



St. Paul's Dorking

Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Newsletter | Friday 25th October 2024 | No. 4

Inspiring Learning, Nurturing Wholeness

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for partnering with us regarding your child's learning. It was so lovely to see so many of you over the last couple of weeks at Parents' Evenings, where staff could share their thoughts with you and to give you pointers about how to further support your child with their learning. Thank you for the numerous positive comments that you gave me and I have fed those back to staff. I would like to thank my amazing staff for their hard work and dedication this half term—it has been a very busy time and their positivity, optimism and professionalism has been a testament to the fantastic staff that they are.

Like many of the local Dorking schools, St Paul's has been on the journey of academisation. It has been confirmed this week, that we will academise with the Good Shepherd Trust on Friday 1st November. As I explained in the last newsletter, St Paul's will retain all that makes us who we are, but it will also bring a number of benefits of being part of a wider organisation and we are excited by this development.

We are delighted to hear that the Bishop of Dorking, Rev Paul Davies, is visiting school after half term. He will be popping into classes and the children will have an opportunity to ask his views on the big questions they have been exploring recently.

Please can all children now be in 'winter' uniform from after half term, so summer dresses need to be back in the cupboard until next spring. A few children are not wearing school shoes, so please can you use half term to check that your child is wearing what they should. School shoes should be worn **every day** (even when your child comes in in PE kit) so that muddy trainers following PE do not come back into the building. Thank you for helping us to keep our lovely floors clean and shiny!

Thank you for your generosity this morning with all of the wonderful harvest gifts that were brought for the Harvest Service, they are being donated to the Dorking Area Foodbank. The children and choir read, sang and acted beautifully and it was a lovely way to culminate our half term theme of 'thankfulness'. After half term we are exploring our school value of 'Trust'. The faith team also lead collective worship on Monday, helping us all think about how we can 'count our blessings'.

We have builders in next week, to decorate and upgrade Juniper classroom which is super that it will now look as 'new' as Elm.

The children seem very tired and are certainly ready for half term, so I trust you will all have some well deserved rest, relaxation and family time in the week ahead.

Wishing you a happy half term, Mrs Alden

Reminder to all Year 6 parents:

Applications for a secondary school place **must** be submitted by **31st October 2024**. This needs to be done online using this link:
<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary>

Winner of Christmas Fair Poster Competition

Kyla in Y6 won the Christmas Fair poster competition and will have her poster displayed around town and on social media. The other entries will be displayed around school. Well done to Kyla and everyone else who entered.

School Photo Orders



The deadline for orders of school photos is Friday 25th October. Any orders placed after this date will be charged for delivery.

Coaster Art Competition

Some of the children have come home with coasters to colour for the Twinkleton art colouring competition which is being run by South Street Gallery. The entries need to be returned Mrs Irvine before half term or to South Street Gallery and Framing, 86A South Street, RH4 2EW by 9th November. The winners will be informed by 30th November.

More coasters can be collected from the gallery. Please ensure entries have the first name of your child, age and parent/guardian contact details.

Christmas Jumpers

Christmas jumpers will be on sale at the FOSPA Christmas Fair. We are still taking donations of Christmas jumpers in the school office.



Egyptian Day

Year 4 experienced an incredible Egyptian day last week! The students dazzled us with their stunning and creative costumes, including Egyptian princesses, Pharaohs, mummies, and archaeologists – a huge thank you to all the parents.

The morning started with an enthralling Egyptian theatre show that not only entertained us but also provided an interactive learning experience. The fun continued with an engaging drama workshop, allowing children to showcase their acting skills.



In the afternoon, our creativity soared as we crafted and decorated Egyptian headdresses and wrote our names in hieroglyphics to create our very own cartouches. We also had a lot of fun cracking hieroglyphic codes. It was truly a day filled with discovery, creativity, and laughter – an experience that will be cherished for years to come!



Year 3

This week in DT, Year 3 were tasked with making healthy snack bars as an alternative healthy snack for breaktime. We planned what ingredients we were going to use and how we were going to use them in our cooking. We got to practice our mixing, chopping, grating and peeling skills and we had lots of fun!



Dates for the Autumn Term (new info in RED)

- 28th Oct to 1st Nov - Half Term
- 4th November—Back to School
- 5th November - YR Play Workshop, 9.15 am
- **6th November—Y5 Space Event (in school)**
- **12th November—Y6 Spirit of the Wild Zoo visiting**
- 14th November - Flu Vaccines
- **15th November—Children in Need Day**
- **20th November—Chestnut Class Assembly**
- **21st November—Willow Class Assembly**
- **22nd November—Y4 Cake Sale**
- **27th November—Y3 Victorian Day**
- **29 November—Mufti day for bottle tombola**
- 27th November - Maths Workshop 2, 6.15 pm
- 30th November - FOSPA Christmas Fair
- 10th December - KS2 Service, 9.30 am
- 10th December - KS1 Service, 2 pm
- 11th December - YR Nativity, 9.30 am
- 11th December - KS2 Service, **6 pm**
- 16th December - YR & KS1 Panto (in school)
- 18th December - Christmas Jumper and Lunch Day
- 20th December - End of Term (1.15 pm/1.30 pm)
- 6th January - INSET Day, School Closed to Pupils
- 7th January - INSET Day, School Closed to Pupils
- 8th January—First Day of Spring Term for Pupils

Restart a Heart

We had an amazingly informative session, Restart a Heart, with the air ambulance service, Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

In the session, we learnt about how to spot the dangers around a casualty, how to call 999, understand more about air ambulance pilots, administer CPR and understand what to do when a shock is given with a defibrillator.

There are 3 rules in an emergency:

Eyes open for danger

Loud, clear voices

Share knowledge to others about how to save a life.



We used our toys to role play what to do in an emergency. We first checked for dangers, we then checked the casualties response by checking their breathing (we had to tilt their chin back to open their airway) and then gave a light shake saying 'Can you hear me? Are you ok?.'



We then learnt how to call 999, knowing that we needed to speak clearly, say where we are (if we didn't know, shout for help), say if the patient is conscious and/or breathing and then start CPR when asked to. The most important thing was to stay calm.

To help, we were told that normal breathing is generally 2 breaths in 10 seconds.

At the end we were told about a defibrillator and we practised 'stand clear' when the shock was given.

Quotes from Juniper,

'Great lifesaving skills, gave me the knowledge of how to help a casualty.'

'It's amazing that 25,000 people are learning these skills in just one day.'

'It was really helpful and I now feel I will be able to help if anyone is in that position.'



Year 5

The children in year 5 have been wowing their teachers and fellow classmates this week with their amazing presentations on North America. Some decided to use powerpoint whilst others created posters



and even a suitcase with lots of interesting facts included. There have been presentations on a range of countries: Mexico, Canada, Nicaragua, Jamaica, Bahamas and United States have been popular choices. In all, the presentations the children have shown their knowledge of a range of topics such as food, important landmarks, animals and interesting festivals. The year 5 team are really proud of their efforts!

