



St Paul's C.E. First School
Newsletter ~ Friday 5th January 2018
Tel. 01902 790253 Email: office@st-pauls-coven.staffs.sch.uk

School News

Welcome back to school! I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year on behalf of all of the staff and hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break.

This week the children have started their new topics and it has been wonderful to see their excitement as they engage in new learning. As always, there will be plenty of opportunities for parents to come into school over the term to join us for parent workshops and learning activities.

Healthy Schools



As part of our ongoing action plan to make the school as healthy as possible, we will be introducing a series of measures over the next term.

One new initiative that we would like to introduce is a 'Birthday Book' scheme where children donate a new book to the school library when it is their birthday rather than bringing in sweets to share with their friends.

We hope that parents will support us with this new initiative and that they understand that any sweets sent into school in future will be returned to parents at the end of the day.

If children would like to donate a Birthday Book, these can be handed to the school office on the day/week of their birthday and they will be able to show them to the school during our Celebration Assembly each Friday. We will then insert a special label into the front of the book with the child's name and the date of donation so that everyone else can see who donated the book.

Worship

This week in Worship we have been looking at making resolutions for the New Year and thinking about how we change for the better.

Prayer of the Week

Dear Lord, Thank you for this new year and for the chance to make a new start. Help us to support each other to stick to the resolutions we have made. Amen

Staffing Changes

This week, we welcome Miss Lee and Mrs Gibbon as our new Year 1 teachers for the remainder of the academic year. I'm sure that parents will join me in making them feel welcome at St Paul's. I personally would like to thank them for giving up time in the Christmas holidays to come into school to meet with me to get the classroom ready for the children's return and for spending so much of their time over the Christmas holiday planning exciting lessons for the children's new topic .

Changes to teaching staff are not made lightly and are always done with the children's best interests at heart. If parents in Year 1 would like to discuss this with me further, please do not hesitate to come into school to make an appointment.

Our priority at St Paul's is to ensure that our children always have the very best teaching.

Facebook Reminder

As we start the new year, I would like to remind parents that we operate an open door policy at St Paul's and that they are welcome to come into school to discuss their concerns face-to-face with a member of staff. It may not always be possible for staff to see parents straight away but appointments can always be made for the nearest available time. I would like to encourage parents to do this rather than voicing their concerns on Facebook.

Worship Value



This half term's value for Worship is Compassion.

Please read through the Value Sheet that comes home with your child and complete the activities together.

Encourage them to show compassion to others in their everyday lives.

Maths Parent Workshops

Following the success of our reading and handwriting workshops, we will be holding some Maths parent workshops in school on the following date and times:

Wednesday 17th January

9:00 am / 4:00 pm for Year 2/ Year 3/ Year 4

9:30 am / 4:30 pm for Nur/Rec/Year 1

Please note that the morning workshop is repeated in the afternoon so parents do not need to attend both.

PE Days for the Spring Term

PE sessions will be on the following days during the Spring Term. Children in Years 1-4 will go outside for one of their sessions each week, unless the weather is extremely bad, so children will need a plain black or navy tracksuit for their outdoor PE sessions.

Reception—Monday afternoon

Year 1—Tuesday afternoon (outdoor PE)

Friday afternoon (indoor PE)

Year 2—Monday afternoon (indoor PE)

Tuesday afternoon (outdoor PE)

Year 3—Wednesday afternoon (outdoor PE)

Friday afternoon (indoor PE)

Year 4—Wednesday afternoon (outdoor PE)

Thursday afternoon (indoor PE)

Parents are reminded that PE is a compulsory subject.

Deadlines for Ordering Lunches

Please take particular notice of the deadlines for ordering Grandparent lunches / Mother's Day lunches. Unfortunately the kitchen do need numbers in advance so that the correct amount of food can be ordered, so for 2018, orders made after the deadline dates will not be accepted by the kitchen staff.

British Values

This week's British Values focuses on Individual Liberty. We will be looking at this in school but invite parents to share these images with their child at home. Children are invited to send in any work that they may have done at home to go on our British Values display board.



Diary Dates

January

Tuesday	9th	January	Year 4 at Young Voices
Monday	15th	January	Deadline for ordering Year 1 Grandparent Lunches on 24th January
Wednesday	17th	January	Maths Parent Workshops for Year 2/Year3/Year 4 at 9:00am / 4:00pm
Wednesday	17th	January	Maths Parent Workshops for Nursery/Reception/Year 1 at 9:30am / 4:30pm
Wednesday	24th	January	Grandparents Lunches - Year 1 at 12:00pm - 12:45pm

February

Friday	2nd	February	Final Payments for Laches Wood due—Year 4 parents
Friday	16th	February	INSET Day for Staff—School closed for children
Monday	26th	February	School reopens to children
Tuesday	27th	February	Deadline for ordering Mother's Day Lunches—letters to follow

March

Thursday	1st	March	World Book Day—children to dress up as book characters
Monday	5th	March	Deadline for Year 2 Grandparents to order lunches for 14th March
Tuesday	6th	March	Mother's Day Lunches for Nursery & Reception
Tuesday	6th	March	Parents' Evening—letters to follow
Wednesday	7th	March	Dance Show rehearsal at Wolgarston—Years 3 and 4—details to follow
Wednesday	7th	March	Mother's Day Lunches for Year 1 and Year 2
Thursday	8th	March	Mother's Day Lunches for Year 3 and Year 4
Friday	9th	March	Mother's Day Services in school—details to follow
Friday	9th	March	School disco—5:00pm for Nur/Rec/Y1 and 6:15pm for Y2/3/4
Wednesday	14th	March	Dance Show at Wolgarston—morning and evening performance—Y3/4
Wednesday	14th	March	Year 2 Grandparents Lunches—12:00pm
Monday 26th March	to	Wed 28th March	Year 4 Residential Trip to Laches Wood
Thursday	29th	March	Easter Service at St Paul's Church—2:00pm
Thursday	29th	March	School closes for Easter Holidays

April

Thursday	12th	April	INSET Day—School closed to children
Friday	13th	April	INSET Day—School closed to children
Monday	16th	April	School reopens for the Summer Term
Friday	20th	April	Year 4 Class Assembly for parents about Laches Wood Trip—2:30pm

Keeping Children Safe Online—New Devices for Christmas



- If your child is getting a new phone or tablet for Xmas, you may wish to consider some monitoring software to keep a parental eye on what they're doing.
- There are plenty available to download, some are free and some you have to pay a small subscription.
- An article explaining some of the more popular monitoring apps can be seen HERE (<https://www.digitaltrends.com/mobile/best-parental-control-apps/>).
- For advice and instructions on setting up the most popular devices (parental controls, internet filters etc.) see the Internet Matters website HERE (<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/interactive-guide/>)
- If you are buying a new game for your child, make sure you are happy with it first. Just because "everybody else has got it" doesn't mean it's appropriate for your child. Check on the Common Sense Media website first - click HERE (<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>)