

St. Paul's Newsletter

November 2018

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Dear Parents – Mrs. O. DeMorais

Welcome back; I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half-term. Unbelievably, we are already one sixth of the way through this academic year! All of our new children have settled in beautifully, due to the kindness and inclusive nature of our wonderful staff and children.

I would like to thank you all for an incredible rate of attendance over the last term. At St Paul's, our attendance figures are excellent: pupils are very prompt and lateness is rare. Unfortunately, any lesson missed results in a gap in learning. Either the current teacher, or subsequent teachers, will identify this gap and have to ensure this is filled, if the correct foundations for learning are to take place. As such, an absence taken as a choice brings with it a cost to the other children, as their teacher is gap-filling for a child whose parent chose to remove them. Please ensure that any absence taken by your child is a necessity.

Nearly 100% of you took the time to complete and return my R.E. questionnaire; thank you for taking the time to complete it. Your overwhelmingly positive feedback was wonderful to receive over half-term, and I am looking forward to working with the community over the next academic year to ensure your views are listened to.

Last term was action-packed, and the newsletter is bursting with write-ups of all of the events; we hope you will find it interesting and informative. As always, thank you for your support and encouragement: your kind emails recognising the work of the teachers are always highly valued, as is your continuing support with costumes or donations for Harvest. You really make this school incredibly special.

Harvest Festival – Miss. M. Rodriguez- Lopez

On Tuesday 16th October, we held our annual Harvest Festival at Our Lady of Lourdes in which we collected food for the East Elmbridge Food Bank. The children were very excited as they always cherish the opportunity to help those who are less fortunate than them. This year, instead of using shoe boxes to collect the food, children were asked to bring a bag life or a paper bag so it could be re-used later on. We all thought that this was a lovely, environmentally-friendly idea. The food bank organisers said that it was the largest collection they have ever received and really appreciated how the Year 6 children and teachers stayed behind at the end of the service in order to help load the food into the cars. This just proved how team work and kindness can go a long way! We would like to thank you all for all of your kind and generous donations: without the support from you, none of this would have been possible.

Rosary Club – Mrs. N. Cleeve

What a wonderful turnout for the Rosary on World Rosary Day on 18th October! As part of the 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary' initiative, Mrs Asbury, a parent of a child in 5T, initiated the lunchtime Rosary, which was attended by a phenomenal 70 children from KS2! The children recited the Rosary together beautifully, and reflected on the Joyful Mysteries. We are sure Mary was smiling down from heaven as the children sent up their prayers to her. Thank you to Mrs Asbury and Mrs Henderson for giving up their time to come in to school for such an inspiring gathering.





Headteacher's Awards – October 2018

Headteacher's Awards are presented at the end of each half term during one of our celebration assemblies. There are three awards per class for outstanding achievement in any area. Therefore not all children will necessarily receive one within a given year. All teaching staff will endeavour to ensure children's strengths are recognised and rewarded so that every child has the potential to gain at least one award per Key Stage.

Congratulations to the following children:

St Bernadette	Dara G.	Sienna J.	Amy P.
St Matthew	Cody R.	Cara J.	Annabel Y.
St Luke	Mikey A.	Aleksandra G.	Martha S.
St Elizabeth	Noa D.	Joshua H.	Carter K.
St Francis	Hendrix B.	Taya W.	Sam W.
St Mary	Arthur C.	Emilie Rose H.	Freddy S.
St John	Amelie M.	Jack M.	Olivia W.
St Peter	Elsie D.	Louisa G.	Sully L.
St Joseph	Sarah A.	Hannah C.	Martha M.
St Bernard	Gabriella C.	William C.	Cara K.
St Anne	Maria B.	Hudson K.	Eben R.
St Thomas	Sophia D.	Niamh J.	Farris F.
St Anthony	Katie B.	Jasper L.	Joseph F.
St Margaret	Liam F.	Anna S.	Chiara T.

Private School Reports – Mr. A. Widdop

We are beginning to receive requests for report-writing for children wishing to apply to private schools. Please note that we have one standard form that teachers are able to fill out for each pupil, which means that parents need only pay one fee of £25 for each pupil rather than for each request. All private schools request a written report from St Paul's - as such can you please forward the admin fee of £25, with written explanation at the time you apply to the private school.

Easy fundraising –Mr. T. Cooper , Parent Governor

Welcome, friends, to an autumnal Easy Fundraising update. Better than a pink gin and tonic, this must be the highlight of your 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 £9517.91 (on 8th October) with 190 supporters. Just one new supporter 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 any pop group can sign up. I mentioned Little Mix last month and I have had a very cross email from the St Paul's Showaddywaddy fan club, who were feeling excluded. Sorry Mr Donnelly.

Anyway, by the time you read this, Christmas will be approaching and, assuming many of you will be buying a pony for your bundle of joy, I suggest Monster Pet Supplies for all of your pony needs (3.5%). For those who do not love their children quite as much, Toyday Toys (3.5%) is worth a visit and for those who mistakenly think their children would prefer an "experience", I suggest Groupon who will donate up to 6.5%. I have no doubt that Mrs C will love her trip to the Knitting and Stitching show in London.

Thank you to everyone on board and let us please keep trying to get more supporters. This is the key thing to our success. Treat the word about Easyfundraising like an olive oil margarine, and spread it.



Wellbeing Co-ordinator – Mrs B. Thordsen

I feel excited and privileged to have taken on the new role of Emotional Wellbeing Co-ordinator for the children. I am currently training to become an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant), and am keen to share with you the work that I carry out with the children.

My role is to offer a non-judgemental ear, in order for the children to offload any emotional baggage, so that I can make a positive difference in their school life, making sure they feel safe, secure, confident, supported and happy. By getting in touch and encouraging the children to speak about their emotions, my sessions let them know that they will be listened to, allowing them the freedom to learn and apply increased concentration in class. The children are aware that they can come and see me at lunchtimes (Monday to Wednesday) to discuss any matters that are causing worry and anxiety.

My position is one that allows me to develop interventions in the following areas:

Emotional awareness

Anger-management

Self-esteem

Social and communication skills

Friendship skills

Loss and bereavement issues

I will be working closely with the class teachers to help identify children in need of support, to allow for effective learning. I look forward to ensuring school is a happy place, and a place that your child can be heard.



Mrs B. Thordsen

Educational Visits

Year 2 trip to Florence Nightingale Museum Monday, 15th October and Wednesday 17th October -

Mrs. H. Townsend and Miss E. McDonald

After the success of last year, we went back to visit the Florence Nightingale Museum based at St Thomas' Hospital. The children spent the morning being taught by Florence herself. She explained to her eager listeners her early life and her desire to help others. The children were enthralled to hear about the horrors of life in Scutari, especially the rats running around. They realised the impact of her reforms on hospitals today. Lunch was taken in the hospital with a view of the River Thames and The Houses of Parliament. As part of the fashion topic, the children were able to see the different uniforms the nurses and the soldiers wore during this period of history. The children and teachers thank the parents who kindly gave up their time to accompany us.



Year 4 Visit to Butser Farm – Miss. M. Jenkins

On Thursday 11th October, Year 4 visited Butser Ancient Farm as part of our History topic, Invaders and Settlers. We discovered how the Celts and Romans lived through doing activities such as, chalk carving, using wattle and daub and even making Celtic style jewellery! We extended our knowledge about the differences between living in a Celtic roundhouse compared to a Roman Villa. To end our exciting day, we had the challenge of creating a wall by clunching using chalk and water which was great fun...if a little messy!



Information from Subject Leaders

P.E – Football – Miss. E. McDonald

Recently, some of our Year 6 footballers took part as mascots at the Met Police v Basingstoke Town football match. The event took place at Imber Court and was a huge success with fun had by all involved. The boys loved the opportunity and were proud to represent St Paul's at a local event.

The Met Police Club is in the 1st Round of the FA Cup at Imber court on Saturday 10th November and has been selected to be on the BBC Highlights show. They would love to see as many parents and children supporting them on the day!





Year 3 Egyptian Day – Miss M. Rodriguez- Lopez

In Year 3, we have been learning about Ancient Egyptians. In order to link our learning with our Fashion topic for the term, we decided to have an Ancient Egyptian Day in which we all dressed up as Ancient Egyptians and made some of the things that Ancient Egyptians used to wear, such as collars and headdresses. Violet in 3J said, "I love how sparkly my collar was!" and Amy in 3P said that "the person who owned my headdress would have been rich, because it had loads of jewels". What do you think of our outfits?



News from the Office – Mrs. E. Nicholas

Christmas Lunch - 12th Dec 2018 - Mrs. S. Thuilliez

On Wednesday 12th December, the children will be having Christmas lunch in the school hall. Traditionally, the whole school have Christmas lunch together. If your child normally has a packed lunch, and you would like them to have a Christmas lunch, please fill out the slip below and return before Monday 3rd December. Please note that the fee for the meal is £2.30 and is to be paid online from 5th December. Please note that the meal is free for children in Foundation and Key Stage 1, but a slip must be completed for children to be included.

In order to give the kitchen sufficient time to order the food, we regret it will not be possible to take any more requests after 3rd December, and no refunds for absent children can be made. If your child has a particular food allergy, Christmas lunch may still be possible. Please detail their particular needs on the form. Vegetarian options are also available, please state on the form if you would like to request it. Children who already have school meals will automatically be provided with a Christmas lunch at no extra charge.

Baubles for Christmas Tree - Mrs. L. Pryor

Each year we enhance the school Christmas tree by personalising the decorations. Each pupil has provided a decorated red or gold bauble. We now invite all new pupils to add their bauble to our collection. Please ensure the bauble is not breakable and includes the child's name, the date and their year group. For guidance:- sizes ranging from 10 - 15cm in circumference would be appropriate, gold or black indelible pens write well on shiny surfaces. Can your child please bring their decoration to school by Wednesday 21st November?

Admission to Reception - Sept 2019 – Mrs. L. Busuttill

The closing date for primary level admissions is 15th January 2019.

In addition, parents must apply to the Local Authority. This can be done online at: www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions.

Medical Notifications – Mrs. S. Thuilliez

To enable the school team to fully support your child, could I ask that you please make sure to notify me directly in future of any medical or dietary issues that may impact your child's school life? This can be notified via an email to info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk This is necessary regardless of whether or not you have made the teacher aware. All the relevant forms are available on our website

Message regarding School Meals- Mrs. S. Thuilliez

On Thursday 15th November 2018, our school kitchen will be joining in with the 25th Anniversary of school lunches. To mark this special occasion, Mrs Pollard, our school cook would like to invite children who usually have packed lunch to join in too. If your child usually eats packed lunches, and would like to take part in this event, please complete the slip at the end of the newsletter and send back to school via their book bag before Wednesday 7th November. If your child is in Year 3 and above, please pay £2.30 in advance on the parent payment Tucasi system, to enable your child to take part. As you can understand, we are not able to include children that have not paid, as this would incur a debt to the school. Please make sure your child has paid by Friday 9th November.

Poppy Appeal Mrs. L. Pryor

Poppies are available for purchase at the office. Please bring in your donations in an envelope (suggested donation £0.50). This year we also have additional poppies merchandise ranging from a suggested 50p to £1.00 donation. The Y6 pupils will take the poppies to the classrooms every afternoon from 2nd to 9th November



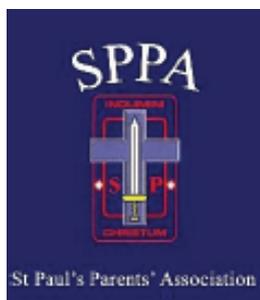
Christmas Letter Box

The pupils' Christmas Letterbox will appear on the 30th November. Cards to both pupils in other classes and school staff may be posted. Please remind your children to address their cards fully by including:- Christian name, surname, the class name and year group of the recipient. Please do not attach chocolates or perishables. Thank you.

Attendance for October 2018

0B	97.2%	3P	96.4%
0M	96.6%	4B	99.2%
1E	97.6%	4J	98.7%
1L	98.5%	5T	96.8%
2M	98.9%	5A	97.6%
2F	94.7%	6A	98.4%
3J	95.9%	6M	98.4%

Well done to St Bernard for having the highest attendance this month.



Santa visit

Santa is thinking of visiting the school before it breaks up for the Christmas holidays. If you would like to realise a lifetime dream of being one of Santa's trusty helpers (costume provided) to assist with the handing out of small gifts, please let us know. Santa needs his elves to help hand out presents. Alternatively, if you know someone who has a lifetime dream of playing the rotund man himself, we are in need of such a fine upstanding gentlemen too. It isn't a big time commitment and the children do love seeing Santa.

Vacancy - Catering Supervisor – Mrs. E. Nicholas

Surrey County Council are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic individual to join their highly motivated team, who deliver outstanding food service and customer service at St. Paul's Catholic Primary School, Thames Ditton.

The hours for this role are: 27.5 hours per week, Monday – Friday (term time only)
Are you interested? Contact Sandra Carpenter, Surrey County Council on 07968 834 421.

SPPA

Thanks to all of you who attended our first meeting of the academic year. It was lovely to see some new and enthusiastic faces as well as those who've returned for another fun-filled year on SPPA. Welcome to Miss Willcox who's been allocated the role as teacher/SPPA rep; it's great to have you on board. Our event planning has kicked off to a good start with our prosecco and shopping evening, and will be shortly followed by the well-loved Christmas Fair. Please help your classes wherever you can by volunteering on the stalls or with hamper and raffle prizes: it's all for a worthy cause.

New members are always welcome to join at any time. Please feel free to get in touch if you have any suggestions or would like to join us:

sppa@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk

Upcoming SPPA events for your diary

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 – 23 November 2018

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 soon.

Sponsorship Boards – Christmas Fair

As part of our ongoing fundraising for our school, I am sure you are aware that for many of our big events during the year, we gain sponsorship from local estate agents, who donate money to SPPA in return for placing a property board outside a local residence promoting our event.

How can you help?

A very simple way for you to support the school at no cost to yourself is by agreeing to have a board outside your property for one of/all of our events. If you are interested in helping, please complete the form at the end of the newsletter and hand into your class SPPA rep.

Please be advised that you will be emailed to confirm the board placement prior to anything going up.

Many thanks for your support.

Parent to Parent

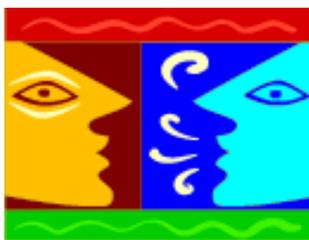


Sacred Heart Church, Cobham - Christmas Fayre on 24th November 2018.

10am -1pm in the Parish Hall (Downside Bridge Road, Cobham KT11 3EP)

Grand Raffle, Toys, Bric a Brac, Books, Christmas Gifts & Cards, Meet Santa, and lots more!

Admission £1 (Children & OAP's Free)



Parent to Parent

The last day for submission to the December newsletter is Friday 16th November. Please forward all wording as a Word attachment to info@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk

The Arts Hub UK, Christmas Saturday Workshops - Saturday, 8th December and Saturday, 15th December.

Full and Half days available.

After the success of last year Christmas workshops, The Arts Hub UK are going to run two fun-filled Saturdays to the lovely Christmas story, "Twas The Night Before Christmas", making beautiful art pieces that the children can either keep or give as gifts for their nearest and dearest! Giving the parents the opportunity to do last-minute Christmas shopping or having some quiet time before the festivities begin.

For further information please email Jo Aird, Founder of The Arts Hub UK at theartshubuk@gmail.com

RideLondon 2019 - Ballot now Open

A massive congratulations and thank you to the 2018 RideLondon team! They did an amazing job on a very wet day!!

The ballot for the 2019 St Paul's RideLondon team places is now open! Are you looking for a challenge for 2019? Did you feel inspired by watching the riders in the summer? Sign up now for the ballot to cycle 100 miles from London through the beautiful Surrey countryside on Sunday 4th August 2019.

We have 5 places available. If selected in the ballot, you will need to commit to fundraising a minimum of £400 to cover the ballot fee and to raise a little extra if possible. For more information and an entrance form, please email elaineheywood99@hotmail.com or gavan.mcguire@gmail.com. For more information on the ride check out www.prudentialridelondon.co.uk. The ballot places will be drawn during the first week back to school in January! Good luck!!

Dates for your Diary

November	Autumn Term
Thursday 1 st	Feast of All Saints 6.30pm - Talk for Y6 parents in 6M: SATs and reporting process 7.30pm- SPPA Shopping Event in school hall
Friday 2 nd	SPPA Mufti Day (toys)
Monday 5 th	Judaism Week: Whole School Y6 Bikeability commences
Tuesday 6 th	Y6 Bikeability 9.00am Flu Nasal Vaccination YR - Y5 School Nurse
Wednesday 7 th	Y6 Bikeability Deadline for returning school lunch slips (25 th anniversary)
Thursday 8 th	Y6 Bikeability
Friday 9 th	Y6 Bikeability – final day
Wednesday 14 th	9.30am - Open morning
Thursday 15 th	25 th Anniversary of School Lunches
Friday 16 th	Last day for submissions to the December Newsletter
Tuesday 20 th	St Bernadette to visit Chertsey Museum
Wednesday 21 st	Christmas Baubles due today from new children St Matthew's class to visit Chertsey Museum
Friday 23 rd	Christmas CD recording
Sunday 25 th	Christ the King
Monday 26 th	St Margaret's class will attend the Victorian School Room experience Mexicolore - Y5
Tuesday 27 th	St Anthony's class will attend the Victorian School Room experience
Thursday 29 th	Year 3 will visit Haslemere Museum
Friday 30 th	Children's Christmas Letter-Box up today Year 1 to visit Polka Theatre Feast of St Andrew 3.30pm- SPPA setting up for the Christmas Fair
December	
Saturday 1 st	11.00am - Christmas Fair

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Christmas Meal Form – Wednesday 12th December 2018
To School Office by Monday 3rd December 2018

If your child has a packed lunch but you would like them to participate in the Christmas meal on 12th December 2018 please complete the slip below and return via your **child's book bag** by 3rd December 2018.

Name (s)..... Class.....

Yes please I would like my child to have a **Christmas Lunch**

Allergies/Dietary requirements.....

I will pay £2.30 on line for my child/children if in Year 3+ by the deadline Monday 3rd December. All payments must be received by Friday 7th December.

Signed.....

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'School Meals 25th Anniversary' Thursday 15th November 2018

Please return via your child/ren's book bag before Wednesday 7th November

Name..... Class.....

Yes please, I would like my child to have '**School Meals 25th Anniversary**' school lunch

Allergies/Dietary requirements.....

I will pay £2.30 on line for my child/children if in Year 3 and above by the deadline Friday 9th November.

Signed.....

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Sponsorship Boards – Christmas Fair –
Please return to your SPPA Class Representative

NAME	
ADDRESS & POSTCODE	
EMAIL	
CHRISTMAS FAIR 2018	YES / NO
SUMMER BALL 2019	YES / NO
SUMMER FAIR 2019	YES / NO
SPECIFIC DETAILS (if any) ON WHERE TO PLACE	
SIGNATURE	