



St Paul's Newsletter

November 2021

Autumn Term

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school after what I hope has been a relaxing and enjoyable half term for you all. We are well and truly in Autumn now—my favourite time of year! My first half term at St Paul's went in a flash and I hope that parents have noticed some of the changes we have started to put into place so far. There are more exciting changes and plans for the rest of this term and the year ahead as the team and I continue to identify next steps and developments. The second half of the Autumn term is always busy and full of excitement as we prepare to celebrate Christmas (there—I've said it!). Further details can be found below.

Best wishes,

Mrs J Ferretti,

Headteacher.



A Harvest Thank you!

Thank you to all our families who were able to make a donation to our Harvest collection. The Well were very grateful to receive the goods which will have made a big difference to members of our community in need. Please see a letter of thanks from The Well at the end of this newsletter.

Flu Immunisations

A reminder that the School Age Immunisation Team will be in school on **Thursday 2nd December** to deliver the nasal flu spray to children in Reception to Year 6. Please return your consent forms (coming home this week) to your child's class teacher.



Music Lessons.



We are very proud of the range of musical opportunities on offer to children at St Paul's.

Parents of children in Y4-6 should have received a letter updating parents on this provision.

Bikes and Scooters -

A reminder for parents -

Please continue to encourage your child(ren) to push their bikes and scooters rather than ride them whilst on the school site to help keep everyone safe.



Thank you for your help with this.

Firework Safety



Many of our families may be looking forward to firework displays and bonfires in the coming days and weeks as part of Bonfire Night and Diwali celebrations. It is recommended that people attend organised displays, however, if planning your own fireworks display, please find important information and advice here;

<https://www.rospa.com/home-safety/advice/fireworks-safety>.

<https://www.wmfs.net/safety/in-the-garden/&fireworks>

We hope our children and parents are able to enjoy these celebrations with peace of mind that everyone is safe.

Welcome back

Some of you may have noticed Miss Hodgetts has been absent from school this term. We are delighted to welcome her back this week as **Mrs Boden**. I know she is looking forward to settling back in and getting to know all of the children in Reception. We are so pleased to have you back Mrs Boden!

Extended School Provision—update



Thank you to those parents who completed our Extended Schools Survey.

Please see below the answers to some of the questions raised—

Will the provision be OFSTED registered? Yes – parents will be able to claim Tax-free Childcare.

What activities will be offered? Children will have a range of activities including crafts, puzzles, toys, construction, games and outdoor play. We intend to involve the children in helping to plan activities that interest them.

Will my child just be watching TV? No, as explained above, there will be a range of activities on offer. There may be times, particularly towards the end of the club session that children may have a short amount of time to watch a TV programme or part of a film, just as many children might do at home before tea.

My working pattern changes weekly. Can I book different sessions each week? Yes, parents will be able to book and pay for the week ahead depending on their childcare needs for that week. Parents will be asked to confirm acceptance of the club terms and conditions when booking a place for their child.

Will other 'after school clubs' be starting? Yes, we hope to begin offering a range of after school clubs soon (separate to before and after school childcare).

We are currently recruiting for staff. Once this is in place we will be able to put our plans into action!

PE Kits

A reminder that children should wear PE kit to school on their class PE / Games day. Last half term, some children had started to wear items for PE that were not in line with school expectations. PE kit forms part of our school's policy on uniform as follows;

Trainers

Maroon shorts

St Paul's white PE t-shirt



**St Paul's tracksuit or maroon/black/navy/dark grey plain tracksuits
(no logos please).**

A pair of black pumps to be kept in school for indoor PE.

Other sports clothes / items / colours should not be worn.

PE kit forms part of the school's uniform—please ensure your child is wearing the correct kit.

We ask that earrings are removed on PE days.

Christmas 2021

We are hopeful that this year we will be able to enjoy some of our traditional Christmas celebrations including Christmas performances!



Children in Nursery and Reception (Early Years) will be performing a Nativity, as will children in Year 1 and 2 (Key Stage 1). Children in Year 3,4,5 and 6 (Key Stage 2) will be performing a Christmas Concert, telling the Christmas story through song, poems and readings. I am sure parents will be excited to come into school to enjoy these performances.

Performances will be as follows -

Key Stage 1- Tuesday 7th December. Performances at 1.30pm & 6.00pm

Early Years - Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th December at 10am.

Key Stage 2. Monday 13th December – performance at 1.30pm.

Tuesday 14th December – performances at 1.30pm & 6.00pm.

Further details regarding the performances and tickets will be sent home at a later date. Whilst we hope we will be able to welcome parents into school for these performances, **I'm sure you will understand that this is dependent on the advice and COVID situation at the time. The safety of our school community is paramount and should the advice at the time be against holding group gatherings, we will follow such guidance and cancel the performances. Alternative arrangements / options will then be considered.**

Behaviour

Over the last half a term we have been reviewing our Positive Behaviour Policy to ensure it is effective in promoting the behaviours we want our children to display.

It is important that we have high standards and expectations of our children to ensure they fulfil their potential and develop an understanding of the importance of making positive choices. We value the partnership we have with parents and this partnership plays a vital role in helping us celebrate good behaviour and deal with unacceptable behaviour effectively. Our revised policy clearly outlines the procedures that will be followed when children display unacceptable behaviour as well as those in place to celebrate children who make positive choices. We hope that parents will feel well informed and understand the actions we take in school around behaviour for your child. We will soon be asking parents to confirm acceptance of our **Home School Agreement** which is underpinned by our Behaviour Policy. This Home School Agreement forms an important part of our valued home-school partnerships.



Once finalised, our Behaviour Policy will be approved by Governors and shared via our school website. A link will be shared with parents at this time.

Attendance

I am aware that attendance is a contentious subject at the moment due to many children being required to stay home and await PCR results. However, I am sure parents will understand the importance (now more than ever) of children being in school when they are able to do so. As a school, we are required to inform parents when their child drops below a certain percentage. Some of you may have recently received a letter indicting that your child's attendance is a cause for concern. Of course, there may be genuine reasons for the absence which are recorded on the register and please be reassured that we understand this. We do ask that parents ensure that if their child is well and able to be in school that they do send them in. The impact of missed education is significant and can impact on children's life chances. If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please contact the school office on the morning of the absence to inform us of the reason. For safeguarding reasons, the office will contact the parents of children who are absent from school if parents have not already informed school themselves. We appreciate your assistance with this matter.

Continued concern over a child's attendance may trigger a home visit from our Education Welfare Officer who will offer the family support with their child's attendance.

Holidays

Time off during the term time can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Family holidays are unlikely to be deemed exceptional. When parents are considering taking their child out of school during term time, they must request, complete and return a Leave of Absence Form. Parents will then receive a letter informing them whether the absence will be authorised or unauthorised. Please note that unauthorised absence may lead to a referral to the Local Authority to issue a Penalty Notice



The Penalty Notice is for £60 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days and £120 per parent, per child if paid after this date but within 28 days.

Parent/Carer's have a duty to ensure their child/children's regular attendance at school and failure to do so is an offence under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

Attendance during one school year	Equals –number of days absent	Which is approximately this many weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed (5 per day)
95%	9 day	2 weeks	45 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	95 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	145 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	190 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	240 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	285 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	335 lessons.

Improvements to site security and safety

After the Summer holidays, you may have noticed a few changes (hopefully for the better!) around our school site. Over the half term, further work has been carried out to improve safety for all in and around school.

The footpath from the pedestrian gate to classrooms has been lifted and replaced in areas where the slabs were causing a risk to health and safety. The 'dips' in the pathway by the gate that pram wheels have been getting trapped in are also due to be filled in the next few weeks.

The area alongside the path that is edged with the knee high fence has been turned over and seeded with grass seed. Please can parents remain on the footpath at all times and not cut across this area and also ensure children do the same? Thank you.

We are fortunate to have such wonderful grounds. However, our numerous trees require high levels of maintenance! A new programme of tree and site maintenance has started this year.

There are also changes to the front entrance to school including an intercom that has been installed to the front doors. When arriving at school, please buzz the intercom (to the right of the doors) and a member of staff will be with you as soon as possible. Please don't interpret this as us wanting to 'keep parents out'! This is far from the case. It is simply a matter of ensuring the children are as safe as possible whilst in school and that any visitors entering the school building are authorised.

We have also upgraded the entry and exit points to require a card to make the doors release. Again, this will ensure that children are only able to exit the school building via the front doors with staff supervision. If you are collecting a child during the school day and are waiting in the entrance area, please understand that your child will have to wait for an adult to open the door for them before coming through.

Finally, to enable us to monitor who is on site at all times, we are having a new EntrySign system installed. If your child is late arriving at school (after 8.55am), you will be asked to sign your child in before leaving. Any parents coming into school during the day (for a meeting for example) will also be asked to sign in.

As a school we are committed to ensuring the wellbeing and safety of children, staff and parents and thank parents in advance for their understanding, patience and co-operation with this.

Parents' Evening

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on our upcoming Parents' Evenings. I hope you found that the booking forms were a quick and convenient way to book your preferred appointment time(s). Teachers will be sending out appointments on Tuesday 2nd November.

Poppies

Poppies and poppy items will be on sale from Monday 8th November in support of the Royal Legion Poppy Appeal. Please see below for items and prices;



If your child(ren) would like to buy any items, please send in the correct money in an envelope clearly marked with their name, class and what item they would like. Items will sent back home during the week.

Paper poppies – minimum 30p donation



Snap bands

suggested donation £1.50



Reflector

Suggestion donation 50p



Wristband

suggested donation - £1.00

Diary Dates



November Diary Dates -

1st - INSET Day. **School Closed to pupils.**

3rd—Shoebox Appeal Assembly

9th & 10th—Parents' Evening

12th - Children in Need

19th – Shoebox Collection Deadline

29th—Full Governing Body—5.30pm



January Diary Dates - Happy New Year!

4th January 2022— Children return to school.

24th - Young Voices—Years 5 & 6

December Diary Dates -



2nd - Flu Immunisation Team in school YR-6

7th—Year 1&2 Nativity (1.30pm & 6pm)

8th & 9th Nursery & Reception Nativity (10am)

10th—Christmas Lunch

13th & 14th Y3/4/5&6 Christmas Concert (1.30pm both days & 6.30pm 14th only)

15th—Christmas party day / Pantomime.

17th—End of term Carol Concert.

School closes for holidays at 1.30pm



Rainbow Christian Values;

Harmony, Patience, Honesty, Forgiveness, Thankfulness, Justice, Humility

Our Mission Statement;

Building each other up—with God as our firm foundation.

(The Bible: 1 Thessalonians 5:11)



St Pauls Church & St Pauls School
Emsworth Crescent
Pendeford
Wolverhampton
WV9 5NR

27 October 2021

Dear All

Re: Harvest Festival Donations 2021

Thank you so much for your generous support during this year's Harvest Festival season. The amount of food/toiletries donated by your church and school totalled **165.0 kg**

The need for food and toiletry parcels sadly continues to grow. Last year the number of individuals we supported rose again to over 11,600 people. Your support at Harvest Festival really does make a difference to those we support.

We received a lovely card from one of the recipients with this message:

'Thankyou for the food parcel. it was such a great help to me when I needed it especially being so seriously ill. God Bless you all.'

If you wish to know more about our work, do connect with us via our website, where you can sign up to our newsletter and link to our Social Media pages:

www.thewellwolverhampton.co.uk

Part of the foundation of The Well is partnership working – it takes a community! We are so grateful that you are part of this community during Harvest 2021.

In giving hope to others through your generosity, may you in return, know the love, joy and peace that comes from Jesus, the source of all hope.

Yours sincerely

Gary & Caroline

Gary & Caroline Price
Project leaders

