



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 24th November 2023 | No. 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely couple of weeks in school and things are now certainly taking a more Christmassy 'air'! Christmas songs are wafting down corridors in preparation for our Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Christmas nativities/services. I hope you have the dates in your diary. You are in for a treat!

It is lovely to see so many children in the new PE uniform. The blue T shirts are so much better than the white ones and a number of you have also bought the hoodies. Please can hoodies only be worn on PE days. The very large majority are now wearing plain navy joggers and thank you for gradually moving to this new uniform. This year is the transition year, but if you need to buy PE shorts or joggers/leggings, please can these be completely plain. Thank you too for the large number of children who are wearing school shoes with their PE kit on PE days. This has ensured that muddy PE trainers (following PE on the field) are not then walked into school as the children change back into their shoes before coming in. Please can you continue to help your child have the correct footwear in school. Thank you.

Thank you so much for your generosity for 'Children in Need' a couple of weeks ago. We raised £360.00. A fantastic total. Thank you too to Sports Crew (our band of Year 5 and 6 sports leaders who have been trained to support sports play at play time) for doing such a motivating job over the lunch hour that day.

Thank you to those of you who have completed the parent survey. The date for this has now closed and we will share the results with you in the weeks ahead.

We are noticing that a number of children are talking to adults in school about unkind words that have been said to them from a peer. Through our Collective Worship and PSHE sessions we are regularly discussing our two school rules: "We will treat others and property with respect in all we say and do" and "We will not disrupt the learning" and how important it is to be kind. Please could you continue to support your child with this. Years 1 and 2 have been talking about making sure their words are positive to "fill someone's bucket". If you are not familiar with this story please do share it with your child and talk about the need for kind words at all times.

Have a good weekend,
Mrs Alden

Make sure you have saved the date!

FOSPA Christmas Fair on
Saturday 2nd December

You are in for a treat as the choir will be singing and the recorder ensemble will be playing as well as lots to see and do!



Thank you for your very generous donations that you made to the Dorking Area Foodbank a few weeks ago. Please see the attached letter from the team there. We donated an amazing 140.5kg! Thank you!



Local Area walk

Year 3 have been learning about the Victorians this half term and in particular Victorian Dorking. We set out around Dorking in search of parts that were around in the Victorian times. On our walk we made several stops; by the washing lines on Cotmandene, Pipbrook House, The White Horse Pub/Hotel, St. Martin's Church Spire, Pump Corner and finally ended at the old Victorian Workhouse next to Dorking Hospital. All the children were amazed to see the workhouse after learning about what it would have been like inside one in Victorian times and marvelled at how different and luxurious it is now. All the children and adults learnt a little more about our local area on this trip!



Stripey Stork

Stripey Stork is a local charity based in Reigate that collects new and pre-loved items for babies and children up to the age of sixteen. One of their Winter campaigns that we would like to support this year is **Santa Stork 2023** - they believe that every child should have the excitement of opening a brand-new gift on Christmas morning, knowing that Santa hasn't forgotten them. If you are in a position to buy a gift for Stripey Stork to pass on, please choose a gift from their online [Santa Shop](#).



Dates for the Autumn Term (new info in RED)

- **Thursday 30th Nov—Y5 Girls Chelsea Football (in school)**
- **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**
- **Wednesday 13th Dec—Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch**
- **Friday 15 Dec - End of Term (YR & KS1: 1.15 pm, KS2 : 1.30 pm)**
- **Tuesday 2nd Jan - INSET (No Pupils in School)**
- **Wed 3rd Jan - First Day of Spring Term**

SESAME ALLERGIES

Please can you take care not to send your child in with any sesame products as we have children with severe allergies to sesame. Thank you

Helping our community

On Monday 13th November the Eco representatives from both KS1 and KS2 took part in a litter pick during the lunch time.



This was part of the 'Community Bid' which is holding a litter pick on Friday. We are very grateful to Mrs Musgrave who is helping with the Eco Committee.



from the Dorking Bid committee:



I am pleased to share that earlier this week, we had young people from the St Paul's Eco Club who weren't available to join us tomorrow, take part in a Litter Pick using Hello Dorking supplies. They contacted us and asked if they could borrow our tools instead. Liz (superstar) sorted it all out for them to borrow our supplies and they did their own litter pick and we will be sharing their photos soon... On behalf of our team, thank you so much to the St Paul's Eco Club for collaborating with us! We love working with our community partners to make a difference in Dorking. (Thank you Liz Fuller and thank you Anna Musgrave!)



Cosmic - An Adventure In Space



For the last few weeks, Year 5 have been busy exploring the novel Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce. Last week, we explored playscripts. We used a chapter from Cosmic to help us with this. First, we acted out the story and created freeze frames. After this, we then carefully wrote the story as a playscript making sure we used stage directions and instructions. In the final session we

then acted out our own playscripts to see how well they worked. As well as doing some exciting work in English, we have also continued to explore the theme of space in art. We have studied the artists Peter Thorpe and then produced our own space pictures in his style.



EXPLORERS

Year 1 have started their new topic of explorers. We discussed what it means to be an explorer and looked at some examples of explorers from the past. The children then had a go at being explorers with their partners and followed a scavenger hunt to find different objects. They then had a go at creating some of the resources explorers would need to survive their trips. They drew their vehicle for travel, created some binoculars, drew a map of the school and drew their survival tools in a backpack!

