



St Paul's C.E. First School
Newsletter ~ Friday 13th January 2017
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School News

This week the children in Year 4 have continued with their rehearsals for Young Voices which takes place on 24th January at the Genting Arena in Birmingham. The children have been busy learning lots of songs to sing and it promises to be a fabulous show. A letter has been sent home informing parents of the details for this annual event. Please see the office if you have not received one.

Miss Jones has also completed her auditions for the dance club and they have had their first rehearsal for the Wolgarston Dance Show on 2nd March. Details of this will be sent out nearer the time.

Building Work

As parents are aware there has been some building work going on at school in preparation for the opening of Little Treasures Nursery. We have endeavoured to ensure that there has been as little disruption as possible to the children and both Nursery and Reception children have settled into their classrooms. Thanks go to the Early Years team who have worked hard to ensure that the children have an engaging and stimulating environment. We have also been notified this week that vital roof repairs will be starting next week. The school will of course remain open as usual but there will be scaffolding all across the front of school and at the side by the pedestrian gate along to the Year 2 classroom. Parents can be assured that all the necessary risk assessments have been undertaken and although ideally we would like this work to be carried out in the holidays, it is, unfortunately, unavoidable.

Nursery Age Admissions

Please note that you can apply online from 16 January 2017. The closing date for applications is 5 March 2017, however, the online application system will be unavailable from 08:30am on Wednesday 18 January until midday on Thursday 19 January 2017.

If you are unable to apply online, then a paper form is available and can be emailed to: admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk

or you can print out the form and post it to:

School Admissions and Transport Service

Staffordshire County Council

2 Staffordshire Place

Stafford

ST16 2DH

Homework

We know that juggling family life and home work is not always an easy mix - we are so very busy that it can be difficult to fit in fun times, let alone homework.

However, it is a statutory duty for schools to set homework, so if for some reason your child is unable to complete their homework, then please send a note to the teacher or write a message in the children's reading diary and then help your child to complete their homework as soon after as possible.

Teachers are always happy to give an extension if they know that you have been busy. If a child does not complete their homework including reading on a regular basis, then a teacher will let you know by giving you a phone call - these children will be expected to give up some of their lunchtime play to complete their work.

Homework is not just about improving learning and embedding knowledge gained in school - it is part of developing independence, and a personal work ethic. When the children move on up to the Middle School we want them well equipped and ready to cope with the additional home learning requirement that is asked of them. We very much hope that there will be no shocks and no surprises and that they will cope seamlessly with the next phase of their learning journey.

Chinese Lunch Menu

On Thursday 19th January there will be a Chinese theme to the lunchtime menu. Please see attached for more information.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Poppy Appeal the school raised £22.87 which has been passed onto the Royal British Legion.

The Children's Society

Thank you to everyone who donated to The Children's Society when the boxes were sent home prior to the Christingle Service before Christmas. School raised £84.13.

Readathon

World Book Day is on Thursday 2nd March and, like last year, we have planned a range of book based activities to mark the occasion including the usual dressing up as a favourite character. We are also going to be taking part in a Readathon which is a national sponsored reading event - to encourage students to read for pleasure whilst helping children in hospital at the same time. Further information about this will be sent out shortly in both paper form and by email.

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

Nursery - Aleah, India, Emmy, Thomas for settling into the nursery routine and making new friends.

Reception - Alexis for fantastic work in Phonics this week!

Year 1 - Rosie for having a positive attitude to all areas of learning.

Year 2 - Matthew for great money work in Maths.

Year 3 - Nathaniel for always being ready to learn and challenge himself in maths.

Year 4 - Taran for challenging himself in many lessons and answering questions asked by his peers.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 24th January 2017 - Young Voices Year 4

Friday 27th January 2017 - 9.00 am until 10.00 am Parent Forum

Monday 6th February Year 4 Victorian Day (details to follow)

Wednesday 15th February SAT's information meeting 9:00 in the school hall (Year 2 parents)

Thursday 16th February Treasure Hunt for Year 2 End of Topic - Parents welcome (details to follow)

Friday 17th February - School finishes for Half Term

Monday 20th February to Friday 24th February Half Term

Monday 27th February - School re-opens

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day when children are invited to dress up as their favourite character.

Tuesday 7th March - Parent Evening (details to follow)

Monday 3rd April until Wednesday 5th April - Year 4 go to Laches

Wednesday 5th April - Grandparent Lunches (details to follow)

Friday 7th April - school finishes for Easter

**Weekly Attendance: Monday
9th January - Friday 13th
January 2016**

Nursery - 76% Reception - 95%

Year 1 - 93% Year 2 - 99%

Year 3 - 93% Year 4 - 95%

The class with the highest attendance is Year 2 . Well done!

Worship

Thankfulness

In this worship, children learn from the story of the ten lepers the importance of thanking God for all he does for us. Children will also reflect on the need to express gratitude to people who help us in many different ways.

Pobble Writers

Congratulations to our published authors this week:

Year 2 - Lily Edge, Tom Hill, Alex Hill, Casey Cheal, Harry Brittain



Prayer of the Week



Dear God
Thank you for all that we
have been given and for all
those people that help us
each day.

House Points - Well done to our winning teams - Beech

They were the top-scoring teams this week, earning themselves 89 house points each!

Well done to our super stars!

Reading in school

Are you able to help in school with reading once a week? We are looking for willing parents/grandparents who are able to commit to coming into school each week for an afternoon to hear the children read. You would be allocated a year group to work with but please note we would be unable to put you in your child's class. If you are able to help then please fill in the slip below and return it to the school office.

I would like to come into school to hear children read. I am able to come into school on _____ and understand that I will not be working in my child's class.

Signed: _____

Parent/grandparent of : _____