



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 3rd May 2024 | No. 15

Inspiring Learning, Nurturing Wholeness

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term has started well and the children have enjoyed some great events over the last couple of weeks. We were delighted to have skipping workshops for every year group over two days and Tilly inspired us to learn a whole range of creative skipping techniques. We finished on Tuesday with a whole school outside assembly, with children from right across the ages wowing us with their skills. Some even managed the double—where they jump and the rope spins twice before they land again! We have a designated skipping area in the playground so children can skip to their hearts content, without others getting caught. The Sports Crew are also leading some long rope sessions in the weeks ahead. Thank you to Miss George for organising this super event.

It was also an absolute delight to watch our Year 3 children singing so beautifully at the Surrey Schools Music Festival at Dorking halls on Monday. They had **so** many words to learn and for many it was a rather late night, but they made us very proud with their efforts! Thank you to the Year 3 team who have worked so hard to help them learn all of the songs.

As a school, we are always keen to take part in community action. This term has seen the children engaging in three initiatives to help us recognise our responsibilities and show ways to help in our wider community. The Eco team have been pioneering this work through their connections with the community fridge, their litter picking in the area around school and helping us have a greater understanding of the River Mole river watch project. Thank you to Mrs Watkins for helping our children to be Eco champions!

As you will have noticed from the calendar, we are having an Art week this year—the theme is “Celebrating nature in all its fullness”. The children will also, during this week, be creating (though they may start the planning sooner) a piece of art that will be framed ready for our whole school art exhibition on Thursday 18th July. This is also our Open afternoon, so you will be able to come and view the children's amazing creations and buy your child's picture if you wish to. Please do pop that into your diaries. You will also see overleaf that all key dates for the end of the summer term events are also there for you.

If you have a concern, however small, please do make contact with your child's class teacher via the info@stpauls-dorking.surrey.sch.uk email and they will arrange to have a conversation with you as soon as possible. Please only use the Year group email for general queries. If you feel that having raised the concern that things are not improving, please do raise this again and also ask to speak with the Phase Leader—this is Mr Hill in KS 1 and Mrs McLeod in KS 2. Hopefully this means that concerns are dealt with before they become issues.

Have a restful Bank holiday weekend, Mrs Alden

Gentle Reminders



If your child is wearing a summer dress to school, they should be in **white** tights/socks please

Please can you check for headlice and treat as necessary.

Homework

Please could we remind parents that homework should be completed weekly. It reinforces the learning covered through the week, or consolidates learning from a few weeks before to help children to remember and practice skills already acquired.

Reading should be completed at least 5 times a week and once a book has been finished (Yr 2 upwards), your child needs to complete their AR quiz. Thank you.



Last week was an exciting one for our **Year 6** students as they delved into two fascinating topics in their learning journey. In Religious Education (R.E), they embarked on a journey through the principles and practices of Buddhism. Through engaging discussions, students explored the core beliefs of Buddhism, learned about the life of Siddhartha Gautama, and gained insight into topics of enlightenment and suffering. It was a journey of discovery, as students acted out the life of Buddha and created their own story boards and mind maps of his life. In English, the focus was on writing a recount. Students had the opportunity to put their writing skills to the test by recounting their recent trip to Henley Fort, which they went on last term. Visiting Henley Fort provided an excellent opportunity for our students to step back in time and gain a deeper understanding of the local history during WW2. Children are now able to put their experiences into writing and explain all the fun they got up to on their overnight residential.

River Mole River Watch Assemblies

This morning we had two assemblies presented by Mrs Susan Bond from the River Mole River Watch Team. Mrs Bond had already been in to see the school's Eco Team as part of trying to make the adult presentation more child friendly. The children had given helpful feedback as to how the slides and presentation could be adjusted. Mrs Bond then presented the new version today. All the children in KS2, KS1 and Reception listened well and then asked some very interesting questions to which Mrs Bond responded. The project sounds amazing so please ask your children about the assembly.



Or contact the group directly on www.rivermoleriverwatch.org.uk There are also leaflets at the office.

Scooters

We have received a number of extremely concerning reports regarding unsafe scooting down St Paul's Road East. In order to avoid a serious injury please can you ensure that your children are aware of road safety and scoot safely. We do not want to have to ban children scooting to school.

Dates for the Spring Term (new info in RED)

- Wed 8th May—Ash Class Assembly 9am
- Mon 13th May—Fri 17th May—Y5 PGL
- **Mon 13th May—Phonics Screening Workshop**
- Mon 27th May—Fri 31st May—Half Term
- w/c Mon 24th June—Art week
- Tues 25th June—Y4 Tilgate Nature Reserve
- Wed 26th June—Y1 Brooklands
- Wed 3rd July—KS1 Sports Day
- Fri 5th July—Reserve KS1 Rainy Sports Day
- Fri 12th July—KS2 Sports Day
- Wed 17th July—Reserve KS2 Rainy Sports Day
- Thurs 18th July—Open Afternoon & Art Exhibition
- Mon 2nd Sept, Tuesday 3rd Sept—INSET days

Community Action

On Monday 29th April the Eco representatives from both KS1 and KS2 took part in a litter pick in the area during the lunch time. They had great fun and we are very grateful to Mrs Musgrave and Miss Haynes for supporting us.



Exciting Learning in Year 1

In year 1 we have started learning about different countries and continents in Geography. So far, we have learnt about France in Europe, China in Asia and Australia in Australia! The children have shown a great interest in different cultures as we have been thinking about the different foods that are eaten, different sculptures and buildings they have, weather and landscapes of these countries. Whilst learning about China we found out that dragons are very important and the children made their own dragons



which we then used to take part in a dragon parade!

Community Fridge Assembly

On Monday 22nd April the children had a very interesting assembly presented by Michaela Afford from the Mid Surrey Community Fridge. The children learnt about how and when the Community Fridge began and about the work they continue to do. They also heard about the types of food that they could expect to find at the Community Fridge and how it is open to all.



OPENING TIMES

- Dorking - Mon-Fri - 10am-11.30am
- Goodwyns - Mon & Wed - 2pm-3pm
- Leatherhead - Wed & Thur - 1pm-2pm
- Box Hill Mobile stop - Tue - 1pm
- Newdigate Mobile stop - Tue - 2pm
- Westcott Mobile stop - Tues 2.30pm
- North Holmwood Mobile stop - Thur - 1pm
- Bear Green Mobile stop - Fri - 12.30pm
- Rickwood Park Mobile stop - Fri - 1.15pm
- Capel Mobile stop - Fri - 2pm
- Pixham - Fri - 1pm-2pm

Please ask your children about the Community Fridge and remember to visit your local one.

Come along to get some food from Mid Surrey Community Fridges, helping us to save food waste and protect the environment.
Take what you need, donate what you can.
Find out more at www.midsurreycommunityfridges.co.uk

Year 5 have been busy working on their Greek history topic since returning after Easter. They have read lots of Greek myths and then used these to design their own mythical creature and hero. Their mythical creature and hero have then been used to write stories in the style of a Greek myth. The work created has been fantastic. As well as this, in art they have been looking at Greek pottery and later this term they will create their own Greek pots.

