



# St. Paul's Dorking

## Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 8th September 2023 | No. 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had such a lovely week; all of the children have come back happily and it has been super to see them getting stuck in with their new learning in their new classes. Many have some exciting summer stories to tell and I trust you found and cherished some special family time together.

We give a very warm welcome all of our new Reception children and families and we hope you settle quickly with us. We also welcome some new staff to our St Paul's family who your children and yourselves will get to know in the weeks ahead; Miss Trease is our new Year 1 Sycamore class teacher and Mr Fernandes has joined us as the class teacher in Year 6 Juniper. We also welcome Miss Reading and Mrs Duke who have joined our learning support staff team. You will soon get to know these faces and will have the opportunity to meet some of them in person at the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions starting next week (dates and times are on the dates list overleaf). We also today said farewell to Mrs Quddus. We are delighted for her as she has secured a new role in the Surrey Disability team as a team leader. We will miss her and wish her well.

It is great to see so many of the children looking smart in their new PE T-shirts! Thank you to those parents who have already moved across to the new uniform. The boys are also looking very smart in their blue school shorts/trousers—please can we remind you that on non-PE days, they should be wearing smart tailored school shorts/trouser.

We had two very informative inset days to start the year. On Friday we embraced the new RE syllabus that will be taught throughout Surrey, written by the Guildford Diocese team. Many of the units are similar to the previous syllabus, but there is a broader emphasis on world views and the final unit of the year allows the children to make a connection across all of their units of learning, through a big question. Thank you to Mrs Hilston and Mrs Howey for leading the training. We also had a full day on Monday as a full staff team, where we celebrated our successes from last year (and particularly the highly effective phonics teaching) and identified our school priorities for the year ahead. I will share these with you in the next newsletter.

Mrs Bryan (our DSL) also led our annual safeguarding training and we explored our school's vision and values and how these are outworked day to day in school. Staff also received training related to anaphylaxis and asthma. We have a number of children with severe allergies and, as a consequence, it is important to heed our wishes with regards to ensuring we are a nut and sesame free school. Thank you for your support with this.

Thank you for a good first week back and we look forward to seeing many of you at the 'Meet the teacher' in the coming weeks. Wishing you a restful weekend, Mrs Alden

### Safe Routes and Parking Permits

**If you are new (or not so new), please can we remind you of the parking restrictions near school. Parents dropping off or picking children up, should park only up to the start of the safe zone (where the footpath stops outside of the church).**

**No one should be driving any closer to school, and certainly not in the 'no stopping zone', or near the entrance to the The Mews. The spaces near school are reserved for staff only, unless you require a disabled space.**

**We strongly urge you to request a parking permit to allow you to park in Sainsbury's carpark and you can then walk safely up the alleyway and in to school. These are available by emailing [parking@molevalley.gov.uk](mailto:parking@molevalley.gov.uk)**

**We have a safer routes committee and if you are interested in joining, please let the school office know.**

### Home School Agreement

When your child starts school, you and they complete a Home School Agreement. We have decided we would like this to be revisited regularly, so that together you can have a conversation about it. Your child will bring home a paper copy today for you all to sign and return to school. We would appreciate it if these can be returned to their class teacher (one per child please) by the end of next week, thank you.

Please see over for dates of events through the year



Well done and thank you to everyone for their effort to be ready for an **8.45am** start.

The gates are opened just before 8.45am and are locked by 8.50am.

Thank you to you all for your punctual arrival.

If you remember, we request that you send in a box of tissues at some point through the year, to help reduce this cost. Thank you to those who have brought one in. We are very grateful for these donations.



### Wellbeing

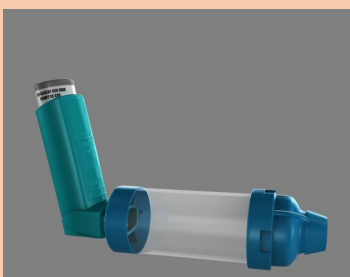
For any children who may be finding the start of the new year challenging, and may need a bit of extra support settling in or have things on their mind that they would like to share, Talk Time is available every lunchtime. A member of staff, who is a mental health first-aider, is available to talk to children about any concerns or worries that they may have. They can come on their own or bring a friend if they prefer.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mrs Bryan	Mrs Edwards	Mrs Moore	Mrs Wan	Mrs Suggitt
	Mrs Bryan			

### Inhalers

If your child has asthma, they should have an inhaler and spacer in school (this needs to be in date). Please pop into the office to complete the relevant paperwork if this applies to your child. Thank you.



For your 'Meet the Teacher' session next week, or the week after, please can you come in **through the office** to sign in and we will then take you down to the relevant classrooms. Thank you

### Dates for the Autumn Term (new info in **RED**)

- Monday 11th September @ 2.55pm Year 5
- Wednesday 13th September @ 2.55pm Year 4
- Thursday 14th September @ 2.45pm Year 2
- Monday 18th September @ 2.45pm Year 1
- Wednesday 20th September @ 2.55pm Year 3
- Thursday 21st September @ 2.55pm Year 6
- Wed 27th September - Year R Reading Meeting for Parents/Carers (9 am and again at 6 pm)
- Thursday 28th September - School Photos
- Tuesday 3rd October - Y4 Egyptian Workshop
- Thursday 12th October - Flu Vaccines in School (letter to be sent next week)
- Thursday 12th October - Parents Eve (4.30 pm to 7 pm)
- 16th & 17th October - Y3 Pedestrian Training
- Tues 17th October - Parents' Eve 3.30 pm to 6 pm
- 23rd to 27th October - Half Term
- 2nd, 3rd and 14th Nov - Open Mornings for R24
- Wednesday 8th Nov - Chestnut Class Assembly, 9 am (School Hall)
- Thursday 16th Nov - Hawthorn Class Assembly 9 am (School Hall)
- Tuesday 5th Dec - KS2 Christmas Service, 9.30 am (St Paul's Church)
- Tuesday 5th Dec - KS1 Christmas Service, 2 pm (St Paul's Church)
- Wednesday 6th Dec - KS2 Christmas Service, 7 pm (St Paul's Church)
- Thursday 7th Dec - Year R Nativity, 9.30 am (School Hall)
- Monday 11th Dec - YR & KS1 Panto in School
- Friday 15 Dec - End of Term (1.15 pm/1.30 pm)
- Tuesday 2nd Jan - INSET (No Pupils in School)
- Wed 3rd Jan - First Day of Spring Term



The FOSPA Dorking to Brighton bike ride takes place in 2 weeks so this is the last call for parents/friends/relatives to sign up! It's a lovely ride and lots of fun (and even better with this amazing weather!!)

Please see attached flyer for sign up details.

### School Attendance

As a school we take pride in our excellent attendance record—we had one of the highest attendance of schools in this part of Surrey last year—96.0%. Well done everyone! Every day is an important learning day and **holidays must only be taken in the school holiday period**. If you have an exceptional circumstance when your child needs to be away from school, please request a form from the office.

### Additional Allergies

If you are a parent/carer of a child in Year 1, please could you also refrain from having kiwi as a fruit snack as we have a child with an extreme allergy to this. If possible, please can other year groups also avoid sending kiwi fruit in lunchboxes. Thank you.





# A celebration of our learning opportunities throughout 2023-24

