 6 had a Hindu dance afternoon, to experience the culture and religion of Hinduism through dance. The whole year had a fantastic afternoon, learning different dances for different Gods, listening and dancing to stories about Krishna as well as understanding more about the festival of Holi.



Year 1—British Wild Animals

Year 1 are getting very excited as they have started to learn about British wild animals. We started by playing top trumps animal facts and are writing our own top trump cards about animals we will study so we can use them in class. We are looking forward to our trip to the British Wildlife Centre in a few days time so we can learn even more! Ask us about our learning this week - we know lots about badgers!

Year 5—Shed of Science Theatre Show

Year 5 have had a very exciting week, with a visit from a Science Theatre Show on Tuesday afternoon. They were thoroughly entertained by this interactive performance, including singing, dancing, acting, quizzes and games, all about Air Quality. It really made them think about how small changes that we all make can make a big difference to the air quality for us all.



Junior Bake Off—Applications

We have been contacted by the production company to let children know that they have recently opened applications for the 6th series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

They are looking for young budding bakers between **9 -15 years old**.

Filming would take place from July 2020, but the **applications close on Sunday 5th April 2020**.

Interested bakers can apply online at - WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK.

St Paul's Church Nursery School - Part Time Nursery Practitioner

For the Summer Term 2020

We have an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic and qualified Nursery practitioner to join the dedicated staff team at our Church Nursery. The appointment will be on a fixed term contract for five mornings a week during this summer term only.

All staff are required to undertake an enhanced DBS check as a condition of employment.

For more information can be found by clicking the link below or please contact: nursery.chair@stpaulsdorking.org.uk

Closing date for applications: **Friday 6 March 2020**

Further info: https://www.stpaulsdorking.org.uk/Groups/295251/St_Pauls_Dorking/community/St_Pauls_Nursery/News/News.aspx

Chatterbooks at Dorking Library - Reading Group for ages 8-11

We currently run an after-school book club/reading group called 'Chatterbooks' for children aged 8-11.

We meet once every 6 weeks or so to discuss a chosen book, and generally try to include an activity related to whatever we have read. The meetings last no longer than an hour.

**YOU CAN JOIN THESE
READING GROUPS
AT DORKING LIBRARY**

CHATTERBOOKS for ages 8-11. Mondays 4-5 pm
TWEENS for ages 11-12. Thursdays 4-5 pm
TEENS for ages 13-14. Wednesdays 4-5 pm
YOUNG ADULTS for ages 15+. Mondays 4-5 pm

Usborne Sponsored Reading Challenge.

Well done to all the children who have returned their sponsorship and challenge forms—you have until this Monday to return them



Box Hill School are running a series of **Wellbeing Talks** for parents both within and outside the Box Hill School community, as part of their commitment to proactively foster pupil wellbeing. These talks are designed to support families in understanding and dealing with some key issues facing our young people today.

- Friday 20th March 2020 at 7:00pm – 'e-Safety': *Developing safer on-line behaviour and digital literacy* – **Karl Hopwood** (external speaker)
- Monday 27th April 2020 at 7:00pm – 'Before the fun stops, stop': *Raising awareness of gambling through education* – **Patrick Foster** (external speaker)
- April 2020 – date TBA – 'Managing anxiety and exam stress' – **James Trinder, Box Hill School Assistant Head (Pastoral & Wellbeing)**

Request from Oxfam Dorking

Currently the Oxfam Dorking shop is looking for more volunteers to join the movement fighting poverty by promoting sustainability and community. If you think that you would be able to volunteer your time, there are various activities that they are looking for help with, such as: window dressing, serving customers, organising pop up shop events, sorting donations, managing social media and managing the online shop! If you are interested in donating some of your time, please get in touch with Lee Withall via phone or email—Oxfamshopf4208@oxfam.org.uk 01306 883842

