



# NEWSLETTER

**ST PAUL'S C of E JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS & INFORMATION FOR PARENTS – Summer1 2017**

## YEAR 6 SATS

Year 6 gave a stellar performance during SATs week and we are incredibly proud of how they conducted themselves throughout the tests. Their efforts were rewarded with a fun-filled Friday, watching DVDs and playing board games. They also had a picnic on the field, eating cupcakes they had baked the day before. Each child's test results will be published in July as part of their end of year report.

## STAFFING UPDATE

Sadly, at the end of this term, we will say goodbye to Mrs Beldom, Mrs Law and Mrs Cross who are each off to pastures new.

Mrs Cross, Year 5 Team Leader, is moving north to 'God's Own County'. We wish her and her husband all the very best with the move and hope they will both be very happy in Yorkshire.

Congratulations to Mrs Law, Year 6 Team Leader, who is joining the staff at Colleton Primary School. From September, she will work as Deputy from Monday to Thursday, taking on the role of Headteacher every Friday. We wish her all the very best in her new senior leadership role.

Although only with us since September, both Mrs Cross and Mrs Law have certainly made their mark, ably leading our Y5 & Y6 teams and taking excellent care of our upper school pupils. They will be missed by colleagues and children alike.

Finally, after 17 years at St Paul's, Mrs Beldom has decided now is the right time for her to move on. Recently appointed as Head of Junior Games at Reddam House, she will take up her new post in September. Whilst it will be difficult to say farewell, there is no way that we can compete with an opportunity to work in purpose built, state of the art facilities which include five full sized football and rugby pitches, an indoor pool, a 125 acre site for cross country, netball and tennis courts, and a fully equipped gymnastics centre. And if that is not enough,

Mrs Beldom's new role involves a three day teaching commitment of PE, PE and PE – her dream job!

It is hard to do justice to the contribution that Mrs Beldom has made during her time here, both in terms of the sporting achievements of our pupils and the many accolades that she has earned for our school. She is well known throughout the school community for her commitment and passion for sport and has taught across all year groups, holding a range of roles, including class teacher, PPA teacher and Team Leader. It is difficult to imagine St Paul's without her. She will be greatly missed by everyone and leaves 'huge trainers' to fill!

## NEW SCHOOL GATES

The safety of our pupils is paramount and we recently commissioned the installation of electronic gates at the front of school. This completes the work to upgrade the security of our site and will significantly improve safety for students and staff. It will ensure that we are able to prevent unauthorised access to the carpark by members of the public and will prevent opportunists leaving vehicles in staff parking spaces to avoid paying parking fees at Wokingham Station.

The gates will shortly be operational and therefore we would be grateful if you could familiarise yourself with the following information:

- Parents will no longer be able to drive onto the site during school hours, except for blue badge holders. The only access permitted for others will be for those on foot.
- The gates will remain closed at all times between 8.00 am – 3.30 pm.
- To access school, park in the drop off/pick up space and then use the intercom. This will ring through to reception.



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In an effort to keep disruption to a minimum, we politely request that you avoid dropping off forgotten items. We can provide spare PE kit, access to drinking water and a school lunch for children who have forgotten such items, saving you an unnecessary trip to school.

### CATERLINK ALLERGY/SPECIAL DIET FORM

If your child has a food allergy, please download and complete the form [here](#). This must be accompanied by a medical note from a GP, consultant or dietician. If no form/medical note is supplied, it will not be possible for the kitchen to produce a gluten or dairy-free alternative for your child. A copy of the gluten free menu and allergen information can be found [here](#). Please ensure that your child is aware of what they can and cannot eat so that they order the correct lunch. Caterlink advise that for those requiring special diets for religious or cultural reasons, responsibility lies with the parents and child for ensuring that pupils do not order anything on the menu that is prohibited. A copy of the school menu is on the website and can be found [here](#).

Should you have any queries or wish to discuss the new guidance, please contact Caterlink directly on 0118 935 6700.

### BE SUN SAFE

Now the weather is starting to warm up, it looks as if summer may be on its way. We would be grateful if you could ensure your child brings a hat, sunglasses and a bottle of water to school each day, and that you apply a liberal amount of sun screen to their skin every morning. We will be reminding the children to ‘SLIP, SLAP, SLOP.’

- **SLIP** on some shades – UV protective glasses are the best
- **SLAP** on a hat - preferably with a wide brim
- **SLOP** on some sunscreen - on the parts of the body not protected by clothing. It is better to use a product which blocks both UVA & UVB.

### SWIMMING

As swimming is a compulsory part of the National Curriculum, every child is expected to participate in the weekly class session. If your child is unwell, please provide a letter detailing the medical reason for their

withdrawal for that week. If withdrawal is for more than one session, a letter or certificate from the GP will be required.

### CHARITABLE EVENTS

We have raised a huge amount of money during the last few months for a range of charitable causes. Thank you for your generosity and for helping us make a difference to the lives of others.

£492.65 was raised for Great Ormond Street Hospital by taking part in Bad Hair Day. All the children made a tremendous effort with some seriously whacky hairdos. This year’s winners were Molly Austin Y3, Heidi Skeates Y4, Edward Rea Y5 and Elizabeth Hart Y6. Mrs Stone won the staff prize.

We raised £713.56 for Red Nose Day. Owen Duxbury in Year 5 was the winner of the Caterlink Red Nose Pizza Competition. His pizza, ‘Harry Happy’, will be reproduced by the kitchen.

We recently enlisted the support of the NSPCC and their ‘Speak Out, Stay Safe’ programme of events. Through a special Safeguarding Assembly, they taught the whole school about how to stay safe from harm and seek help. This was followed by Safety Workshops for all Y5 and Y6 pupils. We also ran a workshop for parents, helping them to understand their child’s digital world and develop the knowledge and confidence to have those important conversations that keep children safe. There is a wealth of useful e-safety information available on our website. Do take a look!

By taking part in Buddy’s Challenge, we managed to raise a staggering £2821.76 for the NSPCC and ChildLine.

### READING WITH YOUR CHILD

There is a popular misconception that once a child becomes a ‘free reader’, they no longer need to be read to by an adult or heard read aloud. Research shows that children become independent decoders of text before developing higher order reading skills such as inference and deduction. To truly be a free reader, fluent decoding skills must be matched by excellent comprehension. The development of good comprehension relies on children having the opportunity to discuss texts in detail, make

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predictions and have opportunities to read 'between the lines'.

The only way to do this is for adults to read aloud to children and for children to read aloud on a regular basis. Reading for just 20 minutes a day and discussing the text has been found to make a significant difference to a child's life chances and future prospects in the world of work. At school, the children read aloud during shared and guided reading sessions, and sometimes on a one to one basis. In addition to this, our aim is that every child is heard read at home for at least 10 minutes a day. Our Reading Booklet for Parents can be found [here](#).

We welcome offers of help to read to, or with children and are currently looking to recruit volunteers. If you could spare an hour a week, we can provide a comfy chair, training and some fabulous children to work alongside. To see a child grow in confidence and fluency is such a rewarding experience and contributes to their success in every area of the curriculum.



Amber McIntosh competed in the Quattro Gymnastics Competition and achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> overall, gaining a bronze on floor, gold on beam and gold on bars. Well done Amber.

Amelie Bowles has competed in three gymnastics competitions over the past few months. She won a gold award for beam and bars, and bronze for her floor routine, giving her Silver overall. Amelie competed against 300 gymnasts from the south of England. Next came the Southern Region Compulsory Grades. Again, Amelie performed well, with a gold on bars, gold on vault and silver on beam. This saw her take bronze overall and qualify as one of four gymnasts to represent the South in the National Gymnastics Finals, where the top 52 gymnasts from England, Scotland and Wales come together to compete individually, as well as in regional teams of 4.

Amelie did tremendously well, achieving a gold on vault, silver on bars and a 6<sup>th</sup> place on beam. These high scores resulted in her taking the Bronze Award, and recognition as the 3<sup>rd</sup> best in GB!

#### LIBRARY ASSISTANT REQUIRED

A Parent Helper opportunity has become available in our library. We are seeking a friendly, well organised individual who is able to spare a few hours each week - if possible Monday and Friday, 2pm - 3:15pm.

The main responsibilities will be to loan and return books using the computerised system and offer help and advice to pupils. Training will be provided. Please contact the school office for more details.

#### PUPIL & SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Bryony Thornton recently passed her Grade 3 guitar exam with a High Merit. Well done Bryony.

The St Paul's Football 'A' Team took part in the EFL Kids' Cup Tournament at the Madejski Stadium. The team played fantastically well, with 4 wins and a draw. They then went on to win the quarter-final, semi-final and the final. They were invited to represent Reading FC in the next stage of the competition, held at Brentford FC, but unfortunately were knocked out. Well done to Joshua McMenemy, Roman Romanczuk, Eve Annets, Jaden Porter Atkinson, Ollie Smith, Max Smith, Oliver Balkwell and Joel Watson.

#### SAINSBURY ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

We will soon be sending off the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. If you have any still lying around, please send them in with your child; they should be posted in the box in the library.

*Please see overleaf for dates for your diary.*

## DIARY DATES

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	5C Class Assembly
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 8.55 – 9.55 am	Open Morning
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Group Photos
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 3.50 – 6.40 pm	Parents' Evening Session 2
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 9.15 am – 12.15 pm	Sports Day
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	4H Class Assembly
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Kendrick New Year 7 Taster Morning
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 11.15 am	3M Class Assembly
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 11.15 am	5D Class Assembly
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Summer Fair
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 St Crispin's Induction Day
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Induction Days at Bohunt, Emmbrook, Forest, Holt and Ranelagh Schools
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	5P Class Assembly
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 Girls Science and Maths Day at the Holt
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 6.30 – 7.30 pm	Year 6 Production
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 6.30 – 7.30 pm	Year 6 Production
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Reading Boys Induction Day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 11.15 am	3B Class Assembly
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 11.15 am	3D Class Assembly
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 6.15 – 7.45 pm	PTA Y6 Disco
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Service END OF TERM 2pm



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