

St. Paul's Newsletter

March 2018

Hampton Court Way, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0LP Telephone: 0208 398 6791

Web site: www.stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk e.mail: Info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk

INSIDE THIS

NEWSLETTER

- 1 Dear Parents
- 2 Headteacher's Awards
Easy Fundraising
Information from
Subject Leaders
- 3 News from the Office
SPPA
- 4 Parent to Parent
Dates for your Diary
- 5 Summer Ball Invitation
- 6 Summer Ball Booking
Form

Dates for 2018/2019

These dates do not include the in-service training days which will be added when the school calendar is published in June 2018.

Autumn Term 2018
4th September – 19th
December
Half term 22nd – 26th
October
Spring Term 2019
3rd January – 05th April
Half term 18th – 22nd
February
Summer Term 2019
23rd April – 24th
July

Dear Parents – Mrs. M. F. Johnson

This is my 'signing off' message as such I feel the weight of creation, can I actually find the words to express what you have all meant to me?

Firstly your children, I adore them and I know they know this. Each day I am met with their constant smiles and considered kindness, as a career mine has been a blessed one. They, and all pupils I have been blessed to know, have been my joy, confirming this in a recent article when I shared I have never worked a day in my life, something I hope each child will aspire to.

In 1990 St Paul's was a very different school. Only three staff cars, no fences around the playgrounds, no external locks on the doors. Each class had one single electrical socket and the dark green chalk boards. The 100 pupils were taught by a staff of eight and this included the admin team, premises and catering staff! My goodness when I think back I realise how far education has advanced, the quality of learning now experienced by our children is exceptional.

The parent body though has never changed. They were very well informed in 1990 and remain so today. Parents who ensured they chose the best school for their child, knowing what makes an excellent school is irrespective of whether you pay or not. Parents who value education and support the school they have chosen. How lucky am I to have been surrounded by this gift for 28 years, indeed how lucky am I.

As always we have lots to share in our newsletter, staff are very busy preparing for the excitement of World Book Day. Mrs Hope has arranged the most extraordinary day. I will be taking photographs during the day to post on the school's Twitter account @stpaulstd so you can all share in the fun whilst it is happening.

Our sports teams are doing very well indeed, under the excellent leadership of Mr Birkbeck.

It is at this time of year our Year 6 children hear from their chosen secondary schools. We have much to celebrate as we are very fortunate indeed to have such wonderful secondary schools available to St Paul's students. The Ursuline High School, Salesians in Chertsey, St Andrews and the Holy Cross remain favoured. But also congratulations to the children who sat entrance tests, as I have seen success upon success with many exhibition or scholarships being awarded.

My final word is a detail one, anything else wouldn't be like me! I am aware that a new initiative of replacing the top button with Velcro is creeping into our school. A rather enterprising company have seen what they felt was a gap in the market – but is just isn't. The Velcro collars are easy to spot as they fail, the Velcro stops working and the collar is left open. The top button is a challenge but one that is easily mastered, I suggest any new shirt is washed to soften the fabric removing the stiffness. Please ensure when you purchase a new shirt that you avoid the failing Velcro.

Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to the following children who were awarded the Headteacher's Award this half term.

St Bernadette	Riley E.	Adam F.	Kathryn M.
St Matthew	Ludwig C.	Eleanor G.	Alannah M.
St Luke	Finn C.	Ben P.	Joshua T.
St Elizabeth	Finley C.	Katie C.	Euan L.
St Francis	Alex F.	Eleanor M.	Jack P.
St Mary	Lucie C.	Ollie N.	Serena W.
St John	Anya D.	Cillian M.	Thomas B.
St Peter	Evangelina E.	Molly M.	Dylan N.
St Joseph	Oriane B.	Charlotte C.	Jamie R.
St Bernard	Parmin E.	Annie D.	Evalyn M.
St Anne	Katie B.	Michael D.	Lara K.
St Thomas	Amelia B.	Essie G.	Lorenzo S.
St Anthony	Emilia D.	Finbar S.	Eloise T.
St Margaret	Samuel C.	Xenia D.	Liam O.

Easy fundraising –Mr. T. Cooper



As the school nears a new and exciting chapter post Mrs Johnson, I have been advised by my publishers to start my monthly missive in a fresh manner. Hopefully you all know what a fantastic boost for SPPA, Easy Fundraising has been over the years, and continues to be. 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 £8746.46(on 8th February) with 184 supporters. 4 new supporters since my last update and so thank you very much you wise people, you.

You may recall my Valentine's day dilemma last month but, sorry ladies and Dave, all went well and I will not be needing Divorce Online (5% donation) or Co-Op funeral care (£50 donation). The next minefield is mother's day (not smother's day Goldberg fans) so probably the safe option is flowers from Floraqueen (6%) and a card from notonthestreet.com(2.5%). Mrs C will definitely believe that the kids have organised this.

Thank you to everyone on board and let us please keep trying to get more supporters. This is the key thing to our success

Information from Subject Leaders

I.C.T- Mr. P. Yarnell

On Tuesday 6th February, the children took part in "Safer Internet Day 2018" with schools all around Europe. Discussing the importance of understanding how the internet can be a useful tool, we thought about how to staying "SMART" in our online actions. **S**afety in not sharing personal information, not **M**eeting people from on line, not **A**ccepting strange e-mails, understanding that what we read may not be **R**eliable and that we can always **T**ell an adult about things which take place. All year groups included learning about e-safety and through assemblies, we shared about acting responsibility with comments and actions which we make online.

Arts - St Paul's Puppet Show- Year 3 and Year 5 - Miss. A. Adams

In the last week of January, year 3 and 5 children performed 'Ra, The Shining Sun God' creation myth to parents and children. For those of you who saw the performance, I'm sure you'll agree it was spectacular! There were many amazing puppets being created such as fish, Egyptian people, camels, crocodiles, snakes and many other mythical creatures. Being able to make one puppet per child, using a range of materials was a brilliant opportunity, and the end products looked fantastic! Once the puppets were all assembled, the year 5 children worked together to write a script and both year groups rehearsed for a production to show off their puppets! But of course, this could not have been done without the supportive help of Tony, Martin, Anna and Carol.

We had a lot of fun and hope that the years after will be just as great as well!



Change of contact details

-Mrs. L. Busuttill

If you have changed phone numbers or moved house or job would you please inform the office of the details at the earliest opportunity? This is to ensure that staff can contact parents should the need arise.

February Attendance

OB	93.2%	3J	96.6%
OM	95.6%	4B	98.6%
1E	96.9%	4J	96.1%
1L	93.9%	5A	93.1%
2M	96.9%	5T	98.0%
2F	96.0%	6A	96.1%
3P	97.8%	6M	95.6%

*Well done to **St Bernard** for achieving best monthly attendance*

Clubs

- Mrs .L. Pryor

Please be reminded that pupils who have enrolled for a club are expected to attend weekly. Should your child not be able to attend a session, please notify the office by sending an email to info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk

Forgotten Equipment

- Mrs. L. Pryor

Please ensure that your child comes to school in the morning with everything that they require for the day. It is disruptive to the office staff and your child's class to be constantly interrupted with forgotten water bottles, book bags, packed lunches, coats, P.E. kits and football kits etc.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

News from the Office – Mrs. L. Smith

Clarification of absence policy- Mrs. L. Pryor

It is the parents' responsibility to telephone the school daily before the start of the school day on any day of absence. If the duration of the absence is known, please ensure the school office is informed. If an absence is unexplained the school office will telephone the parents on the first day of absence. If there is a further unexplained absence, the school will continue to telephone on a daily basis. All absences due to illness should be followed by written confirmation via email to info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk, addressed to the class teacher, when the child returns to school

Report Surgery- Mrs. L. Pryor

Please be reminded that only children who are meeting with their teacher can attend the report surgery. Please ensure you have made suitable childcare arrangements as children cannot be left unsupervised in the school. We thank you for your cooperation.

How You Can Help Improve Attendance – Mrs. L. Pryor

- Make sure your child understands the importance of good attendance and punctuality.
- Don't let your child miss school for minor ailments.
- Arrange appointments and outings after school hours or at weekends or during school holidays.
- Check the school website and newsletters for term dates when planning holidays.

We understand that children are often poorly and are genuinely unable to attend school. Please ensure that they return to school as soon as they are able to do so.

It is vital that your child is in school regularly in order to access the full curriculum.

Lateness – Mrs. L. Pryor

Please ensure that children arrive on time every day.

When pupils arrive late, they miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of the lesson. This can significantly reduce achievement. Furthermore, when one pupil arrives late, it disrupts the entire class and the teacher – everyone's education is compromised.

SPPA- St Paul's Parents' Association

Upcoming SPPA events for your diary:

Friday 16th March – 2nd Hand Uniform Sale.

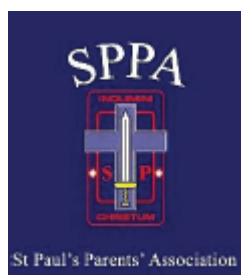
Depending on weather this will be held on the school field or in the studio – further details to follow

New members

If you are interested in joining SPPA but not quite sure what it's all about or what you would be expected to do, please come along to our informal meeting on the 25th April. We are going to meet at the Greyhound Pub in Thames Ditton at 7.30pm to provide an opportunity to hear about why the school needs SPPA and the events we have planned. We would also love to hear of new ideas for fundraising opportunities.

However if you have a great idea or would like to organise and lead a one off event without joining the committee, please do let us know.

Of course you don't have to wait until April, new members are very welcome at any time of the year so please contact us if you would like to join. Email us at sppa@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk



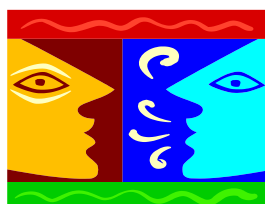


Outside of Easyfundraising.co.uk, there are other ways of helping SPPA

Thinking about selling your House?? Please consider selling with Savill's in Esher as they will donate £1,000 of their fees to SPPA for properties sold through them by St Paul's Parents.

If your children need new school shoes, please consider buying them from Hopscotch in East Molesey.

For every pair of school shoes bought by St Paul's parents, Hopscotch will donate £1 to SPPA. Just mention St Paul's when making a purchase.



Parent to Parent

The last day for submission to the April/May newsletter is Thursday 15th March. Please forward all wording as a Word attachment to info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk

SPPA presents - St Paul's Masquerade Ball

Get your dinner suits and party frocks ready, for our most exclusive Summer Ball yet! This year we are holding a masquerade ball at the beautiful Littleton Studios in Shepperton on Saturday 16th June 2018. Having been the biggest fundraising event last year, we want to smash the £11k we made and are planning some exciting auction and raffle prizes to do just that! So make sure you get your table organised and book your tickets early, to ensure your place at this year's event to attend.

Matched Fundraising

We have an opportunity to DOUBLE the funds raised from the Summer Ball and it is an opportunity too good not to pursue, with your help. Large organisations, such as banking, oil, insurance companies and large accounting, consulting and legal firms offer a matched funding initiative for their employees by matching the fundraising of their employees' schools.

How does it work:

The matched-funding is usually specific to an event, and there are usually three conditions that need to be met:

- that the money raised is for a charity / community organisation;
- that your child is at the school;
- documentation is handed in two weeks prior to the event

Who benefits:

Matched funding provides a win-win scenario. Organisations get great press as part of their CSR programmes and the school doubles its fundraising, meaning the children can benefit from the investments that the funding provides far more quickly.

How can you help:

If you think your firm offers matched funding, please get in touch with SPPA Naomi Brenchley naomiprice1@yahoo.co.uk All you will need to do is obtain details of the documentation required. SPPA would do the legwork of completing the forms so that they can be submitted by you. A successful application would make a significant difference to the level of funds raised!

Dates for your Diary

March	Spring Term
Thursday 1 st	World Book Day
Tuesday 6 th	1.30pm- Reconciliation Service for Years 4-6 (in school)
Wednesday 7 th	9.30am Reception Screening with the School Nurse
Thursday 8 th	9.30am- St Matthew's Mother's Day assembly
Friday 9 th	9.00 am -Class representatives meeting 10.30am - St Bernadette's Mother's Day assembly
Monday 12 th	St Anthony's will visit Henley Fort Home Front Day
Wednesday 14 th	Reception will visit Alice Holt Woodland Centre
Thursday 15 th	Year 3 visit to Alice Holt Woodland Park Yr 4 River Field Trip 9.30am - St Francis class assembly, parents naturally welcome.
Friday 16 th	Year 1 will visit Milestone Museum 3.00 - SPPA second hand uniform sale
Saturday 17 th	9.00am - Esher District Cross Country Competition
Monday 19 th	All clubs finish this week
Wednesday 21 st	Reports to be sent home Year 2 Fire of London trip 1.00pm- DVD afternoon
Thursday 22 nd	9.30am -Yr 5 will visit Hampton Court
Friday 23 rd	9.30am - The Way of the Cross
Monday 26 th	7.00pm -SPPA - Comedy Night for Parents
Tuesday 27 th	4.30pm Report surgery
Wednesday 28 th	10.30am-End of term Holy Week Mass
Thursday 29 th	School closes at 1:15pm for all pupils for Easter Holiday
April	Summer Term
Monday 16 th	School re-opens for pupils, all children to wear their summer uniform. This term's charity is Street Child Africa

St Paul's Masquerade Ball

Saturday 16th June 2018

Drinks Reception: 7pm

Carriages: Midnight

Dress: Black Tie

Littleton Studios, Shepperton

Tickets

£55

For ticket information,
please contact
naomiprice1@yahoo.co.uk



St Paul's Masquerade Ball



Summer Ball Booking Form

10 people per table, with 1 lead to co-ordinate payment, food and drinks menu etc with SPPA.

Booking forms plus payment by cheque (cheques to be made payable to SPPA) to be handed into the school office,
FAO: SPPA Ball Committee.

TABLE LEAD NAME & EMAIL:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.