



St Paul's CE Primary School

Newsletter

www.stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk

9th September 2016

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back to school and a huge welcome to the new families that are joining us in the Early Years and in classes across the school. I hope that you all had a good holiday and are ready for the coming term. It was lovely to see so many happy faces as the children returned to school earlier in the week. We have a number of new teachers and other staff and they have made a great start as part of the ever larger St Paul's staff team.

If you haven't already, do come and say hello. I am on one of the school gates at pick up or drop off and so is Mrs Cossar, the Deputy Headteacher. Other staff you might meet on the gates are Mr Lacy and Mrs Riley, both senior teachers on the leadership team, Mrs Churcher, or Mrs Pearce, our administrative team or Mr Riley and Mrs Hellyer, members of our premises team. We are on the gates to answer queries and to get to know you all, please feel free to speak to any of us.

Class teachers are available for a quick chat or to answer simple queries at the end of the day, in the school playground. Please wait until they have dismissed the pupils. All staff can be contacted via email to the school office: office@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk. You can make an appointment to meet a teacher via the office or directly at the school gate. We have parents' evenings each term, listed in the diary at the end of this newsletter.

I am sure that we have a busy and exciting year ahead and will share the highlights with you in my newsletters throughout the year.

Curriculum and School Information

Each half term you will receive a newsletter and curriculum overview from your child's teacher. These documents are also uploaded to the 'learning' pages of the school's website: www.stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk. There is a wealth of information on the website and regular news updates with pictures from school events. In addition there is a calendar of school events and a contact section for communicating with school. If you haven't already had a look at our website, please do so.

We have an email circulation account. From time to time we circulate details via text or email. If you are not receiving emails or texts, please check that your personal details are up-to-date with the school office.

Dedication of Alexandra House Site

The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, Bishop of Kensington will be joining us and a number of other guests for a service of dedication for the Alexandra House site. The service will start at 2pm in the church on Monday 12th September. There will be a short blessing and prayer on

the Alexandra House site to draw the service to an end. All family and friends of the school are welcome.

Harvest Service

We have a programme of services in church led by different year groups. They are listed in the school calendar of events. Parents and relatives are most welcome to join us for these events. The first class led service will be led by year 5 on October 6th at 10:00am in St Paul's church. We will invite all pupils to bring in a harvest gift in the week of the service, to add to the harvest collection. The harvest gifts are distributed amongst the elderly and vulnerable after the service. If you have a friend or neighbour who may welcome a harvest gift, please let the school office know.

Lunches

As the school expands, the number of children taking school lunches continues to rise. We shall shortly be opening the kitchen and dining facilities on the Alexandra House site and some of the classes based on that site will have their lunches there.

Pupil Premium

Pupil premium is a scheme that provides additional funds for pupils whose families receive specific benefits or tax credits. In order to qualify, parents must make an application for free school meals (whatever year group your child is in). We use these funds to offer additional support to pupil premium children. There are full details of what we use the pupil premium funding for on the 'pupil premium' page of the school website:

<http://www.stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/pupil-premium>

If you think your family may qualify for this additional funding, please do speak with a member of the school office team.

Funds

You may have noticed the new playground shades in the flowerbed by the hall on the St Paul's site. They were purchased and installed using the PFA funds raised in previous years and bring much needed shade to the playground, which children will benefit from in the summer months.

Planning permission was needed to erect the sunshades and I am very grateful to Mrs Jennifer Barnes for the many hours of work she put into preparing the permission documentation and managing the project.

The PFA is a group of parents who come together to organise social events for the school community and to raise funds for the benefit of the children. New parents and parents who may not previously have been involved with the PFA are very welcome to join the group. More details on PFA meetings and events will follow in the next few weeks and months.

PE

Physical Education takes place throughout the school year. Details of PE kit regulations can be found in the uniform section of the school website. It is essential that children do not wear earrings on the days that they have PE. If your child wears earrings, please remember to remove them on the day that they have PE. Class timetables can be found in the class newsletters.

Uniform

We have a smart and practical uniform. Full information of the uniform requirements can be found on the school's website. Hair accessories should be in school colours.

In colder weather girls should wear tights to keep them warm. Lycra shorts are not part of the uniform for girls and should not be worn.

Concerns/problems

From time to time concerns or problems arise. In the first instance these should be directed to the class teacher. If the teacher is unable to resolve the issue, please make contact with a member of the school's leadership team.

The leadership team are on the gates at the start and end of the school day to help with most queries and concerns. The school's complaints policy is available on the website and a hard copy can be requested from the school office.

Birthdays

We like to mark pupil's birthdays and parents may wish to send in a few sweets or a small bag of sweets for each child, to give out at the end of the day. Cakes or party-bags are not allowed. A number of children have significant food allergies, so please do not send in sweets containing nuts or other common allergens.

Staff Updates

At the end of last term we said goodbye to Miss Jones who left to take up an assistant headship in a school in Brent, Mrs Love who took up a new learning support role, Miss Monsen who started a diploma course and Miss Fletcher who got an administrative job closer to home in Uxbridge.

Our staff team has expanded to meet the demands of a larger school. We welcome to our team Mrs Barry who joins us as a Reception class teacher, Miss Vanos and Miss Volossevich who join us as teachers in year 1, Mrs Graham and Mrs Dodson who will share a year 4 class and Miss Wood who joins us as a year 5 teacher. Miss Bhamra joins the school staff as a permanent Teaching Assistant. Miss McDougal and Miss Brand will continue to work as support teachers up until the end of the spring term. Miss Ansell and Miss Aarons join us as learning support assistants and Miss Lee joins us as our Inclusion Coordinator.

Mrs Lonsdale started her maternity leave at the end of summer term and gave birth to her second daughter on 13th August.

Parentpay

We understand that there have been some issues with the Parentpay website this week. They are working to resolve these issues. We will keep paper copies of lunch, aftercare and breakfast club attendance until all the problems are resolved. Please pay online as usual for lunches and book and pay online for aftercare and breakfast club. If you are having difficulties with online booking please come to the office and we will help you.

Universal Free School Meals (Reception to Year 2)

The Universal Free School Meal policy allows pupils from Reception class to Year 2 to have a free school meal. Once children move from year 2 into the juniors (years 3,4,5 & 6) parents must pay for their school meal. Parents of children in years 3,4,5 and 6 who are in receipt of

certain state benefits may qualify for free school meals in the junior years. If you have a child in years 3,4,5 or 6 and receive state benefits please speak to a member of the administrative team who will help to determine your eligibility and to support you in applying for free school meals.

Our school meals currently cost £1.95 a meal, making them amongst the best value meals in the borough. They are prepared and cooked by our own catering team in the kitchens in our school. We serve our meals in 'family service' meaning that the children don't queue as they would in a traditional canteen. The school meals menu is uploaded to the website every week.

Coming Up...

I have attached to this newsletter a copy of the school's term dates and a list of planned events for the school year. In each newsletter I include updates to the list of dates. The dates are also updated on the website calendar. Copies of the school's term dates can also be downloaded from the school website.

Community Noticeboard

On occasion we are informed of events and activities planned in the area, which may be of interest to our families. We do not endorse any of the notices below nor can we guarantee the quality of them.

Jolie Ronde French Lessons

Jolie Ronde is a private company, which organises French lessons after school. Please find details attached to this letter.