



St Paul's C.E. First School  
Newsletter ~ Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
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### School News

On Tuesday Mrs Langford and the School Council led an assembly to show the children the results from the hand washing experiment that they set up two weeks ago. The children were amazed to see how the bread that had been touched by dirty hands was now covered in mould in comparison to that touched by clean hands and no hands at all. The whole school agreed that hand washing is extremely important to prevent the spread of germs and were able to demonstrate exactly how to wash their hands properly too. School Council have asked all children to return their hand washing posters by Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May so that they can be judged. There will be a prize for the winner in each class and then a prize for the overall winner.

The preparations for the Year 4 children to move onto Middle School in September have also begun this week with the Year 4s going off to Brewood on Tuesday for a Sports morning. Here they had the opportunity to practise their sporting skills, see their new school and meet children from the other schools who will be joining them. On Wednesday morning Mrs Thomas from Brewood Middle School came into do some writing with Year 4. The children were all keen to show off their writing skills and worked very hard.

Miss Jones invited the parents of Year 1 children into school on Tuesday afternoon to see the chicks and to find out all about the learning their presence has led to. The chicks have grown considerably over the course of their two weeks in school and are leaving us this week to go and live on Joshua's farm. We look forward to hearing about them in the future.

On Wednesday Mrs Haywood and Miss Roberts held a parents evening for Year 3 to share with their parents information about the attainment and progress the children have made. We appreciate how understanding the parents have been whilst we arranged a parents evening and it was good to hear their thoughts on how their children are enjoying school or any concerns they may have. Both Mrs Haywood and Mrs Benson were also very keen to share how much they are enjoying working with the children and their successes so far. Both teachers are enjoying their time in school and have commented on what a lovely class Year 3 are.

On Thursday we held a Christian Aid Coffee Morning in school. More details and photos of this event can be found below. It was a great success so thank you to Miss Thomas for organising this and to all who donated and came to support it.

Miss Jones and Miss Thomas took some of the Year 3 and Year 4 children to Cheslyn Hay High School for Quicksticks on Thursday. The children all experienced playing games based on hockey skills. Although the children did not manage to come first in either of the competitions, they had fun so thank you to all the parents who took their children there and to Miss Jones and Miss Thomas for organising it. Photographs of this event can be found further on in the newsletter.

## Online Safety



As you will be aware from the press there have been some real online safety issues concerning popular apps used by children. The link below gives you some really useful information about the safety features available on some of the most popular apps.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/social-media-guides>

The final link gives you information on managing you children's online activity more safely and effectively.

<https://thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Parental-controls/>



# JOIN OUR CUPCAKE DAY FOR ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY



St. Paul's will be supporting this event by inviting the children to come to school in their own clothes and during the day each child will have an opportunity to decorate a cupcake for a £1 donation.

## Christian Aid Week Fundraising



On Thursday Morning Miss Thomas and Year 4 organised a Coffee Morning. We were delighted to see so many visitors in school who were able to join their children for drinks and cake. Thanks go to Miss Thomas, Year 4 and all our families who supported this event which raised a total of £265.95. Friday's non uniform day has increased this amount to £511.21 with one of our families donating £100. Father Malcolm came in to lead worship on Friday and explained to the children about how important it is to help those less fortunate than ourselves.



## Quicksticks

On Thursday a group of children from Year 3 and Year 4 went to Cheslyn Hay High School to take part in a Quicksticks Tournament. They were able to practise their hockey skills and learn a bit more about what the game is all about.



## Sporting Selfie

To promote the wide range of different sports that children take part in and to promote them within school, we would like to invite children to send in a photo of themselves doing their favourite sport. We will then use these photographs to create a display in school entitled 'Sporting Selfies.' They can be brought straight into class or emailed to the school office.

## Steve Smallman

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May we have invited the author and illustrator Steve Smallman into school to work with each year group. You should have received a separate letter detailing this visit and giving you more information about Steve. We are asking for a contribution of £2 from each child.

## St. Paul's Church Diary Dates

During May there will be several events held at St. Paul's Church which Father Malcolm would like to invite all of our families to.

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May - Church Quiz Night with a fish and chip supper starting at 7:30pm and all are welcome.

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Whole School at Church for Ascension Day Worship at 9:30 am. Please can parents let the school office know if they are able to help walk the children up to church.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May - Big Breakfast for Christian Aid starting at 9:30 am and all are welcome.

## House Points



Well done to our winning team Hazel.

They were the top-scoring team this week, earning themselves 185 house points!



## This week...

Please make sure reading books and reading diaries are in school each day. These should be signed each time you read with your child. Thank you for your support with this.

## Summer Fayre

This year the Summer Fayre will be on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. Further details of this great fundraising event will be sent out nearer the time but the School Association are keen to hear from anyone who would be willing to help out on the day.

We would be grateful for donations from parents as follows:

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June - unused gift sets and unwanted toys

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June - bottle donations

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June - cake donations / sweets or chocolate for the tombolas

On these three days the children will be able to wear non-uniform in exchange for donations.

## Fidget Spinners

As parents are no doubt aware the latest craze is fidget spinners and there have been a number of children bringing them into school over the last two weeks. Unfortunately these are causing arguments on the playground and, on occasion, disruption to lessons so we are asking children to leave them at home please. Any brought into school will be taken off the children and given back to parents at the end of the day. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

## **Star of Week**

Well done to our stars of the week. Their teachers have been really impressed with their work.

Nursery - Jack for a fantastic attitude to learning and being a shining example to the class.

Reception - Josh for doing some fantastic writing about Jack and the Beanstalk.

Year 1 - Bella for having super attitude towards her learning.

Year 2 - All of year 2 for working so hard completing lots of special work this half term. You are all stars!

Year 3 - Lucy for some very good independent maths work on money.

Year 4 - Aoife for having an excellent attitude towards her work and fantastic writing.



## Pobble Writers



Congratulations to our published authors this week:

Year 2 - Poppy C, Sadie (Ethan from last week).

## Prayer of the Week



Father God,

Help us to find ways to follow the example of St. Francis and bring peace to our friends, our families and all those we meet today.

Amen

## WORSHIP

### LIVING AT PEACE WITH THE WORLD

In worship this week we focused on the life of St. Francis of Assisi, a Christian who sought to live at peace with all of creation, and to share God's love and peace with all those with whom he came into contact with.

## Weekly Attendance

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Nursery - 86%

Reception - 92%

Year 1 - 94%

Year 2 - 98%

Year 3 - 96%

Year 4 - 98%

The classes with the highest attendance are Years 2 and 4.

## Diary Dates

### May

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Steve Smallman illustrator and author is in school (See separate letter for further details.)

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Year 1 Phonics Screen meeting 4pm

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May - Repeat of the Year 1 Phonics Screen meeting at 9 am

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May - School finishes for Half Term

### June

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Parents Evening Brewood Middle School for Year 4 parents (details to follow)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June - Mr Swift/Mrs Priestley - visit St Paul's to meet Year 4 parents

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June- Summer Fayre

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June Rocket Day for Year 4 at Brewood Middle School (change of Date from 10<sup>th</sup> June)

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Choral Day - Stafford Grammar (details to follow)

### July

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Sports Day

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July - Year 2 trip to Baggeridge Park

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Themed week (details to follow)

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July - Transition Day

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July - Leavers Show Year 4

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July - School finishes for Summer

## Term Dates and INSET Days for September 2017 to July 2018

### Autumn Term 2017

Term starts: Tuesday 5 September

Half Term: Monday 23 October - Friday 27 October

Term ends: Tuesday 19 December

Holiday: Wednesday 20 December - Tuesday 2 January

### Spring Term 2018

Term starts: Wednesday 3 January

Half Term: Monday 19 February - Friday 23 February

Term ends: Thursday 29 March

Holiday: Friday 30 March - Wednesday 11 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 1 April

### Summer Term 2018

Term starts: Thursday 12 April

May Day: Monday 7 May

Half Term: Monday 28 May - Friday 1 June

Term ends: Friday 20 July

Holiday: Monday 23 July - Friday 31 August

### INSET Days 2017-18

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018