



# St. Paul's Dorking

## Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 6th October 2023 | No. 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely couple of weeks in school, with lots of visitors and enrichment opportunities for the children. A number of year groups are enjoying having their cricket skills honed by Jon Gale from Surrey County Cricket. It has been great for the children to have this very skilled coaching opportunity. Year 4 also looked superb in their Egyptian outfits on Tuesday (thank you so much parents for going to such a lot of trouble to help the children get into role) and they loved the workshop from Hobgoblin Theatre Company.

Thank you too to FOSPA for organising the Bike Ride last week and for the quiz last night. Both events were really positive and we are so grateful to FOSPA for their organisation of these events as it makes a huge difference to the provision we can offer. Last year, if you recall, FOSPA raised enough funds to purchase a wide range of resources for school, including new classroom furniture, reading books and of course the new sound and AV system in the hall. Prior to this they kindly funded Accelerated Reader for five years. School would struggle to offer our great provision without it. At the AGM last night, all of the posts were filled and we have a new Chair: Chris Bailey (child in Year 1). Sally Black (children in Year 4 and Year 1) will continue as Treasurer and Rachel Martin (children in Year 1 and Year 5) as Secretary. We also thank Richard Shaw as the retiring Chair for his work last year and for his 3 year term on the committee. If you would like to join the committee, please contact Chris Bailey via the school office—FOSPA would be delighted to have some more people on board. If you are a new Reception parent—please do let Chris know and get involved—it is a great way to get to know people and make friends.

We had some visitors in school this week and they were very affirming of the quality of education here at St Paul's and were particularly impressed with our provision in Early Years. They thought the teaching as well as the environment—both the outdoor area (if you remember this has had a face lift due to a number of additional resources funded by the Trust Fund recently—see overleaf) and the in-class provision—were highly enticing and motivating. This was lovely to hear. If you or any friends are looking for a Reception place in 2024/25, please do make sure you have booked a place for the Open Mornings coming up in November.

Mrs Bryan, Mrs Edwards and I met with a team from Learning Space this week as there is now direct work from them to support children in primary school and we have been selected to access these services for some of our children. They spoke of a range of initiatives that are available to parents, both free and self-funded and I have attached information overleaf relating to the work they do to support children with anxiety and low self esteem. Learning Space works in collaboration with Mindworks and offer a wide range of support for parents, children and families. [Learning Space: Mindworks Surrey \(mindworks-surrey.org\)](https://www.mindworks-surrey.org)

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to be parent reps this year. We would like to start meeting half termly with you to talk about any issues that may arise and to share information with you, alongside the role you fulfil for FOSPA. We have a vacancy for a parent rep in Rowan so, if you have a child in this class and would like to volunteer for this role, please can you give your name to Jane in the office.

Wishing you a restful weekend,

Mrs Alden

### Safeguarding at St Paul's

The Safeguarding team at St Paul's is led by Mrs Bryan (the Designated Safeguard Lead—DSL) and we have four deputy safeguarding leads (DDSLs)—Mrs Alden, Mrs Moore, Mr Hill and Mrs Shaw. Everyone in the school takes responsibility for safeguarding and alongside that pupil welfare, but this particular team ensure that if concerns are raised, these are followed up and the necessary actions are taken where needed. They also ensure that all of the school team are well trained and abreast of current thinking. If you ever have a concern and you wish to speak to one of us, please don't hesitate. If you would like to share something via e mail, do use our specific e mail address:

[DSL@stpauls-dorking.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:DSL@stpauls-dorking.surrey.sch.uk)

### Here to listen: our safeguarding team



Designated safeguarding lead (DSL): [Mrs Lynsey Bryan](mailto:Mrs Lynsey Bryan)  
Contact details: [dsl@stpauls-dorking.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:dsl@stpauls-dorking.surrey.sch.uk)



Deputy DSL  
Mrs Ann Alden



Deputy DSL  
Mr Dan Hill



Deputy DSL  
Mrs Jane Shaw



Deputy DSL  
Mrs Dawn Moore



### Year 4 Egyptian Day 2023

Year 4 enjoyed a fabulous Egyptian day this week. All the costumes were stunning (thank you parents!) and included Egyptian princesses, Pharaohs and Egyptologists. Everyone, including all the Year 4 staff joined in the fun. During the morning we watched a very entertaining Egyptian theatre show, which was interactive with questions and problems to solve. We followed this, with a fun and engaging drama workshop, where all the children had the opportunity to show off their acting skills. In the afternoon, we put our artistic skills to the test, making and decorating Egyptian collars and writing our names in hieroglyphics to make our very own cartouches. We also learned the Egyptian sand dance and have some very talented dancers in Year 4!



### 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 started up again last Friday. Each 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. Children may choose to come to Talk Time, or may be directed by another adult.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mrs Bryan	Mrs Edwards (in the garden)	Mrs Moore	Mrs Wan	Mrs Suggitt Mr Hill

### Year 6 - English

Year 6 have started their English learning this year with a lovely unit based around a book by Charlie Mackesy called 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse'. It is a beautifully illustrated book with a strong sense of kindness and self-belief running through it. We talked about the messages in the book and created some lovely cross-curricular work for, not only English, but also PSHE and Art. These are some of the wonderful pictures that we created. The children agreed that it was a book that they would like to read again and again and that it was a book that they felt they could go back to when they needed a bit of moral support. One of their favourite quotes from the book was - 'What is the bravest thing you have ever said?' asked the boy. 'Help,' said the horse.



### Learning space

Learning Space provide solution focused individual support for children and young people from 5 years to 18 years who are struggling to manage big feelings, have low self-esteem or who are going through a difficult time.

Cost—£50 per session(45mins)

For more information please contact Sue White:

[sue@learningspace.org.uk](mailto:sue@learningspace.org.uk) or [www.learningspace.org.uk](http://www.learningspace.org.uk)



### School Photographs

Please note that the deadline for ordering school photos is Sunday 15th October. The details of how to order can be found on the proof sheet.

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

- Wednesday 11th October—Parents evening for those with children with additional needs (3.30pm onwards)
- Thursday 12th October - Flu Vaccines in School
- 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
- Friday 20th October—Harvest Service
- Monday 30th October—Y5 Planetarium (in school)
- 2nd, 3rd and 14th Nov - Open Mornings for R 24
- 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

### Our lovely Early Years Outdoor Area



October is International Walk to School Month, when pupils around the globe celebrate the benefits of walking and wheeling to school. Get active, get moving, get involved - pledge to walk to school in October or scoot, cycle or park and stride. Walking, cycling or scooting to school can make the difference and help children get the exercise they need. Will you take the pledge?



### Young Carers

Young carers are young people who have caring roles for family members with physical or mental health problems or disabilities, or drug or alcohol problems and Mrs Bryan is our contact person for young carers in the school.

Mrs Bryan ran a weekly club for young carers last year within school time and this will be continuing this year. We are also in contact with Surrey Young Carers, a charity to whom the school can refer for further assistance. Mrs Bryan will be continuing to work with children who have already been identified as Young Carers from last year, but if you feel that your child is considered a young carer, please contact Mrs Bryan via the school office.

### Flu Immunisations: Closing Date Mon 9th October

Please visit [www.surreyimmunisations.co.uk](http://www.surreyimmunisations.co.uk) and either provide your consent or complete the NO box if you do not wish to consent. Our unique code is SR125171

