



# St. Paul's Dorking

## Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 20th October 2023 | No. 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, we have come to the end of our first half term back and certainly the time has flown by! The children have settled so well into their new classes and have made some very impressive progress already since September. It was lovely to see so many of you at the Parents' Evenings in the last couple of weeks and hopefully you found this helpful to know the next steps that your child needs to make. If you have a child with a pathway plan, these should be with you soon after half term.

Thank you too for the return of your Home School Agreement. If this is still with you, please talk to your child about your and their responsibilities and please can this come back into school immediately after half term. This needs to be handed to your child's class teacher.

If you have a child in Beech class, you will be aware that Ms Duysak will be away from school for a while as she needs some treatment. We wish her all the best and pray for a speedy recovery. In Ms Duysak's absence Mrs Hall and Miss Cattermole will be teaching the children. (If you have been a St Paul's family for a while you will know that they have both previously taught here—we are delighted to welcome them both back).

Thank you so much for your generosity. We have gathered a fantastic amount of provisions and toiletries for the Dorking area foodbank this morning. If you were able to join us at the church, I am sure you will agree that the children led a lovely service around the theme of generosity and sharing, with the choir singing a very thoughtful song called 'The Harvest of Love'. We are also so grateful to St Paul's Church for supporting us week by week and for their input from Steve at the service today.

We are looking forward to welcoming lots of visitors into school after half term as we host our annual Open Mornings for parents who are looking for a Reception place in 2024. If you have friends locally, please share what you love about us with them and invite them to the sessions on 2nd, 3rd or 14th November. We are particularly proud of our great learning opportunities, our very strong teaching of Early Reading (phonics), opportunities to learn in our super outdoor spaces, including our outdoor classrooms in the copse, our support for children with additional needs and our caring, nurturing support for everyone. Encourage them to book a place via the school office details are on the website [St Paul's C of E Primary School - Home](http://stpaulsschool-dorking.co.uk) ([stpaulsschool-dorking.co.uk](http://stpaulsschool-dorking.co.uk)). If you have a younger child starting in 2024, please do come too.

In celebration of 'World Ballet Day', Mrs Cox is again going to be leading workshops for each class in the week after half term. Mrs Cox used to dance for The Royal Ballet and she continues to teach for them, so we are so delighted that she is able to use her skills to help everyone have a taster in ballet. Please can your child wear PE uniform with school shoes (and trainers in their draw string bag) on the day they have their workshop. Tuesday: Ash, Oak, Maple and Chestnut Wednesday: The rest of the school.

We hope you all have a very restful and enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing you again on Monday 30th October.

Thank you for your continued support,  
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  
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

Please note there are some new dates overleaf for your calendars... including save the date for the FOSPA Christmas fair. **Saturday 2nd December**... if your child is in choir (or in some ensemble music groups) we would love for them to sing/play, so please save the date and details to follow.

Our poppy appeal will start after half term when we will be selling various items.



### Year 3—Healthy Snacks

Year 3 have been making healthy snack bars as an alternative snack for break times. We all used porridge oats and honey and added some different fruits to make it even more tasty. We got to use the skills of peeling, chopping, mixing and spreading and with some adult support. They were absolutely scrumptious!



### Year 4—Cricket

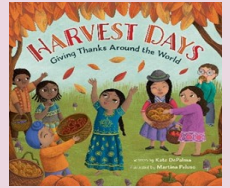
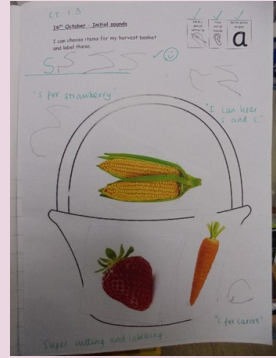
This half term, Year 4 have been very lucky to have received weekly coaching from Surrey Cricket. It has been a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their cricketing skills through a series of mini games and fun activities. Coach John has been a real hit with the children, showing them how to throw, bowl, bat and field and the children have had lots of chances to put these into practice. It has been lovely to see the children develop week on week working individually, in pairs and in groups and allowing them to develop team skills too. Watch out for our next cricketing superstars from St Paul's!



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

- 23rd to 27th Oct- Half Term
- Monday 30th Oct -Y5 Planetarium (in school)
- 31st October-World Ballet Day (Ash, Oak, Maple & Chestnut)
- 1st Nov-World Ballet Day(rest of the school)
- 2nd, 3rd and 14th Nov - Open Mornings for R 24
- Wednesday 8th Nov - Chestnut Class Assembly, 9 am (School Hall)
- Wednesday 8th Nov-Hazel Class British Museum remote visit
- Friday 10th Nov - Beech Class British Museum remote visit
- Thursday 16th Nov - Hawthorn Class Assembly 9 am (School Hall)
- Friday 17th Nov- Children in Need Day
- Saturday 2nd Dec - Christmas Fair
- 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

### Reception—Harvest Festival



Reception have been learning about Harvest Festival. We explored different fruits and vegetables from around the world and talked about where and how they grow. We read the book 'Harvest Days' to learn about how different countries give thanks for the food that is harvested. In English, we practised our cutting skills, making our own harvest baskets. The children worked hard to label each fruit or vegetable, listening carefully to their initial sound.

### Year 6—Secondary school applications

Applications for a secondary school place need to be completed by 31st October 2023. Visit [surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://surreycc.gov.uk/admissions) for more information on the application process and to access the application form.

### Harvest Service

The school gathered together at St Paul's Church this morning for their harvest festival. We were challenged by the words of St Paul to 'be generous and willing to share'. Steve helped us to think about fair share = share fare. The choir also sang a lovely song called 'The Harvest of Love'. We are so grateful for the generosity of the school families for their donation to the Dorking Area food bank. It was lovely that so many parents were able to join us for this time too.



### The Lane Outside School

We are aware that as the weather deteriorates, the lane is becoming a more difficult place to navigate. Surrey County Council own and are responsible for the care of this lane, not the school. We have had an ongoing dispute with SCC about the state of the lane (for about 20 years!) We would value you reporting any concerns (or injuries) in relation to the lane to the Council to help our cause.

You can contact the council directly or through this link [FixMyStreet](https://www.fixmystreet.com)

