



St Paul's C of E Junior School

Welcome back, everyone, and a very Happy New Year!

The next few weeks will be a challenge for every member of our school family but by following the rules, we are helping to keep others safe and alleviating some of the pressure on NHS workers risking their lives to save others.

Remote Learning

What a week it has been – definitely not the one we were expecting or hoping for. However, with your help, the children have been magnificent, taking remote learning in their stride. We could not be prouder of our pupils, parents and staff for their efforts over the last four days and by this morning, 353 out of 375 pupils had been present online, most of whom had attended daily live lessons and class drop-ins.

Should you experience difficulties accessing remote learning, please get in touch and we will help if we can:

Year 3 – year3onlinelearning@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

Year 4 - year4onlinelearning@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

Year 5 – year5onlinelearning@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

Year 6 – year6onlinelearning@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

This week, we loaned a number of laptops to families that do not have a device and we have also delivered Data SIM cards to families relying on phone data for school work. Pupils without access to a fixed broadband connection, may be eligible for a free mobile data increase from their provider as the DfE has partnered with mobile providers including EE, 3, Tesco Mobile, Smarty, Sky Mobile, Virgin Mobile on the move, and BT. Pupil Premium pupils without access to a fixed broadband connection, may be eligible for support with a 4G wireless router. For more information about both of these initiatives, contact IT_Tech@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

Laptops and Tablets

We are currently waiting for our next delivery of laptops from those allocated to us by the DfE but should you have a spare laptop or tablet you no longer use and would be happy to donate it to St Paul's, we will put it to good use for one of our pupils. Any donation does not need to be new but it will need to have had any history wiped. Mrs Brook, IT technician, will be happy to advise you how to do this.

Message For Parents Considered Critical Workers

On 8th January, the government updated their guidance for critical workers, stating that wherever possible, their children should not attend school if they can be cared for at home. Many of our class bubbles in Keyworker School are almost full and we now only have a limited number of spaces available.

To enquire about the possibility of a place, email keyworkers@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk

Thank You!

Thank you to all those parents who emailed their appreciation for the efforts of our staff this week. They are pulling out all of the stops and what a marvellous job they are doing! Your comments are testament to how hard they are working to ensure learning continues uninterrupted by lockdown:



- *When the news hit that we would all be home-schooling again, a sense of dread came over us all I'm sure, but the sheer hard work and swift response St Paul's have undertaken is no mean feat and you should all be congratulated.*
- *Working for another school, I am very aware how much work goes into the online learning facility and you have presented it all so seamlessly. My girls' live sessions are so well organised and engaging and the teachers are doing an amazing job.*
- *I am a full-time working parent, so I am grateful that I have been able to continue to do so, whilst still trying to support with learning at home but the main thing I am grateful for is some normality to my daughter's life, the engagement and interaction she is receiving and the amazing learning school is providing under such difficult circumstances.*
- *I just had to email to say a big thank you for a brilliant first week of online schooling via Teams. The week has been so well put together which must have been so much work for all, especially for you balancing children being at home and some in school. It's worked really well.*
- *The kids are absolutely loving the live lessons, being able to see their teachers and classmates makes them a lot more motivated...we appreciate it must be tough for the teachers doing this from home, so want to make sure they know it's appreciated.*
- *Thank you to all at St. Paul's for all that you are doing to help, teach, and support our children, both in school and virtually.*
- *I just wanted to pop a quick message to say how well the online lessons have gone this week. Both teachers have been amazing and so supportive. Thank you to all your team for putting such a well organised home learning strategy in place. We are very grateful for your hard work on this.*
- *I just wanted to say a massive thank you to all the staff working in school today. We really appreciate all your hard work. We think you are all fabulous!*



We Can Help



If you have had a change in circumstances or are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact us as we are keen to support any family experiencing difficulty in any way we can. As an agent of the Wokingham Food Bank, we are also able to make referrals for families for food parcels and winter fuel top ups and we can help with clothing and equipment. All enquiries are dealt with sensitively and in the strictest confidence.

If you need pens, pencils or paper so your child can complete home learning, get in touch and we will arrange a doorstep delivery the same day.

St Paul's C of E Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all pupils, staff, volunteers, visitors and external agencies to share this commitment.

Page 2 of 4

Should you have any concerns please speak to Mrs. J M Taylor, Designated Child Protection Officer.

Your child may be eligible for free school meals funding and Mrs Lander will be happy to advise and support you with the completion of an application. If eligible, we will register you for the Free School Meals Voucher Scheme which is £15 per child per week.

You may be able to claim if you are in receipt of:

- Universal credit (provided you have a net income of £7400 or less);
- Income support;
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance;
- Income-related employment and support allowance;
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit;
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less.

Bee House Children's Competition

As part of our ModeShift Star Environmental Accreditation we are asking as many pupils as possible to participate in the Bee House Competition that is being organised by Wokingham Borough Council. Bees are necessary for a healthy earth & human life. However, bees have been declining and 35 UK species are under threat of extinction. The good news is we can help and that is where you come in!



Competition Task: Choose from either Option 1 or Option 2:

Awards Winners will receive a pack of wild-flower seeds, book and certificate. Winners will also have their bee house/poster on display at schools or nearby area. There will be two Bee House Winners and two Bee Poster Winners

Option 1:

Make your own bee house and answer the following questions on your submission email;

- 1) Why are bees important to our environment and health?
- 2) How does air pollution affect bees?
- 3) What can we do to help them recover?

Option 2:

Create an A4/A3 poster to include a drawing design of a bee house. The poster will be designed to educate people about bees.

Do include on your poster;

- 1) Why bees are important to the environment or people's health
- 2) Effects that air pollution have on them
- 3) Tips on how people can help them

Please send your completed entries to chloe.ennis@wokingham.gov.uk, remembering to send a copy to admin@stpauls.wokingham.sch.uk too. All entries must be submitted by Sunday 28th February. We hope you enjoy learning more about the wonderful world of bees and look forward to receiving your entries.

For more details about the competition and how to submit your entries please see below.

Mrs C Foster, PE & Games Coordinator

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Page 3 of 4

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Message from School Nursing Team

The school nursing advice line has a new number - **0300 365 0010**. The advice line is available to support children, young people and their families who live in West Berkshire, Reading, Wokingham and Bracknell. We are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm and appreciate what a difficult and worrying time for everyone this is and that there have been additional pressures on children, families and young people. We can help and offer support regarding physical or emotional concerns.



Community School Nursing Team

Please note the amendment regarding the last day of term - there was an error in the previously published dates. Our thanks to Mrs Uhlig for pointing this out.

Diary Dates 2020	
Monday 4 th January	Inset Day – School Closed
Tuesday 5 th January	Start of Term
Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th February 2021	Half Term
Thursday 1 st April 2021	End of Term: 2.00pm Finish
Monday 19 th April 2021	Start of Term
Term Dates for 2021 can be found on the website here	

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Page 4 of 4

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