



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Thursday 28th March 2024 | No. 13

Inspiring Learning, Nurturing Wholeness

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, we have come to the end of a very busy and productive term. As you will know, and have seen through the newsletter articles, all of the classes have been engaged in some very inspiring learning! We have also had some super class assemblies where the children have shone and shared their learning beautifully through songs, readings and acting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my staff for their dedication, hard work and investment that they make for your children day by day. We have received so many positive comments from visitors over the last few weeks about how special our school is and that it has such a lovely, inclusive, warm, family feel where everyone is happy, engaged and motivated to learn. One of our governors following a visit popped into my office to say what a pleasure it had been to be in school for the afternoon, seeing all children working well and a lovely warm atmosphere where children were flourishing. Your children are a credit to you and make us feel very proud.

We are saying farewell to Mrs DeCaprio today as she is retiring from her class role, but is kindly continuing with her emotional well-being intervention that she runs on a Friday afternoon. We will really miss her in school, but she will also continue in her Action House role so we will still see her about. Thank you for all she has given to St Paul's. We have recruited to her role this week and I will introduce our new staff at the start of next term. We have also recruited to the two day role in the office—you will recall Tara Laws secured Sally's four day role and we are delighted to have appointed Julie Newman to the two day role on Mondays and Wednesdays. We had an extremely strong field and we are thrilled to appoint Julie. She is probably known to quite a number of you as all of her children have been through St Paul's and I am sure you will all make her very welcome in the weeks ahead.

You will be aware that following government guidance on mobile phones and devices, we have taken the decision to request that no smart watches or fitness devices are worn as a watch substitute. We would request that children only wear a simple analogue or digital watch. We appreciate this may be disappointing, particularly if your child has a 'fitbit' or equivalent, but it is impossible for staff to know which devices can and can't operate as a smart watch so it is safer if we request these are saved for home time. Thank you for your support in helping to articulate this message to the children.

Please can we also remind you that after Easter children can move into summer uniform if they wish (and the weather brightens up!). This should be school navy shorts (or grey this year), a navy skirt or a summer dress.

We have a new round of clubs beginning after Easter (Clubs will not begin until the start of week 2) and we have attached the timetable. Please complete by this [form](#) by Friday 19th April if your child wishes to attend. Some have limited places so we will draw names from a hat if it is oversubscribed. Lots of the clubs only run for a certain number of weeks, and are outside of the school day so please check your child is available to attend all of the sessions. If the club leads to a tournament your child's attendance will influence selection. We are an inclusive school and we feel that loyalty and determination are part of the consideration for selection.

It was lovely to see some of you at our Easter Service this morning where we could dwell on Jesus' last journey leading to his crucifixion and resurrection. The children and the choir read and sang beautifully and it was lovely to hear about their learning from Easter pause day last week. We are so grateful for the support we receive from St Paul's Church.

FOSPA will kindly be doing the Easter egg hunt on the first Friday back.

Emeralds were the winners for this half term so can wear green on the first Friday back.

Thank you for all of your support this term and wishing you all a very restful, peaceful Eastertide.

Mrs Alden

Allergies



Please can we remind you not to send your children in with any form of nuts, including snack bars as there are both children and staff at school with severe nut allergies. Thank you

Specsavers Surrey Youth Games

A chance for children aged 7-16 in Surrey to try a new activity for FREE! 6-8 weeks of completely funded training. All sessions are for beginners and fully inclusive. Check out the link below for more details

[Specsavers Surrey Youth Games \(activesurrey.com\)](https://activesurrey.com)



