

St. Paul's Newsletter

October 2018

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Dear Parents – Mrs. O. DeMorais

What a fantastic start to the academic year we have had! Every day, I make sure I see all of the children in their classes, and am I constantly delighted by the purposeful atmosphere which is clearly evident; all of the children are working hard to achieve their very best. Constantly striving to better our attainment, my teaching team have once again set ambitious targets for all of the children. Please do make sure you book an appointment at one of the Parents' Evenings: you will be able to find out how your child has progressed since the start of their year and their targets for July, and also see the wonderful work in their books.

Many thanks to those of you who attended the Beginning of Year Mass, featuring my Induction as Headteacher of St Paul's: I have been overwhelmed by your kind words of support. I was very impressed with the levels of maturity and reverence shown amongst the children, particularly the children in Y6, who were responsible for leading the mass.

Finally, the R.E. Council have been working incredibly hard to raise their profile, and have begun to take a more active role in the planning and delivery of our weekly Gospel Assemblies. 'Prayer' was our key focus of September, and I am pleased that the children of St Paul's now have time to pray independently, and can access a wider range of prayers during our daily collective worship sessions.

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest celebration will take place on Tuesday 16th October in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, and you are all warmly welcome. As before, we are continuing to support East Elmbridge Food Bank, and the wonderful work they selflessly carry out to aid the community. As such, it would be very much appreciated if all of the children could bring in a Harvest gift to school on the morning of Tuesday 16th October in a 'bag for life' or strong plastic / paper bag. Previously, the children decorated cardboard shoe boxes. The staff at the centre have asked for donations to be brought in using bags this year, as the shoeboxes are too bulky, and the bags can be re-used. The children can decorate name tags for the bags, if they wish, or even leave a small message or card in the bag – anything is appreciated.

The children will need to be able to carry their own gift as they process into the church, which they will then hand it over to Father Rob or one of the Y6 helpers. Parents are asked not to bring in their child's offering for them, as this takes away from the child's experience of giving something tangible to help others. Please see below a list of items in short supply currently at the food bank:

Teabags / instant coffee / drinking chocolate
Tinned meat / fish
Tinned vegetables (no baked beans or pulses please)
Instant packets (rice, noodles, mashed potato, etc)
Ketchup / mayonnaise
Tinned fruit / custard / rice pudding
Biscuits and snacks
Pet food

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.



Easy fundraising –Mr. T. Cooper , Parent

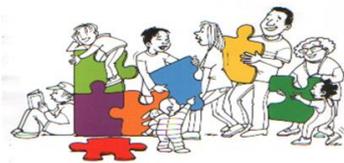
Welcome friends to yet another wonderful Easy Fundraising update. I am sure this is the highlight of many a month. Please remember that there really is almost nothing that you cannot get through Easy Fundraising. To register, go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk then find St Paul's Parents' Association - Thames Ditton

So far, our total raised is £9483.67 (on 17th September) with 189 supporters. Two new supporters this month but please help us get to at least 200 supporters as soon as possible. 200 will be roughly 50% of the parents at the school but do remember that grandparents, cousins, neighbours, clergy and even members of Little Mix can sign up.

If you are planning holidays or trips then there are numerous booking sites such as hotels.com (up to 6% donation), holiday insurers such as Endsleigh (10% donation) and flights such as Aer Lingus (1.13% donation – that's the Irish for you). Therefore a Catholic family holiday to Dublin could easily raise hundreds of pounds for our wonderful school.

Thank you to everyone on board and let us please keep trying to get more supporters. This is the key thing to our success. Spread the word, to misquote Father Rob.

Parenting Puzzle Course



Raising children can be puzzling at times, but puzzles have solutions – The Puzzle helps to provide them.

The Parenting Puzzle Nurturing Programme is a course that encourages and supports parents and carers to enjoy bringing up children of all ages and to get the best out of family life. It offers positive, practical ways of guiding children so they learn to handle both their feelings and their behaviour.

The sessions are informal, fun and a great confidence booster.

The next course will be starting at: Manby Lodge, Weybridge on Tuesday 9th October 2018 9.30 until 11.30. There will be a 2 week break 23rd October and 30th October, with the course finishing on Tuesday 11th December. (We would suggest you aim to arrive by 9.15 as parking can be tricky. There is parking in the surrounding roads by the cricket club)

Open to all parents and carers. There will be a cost of £40 per person or £50 per couple for the course which will cover the book and refreshments.

If you have any concerns re payment please give Teresa or Jo a call.

To find out more/book a place please contact Teresa Doe -07871079205 or Jo Carroll-Smart 077033 22068 - Home School Link Workers

Key Stage 2 Field Clothes-

Mr. G. Montorio- Veronese
Following the success of last the last two years, 'field clothes' returns again for Key Stage 2 children after October half-term.

Children in Years 3-6 are invited to bring in a pair of old trainers and a set of old clothes (large enough to wear over their uniform).

Wearing these clothes, one year group per day will go onto the field for football or free play at lunchtime.

All items must be in a named carrier bag; shoes and clothes must be labelled. These will be sent home at the end of each half-term. Please note that St Paul's P.E. kit cannot be used as field clothes

From Hallowe'en To All Hallows Eve – by Fr. Rob

It's hard to remain unaware of Hallowe'en in the run-up to October 31. Whole aisles in supermarkets get taken over with garish and ghoulish costumes (some of them potentially flammable, unfortunately!). 'Trick-or-Treat' and even 'Fright-Night' have entered the vocabulary of the young and the not-so-young, in part due to the money to be made from this apparently 'pagan' festival.

But of course Hallowe'en just means 'All Hallows Eve' (the night before the feast of what we would today call 'All Saints Day'). So Hallow-e'en is actually the beginning of a thoroughly Christian festival. On Thursday, November 1 we celebrate the memory of those who have taught us the Christian Gospel, our 'Super-Heroes of Faith' – and we'll have a mass for the whole school at 10.30am, to which parents are warmly invited. In turn, on November 2 we remember all those "who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith" – those dear to us and those remembered by no one. By our prayer we entrust them to God's merciful care.

Your family will doubtless make its own decisions about whether you are comfortable with Hallowe'en capers and the attendant marketing extravaganza. But expect St. Paul's School to focus, rather, on the two aspects of remembering the lives of the saints and praying for our deceased loved ones.

Back at home, it's a great opportunity to talk naturally and in an age-appropriate way about our mortality, explaining that we believe that Jesus conquered sin and death and opened the way to eternal life. Tell your child stories about saints –

Enrichment - Calling All Parents! Mrs. A. Rawsthorne

We are hugely grateful to all the amazing parents who led an Enrichment class last year. Thanks to you, our children learnt new skills such as flamenco dancing and musical theatre; they broadened their horizons with weird, gross or yummy food and interior design; they improved their wellbeing with 'fitercise', yoga and mindfulness.

Do YOU have an interest or talent you could share with our Key Stage 2 children? Could you give 45 minutes a week to help them learn new skills and open their eyes to new possibilities? If you do, we would love to hear from you! Please speak to your class teacher or email

enrichment@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk for more information.



House Captains & Vice-Captains for 2018-2019

*Emerald: Captain - Amelia B.
Vice-Captain - Essie G.*

*Ruby: Captain - Alexander H.
Vice-Captain - Sophia T.*

*Sapphire: Captain - Michael D.
Vice-Captain - Anna S.*

*Topaz - Captain – Isla O.
Vice-Captain - Natalia W.*

beginning with St. Paul! Tell your child stories about any grandparents, great-grandparents or other friends and relations who have died. Pray with your child, giving thanks for the life of the one who has died and the love that they shared with us. Teach them a prayer for the dead: *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.* And maybe just pop into church one day with them to light a candle in their memory.

Information from Subject Leaders

Literacy – Mrs. L. Hope

Last year, we were incredibly fortunate to have some wonderful parent-readers come in to hear our children read. Thank you to all who volunteered. We are keen to keep building on this amazing foundation and would love to increase the numbers of volunteers. The ideal number is 5 reader-helpers per class. With this in mind, do you have an hour to spare each week? Would you like to come and spend it listening to some fabulous stories read by our wonderful children? We are looking for DBS-checked (Disclosure & Barring Service – formerly CRB) mums, dads, grandmas and granddads to come and support our children's reading throughout the school by volunteering as reader helpers. If you would like further information about volunteering, or think you might be able to help, please drop me a note via your child's book bag telling me which day and time you would be available and I will endeavour to match you to a class. If you have a query regarding DBS checks please contact the School Office. Any parents that do volunteer will not be placed in a year group in which their child is currently being taught: this is to avoid the children becoming distracted from their learning.

Junior Library – Mrs L. Hope

St Paul's relies on the wonderful support of parental volunteers. We currently need volunteers to run the junior library so that the children may access it after school. Volunteers are required from 3:20 pm for approximately 30mins. All volunteers must be DBS checked which can be done via the office. This would be a lovely opportunity to nurture the children's love of reading and to create access to the fantastic books for all.

If you feel if you could help, please contact Mrs Hope via the office at info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk

Infant Playground Equipment – Mr. P.Yarnell

The children beamed with delight when they entered the playground to see that new play equipment had arrived in the Key Stage 1 area. There is a wooden train which is split into 3 different parts, as well as a traversing wall across the side of the playground. These both allow the children to enjoy playtimes even more, but also gives the children more physical development opportunities, and so maintain a healthy lifestyle. Both these new pieces of equipment have been a huge success with so many of the children choosing to play on them, and helping them to design a different style and variety of game using the equipment.

KS2 Autumn (1) House Photography Competition – Mr. P.

James

Fancy yourself as a budding photographer?

Would you like to earn points for your House?

Then it is time to get snappy with our Science Photography Competition.

The theme for all competition entries is 'Autumn' and the judges will be looking for the most creative / inventive use of your photographic eye; but remember, all photos must depict something about autumn, and must be un-edited!

Winning entries from each year group will earn their Houses 5 points; runners-up will earn 3 points and everyone who enters will earn 1 point.

All entries must be handed to, or sent electronically to Mr. James by Friday 19th October 2018.

Good Luck and Happy Snapping!



Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Hampton Court Way, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0LP
Telephone 020 8398 7475 (9.30am to 12.30pm)

Last Few Places Available at Our Lady's Nursery

If your child was born between September 2014 and August 2016 you may like to apply for a place, at Our Lady's Nursery Thames Ditton (based in Our Lady of Lourdes Church)
Application forms are available from the nursery or they can be

downloaded from our Website <https://www.olnursery.org.uk/>

If you have any questions you can contact us by email info@olnursery.org.uk or telephone on 0208 398 7475.

Secondary School Application 2019/2020 –

Mrs. L. Busuttill
Deadline for secondary school applications for Year 6 pupils is 31st October. However Surrey County Council suggests you submit your application by 19th October 2018 which is the Friday before the half term holiday

Attendance for September 2018

0B	98.2%	3P	97.8%
0M	98.1%	4B	98.1%
1E	96.2%	4J	99.2%
1L	99.4%	5T	98.0%
2M	99.5%	5A	97.0%
2F	100 %	6A	97.2%
3J	97.6%	6M	97.2%

Congratulations to St Francis for achieving 100%

MUSIC – Mrs. E. Neaves-Thomas

Thank you to all the KS2 parents who have embraced our 'learn an instrument' initiative and supplied their children with recorders and books. I have been overwhelmed by the children's enthusiasm during their first lessons. Here are some of the children's responses when asked why it's good to learn an instrument: 'it makes you and others happy', 'you can make new friends if you join a group', 'you can learn to read music' and 'it's something else to do when you've had enough of running around!' Thanks for your support and patience as they now master how to make a beautiful sound.

I am very excited to announce that the children of St Paul's will be producing a CD of Christmas carols this year, which will be on sale at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 1st December.

There will also be an art competition for the children to design the CD cover. Details will follow.

Choir rehearsals will take place on Thursday mornings from 8.30 - 8.50am in the music room, **starting on 11th October**. Please email the school office if you'd like your child to join. No previous experience of singing in a choir is required - everyone is very welcome. The recording company will be in school during the morning of **Friday 23rd November**.

I am also pleased to announce that I will be running monthly informal lunchtime concerts on Thursdays throughout the year. These are a great way to give children learning instruments regular opportunities for performance so they grow in confidence. I'm looking forward to seeing as many children as possible sign up.

News from the Office – Mrs. E. Nicholas

Notice Period to Change School Meals – Mrs. S. Thuilliez

Should you wish to make a change to your child's meal arrangements after half-term, please remember to give notice to the school office via email to meals@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk before we break for the half term holiday.

School Nurse Service – Mrs. S. Thuilliez

Our pupils are supported by a school nursing service provided by Central Surrey Health, which is contracted by the NHS. The school nurses work as part of a wider 0-19 years Children and Families Service. These teams are committed to supporting the health, development and wellbeing of all those aged between 0-19 years. The 0-19 Team is comprised of specialist practitioner school nurses and health visitors, staff nurses, nursery nurses and clinical health assistants. Therapist such as speech and language therapists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists may also see children with specific needs.

The school nursing team provide:

- Health Screening
- Health Education as part of the school curriculum: for example, healthy life style choices
- Advice, support and referral to specialist services such as Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy
- School staff training on a range of medical issues e.g. use of Adrenaline Auto Injectors for children with allergies and asthma management
- Additional services for children and families with specific needs.

The school nursing team is also available to provide support to parents and carers on a range of health issues that may be concerning them, and where appropriate signpost to appropriate services. Further information including contact details can also be found on CSH Surrey's website

Punctuality – Mrs. L. Pryor

Many thanks to all the parents who ensure that their children arrive on time to school with all their equipment ready to start the lessons.

School day starts at 9.00am, but you are able to drop your children off at the gate at 8.45am. If you arrive after 9am, please sign your child in at the office. This will be recorded in the register. If you arrive after 9.10am, when the register closes, please note that this will be recorded as an unauthorised session. Lateness is monitored on

Health and Safety-

Mrs. E. Nicholas

Please be reminded that dogs are not allowed on school premises as per the notice on the school front gate.

Our Lady of Lourdes Paris Winter Party 2018

Join us for a night of live entertainment, hot food,

auction & raffle

Date: Saturday 10th

November

Venue: Vera Fletcher Hall, Thames-Ditton

Time: 7.30-11.30 pm

Price: £25.00. For more information

contact:mickelleroberts@hotmail.co.uk



a regular basis and letters will be sent home to inform parents if there is a concern about punctuality.

School day ends at 3.15pm for KS1 (Reception to Year 2) and 3.20pm for KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6). Please ensure prompt collection and note that late collections will be logged.

SPPA

We hope you have all had a good return to school and are managing to settle down to the 'back to school' routine. We at SPPA are hoping that everyone will be able to make the most of the opportunities for both parents and children to come together as a community, enjoying the company of new friends while having an enormous amount of fun raising vital funds for our school.

Upcoming SPPA Events for your diary**Pre-Christmas Shopping Evening – 1 November 2018**

SPPA is putting together a pre-Christmas shopping evening. Please come along and enjoy a quiet evening with like-minded mums.

Mufti Day – 2 November 2018 TOYS

Children can wear their home clothes to school in return for a toy. Toys should be new or nearly new and suitable for primary school children. Any soft toys must have their safety tags intact (the material tag sewn onto the toy showing the safety symbol). Collections will be from both gates.

Collection for Surprises Room

Donations of new or unused items such as toiletries, bags, purses, scarves, books for mum/dad/grandparent will be gratefully received. This has become one of the most popular rooms at the Fair, the children love choosing and presenting their gifts. So please, dig out and donate unwanted gifts so that this year, the Surprise Room will be well stocked. Please note: this is NOT a Mufti Day.

Christmas Fair – 1 December 2018

The Christmas Fair team have a wonderful afternoon of festive fun planned for everyone. This is a very special event and cannot run without everyone's help. The class reps will be in contact for volunteers for the stall rotas – please do support the Fair by volunteering for the rota.

St Paul's Catholic Primary School New October Half Term Holiday Camp (with 15% discount for St Paul's pupils)

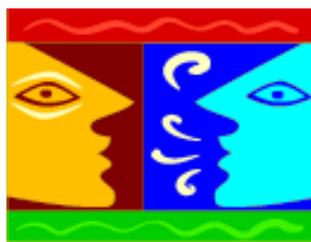
Come and enjoy a fun-packed schedule of great activities, including Dance, Dodgeball, Outdoor Team Games, Benchball, and Special Feature Days at our HYPE and Football Camps from Monday 22nd to Friday 26th October.

Extended day: 08.15 to 17.45 – 15% discount price for St Paul's pupils £25.50

Standard day: 09.30 to 16.30 – 15% discount price for St Paul's pupils £22.10

Booking via our secure online system will be available shortly - www.360sportseducation.com. For further information please email enquiries@360sportseducation.com or telephone 01252 918888 with any questions.

Dates for your Diary



Parent to Parent

The last day for submission to the November newsletter is Monday 8th October. Please forward all wording as a Word attachment to info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk

October	Autumn Term
Wednesday 3 rd	9.00am- Reader Helper Training in Junior Library
Thursday 4 th	8.00am- E-Safety and Trip Volunteers Talk - Led by Miss Willcox 3.30pm- E-Safety and Trip Volunteers Talk - Led by Miss Willcox 6.30pm- E-Safety and Trip Volunteers Talk - Led by Miss Willcox
Friday 5 th	SPPA Mufti Day (bottle collection) 9.00am- Parents' Forum Meeting
Monday 8 th	Last day for submissions to the November Newsletter
Thursday 11 th	Year 4 will visit Butser Farm 9.30am- St. Thomas Class Assembly. Parents naturally welcome. 6.30pm - Talk for Parents whose children are going on the year 4, year 5 and Year 6 residential trips.
Friday 12 th	3.30pm – SPPA Second-Hand Uniform Sale
Monday 15 th	Florence Nightingale Museum – Year 2M
Tuesday 16 th	10.30am-Harvest Festival Service – Fr Rob and Fr Jonathan 4.30pm - Whole school parental interviews in hall – No clubs
Wednesday 17 th	Florence Nightingale Museum – Year 2F
Thursday 18 th	Feast: St. Luke the Evangelist 9.30am - Open morning 4.30pm- Whole school parental interviews in hall- No clubs
Friday 19 th	School closes for half-term (3.15pm for infants, 3.20pm for juniors)
Monday 29 th	In service training, no school for pupils
Tuesday 30 th	School re-opens for pupils. All pupils should be wearing winter uniform
November	
Thursday 1 st	Feast of All Saints 6.30pm- Talk for Y6 parents - SATs and reporting process 7.30pm- SPPA Shopping Event
Friday 2 nd	SPPA Mufti Day (toys)