



# St Paul's CE Primary School Newsletter

16<sup>th</sup> May 2014

## **Message from the Headteacher**

Thanks to all of you who came along yesterday afternoon to view the plans for converting Alexandra House into a second site for our school. Your views and responses are very much appreciated as they will help us to take the plans through the planning process. I know some of you took away response sheets to complete at home. Please drop them back into school early next week so that they can be included in the planning application. I appreciate that some of you may not have been able to come to the exhibition, so have attached copies of the key planning sheets and a response sheet to the email with this newsletter, so that you can see what we are planning and share your responses.

In terms of context, Alexandra House was built by the local authority shortly before the establishment of the National Health Service to provide health and social support for the young people of the Brentford area. It is a fine 1930's Art Deco building. Originally, it housed a juvenile employment office, a dentist surgery, an education office, a room for health visitors and expectant mothers and even a pram park! Over its lifespan there have been a number of alterations to the building. It has been a medical centre and was most recently used by Age Concern. Perhaps the greatest challenge in turning it from a health centre into a school is the need to open out the smaller consulting rooms into classroom spaces.

Our architect has worked to preserve the original features of the building, parts of which are listed, whilst creating classroom spaces. There are two proposed 'infill' spaces on the Eastern side of the building, to create an IT suite and to increase the number of toilets on the site. Externally, the playground will be the old car park, with a ballpark incorporated to allow for ball games. The land on the western edge of the building is too narrow to use for a playground and we anticipate using this space as a kitchen garden and outdoor learning areas.

The project is due for completion in September 2015, when the school formally becomes a two-form entry school. The school will grow gradually with an admission of 60 pupils at Reception each year until the school is two-forms all the way through. We currently propose using the Alexandra House site for junior classes. Many parents and local residents have commented on how well the children use the park and I anticipate us using the park on a regular basis going forward. As part of the planning submission, we are completing a travel plan, looking at how traffic and movement between the two sites can be managed best.

Please do browse the plans and return any responses before Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, so that they can be included in our planning application

## **Buildings Update**

The renovation of our current site is proceeding well and we anticipate the first handover phase occurring over half term. The Reception and Year 2 classes will move into the newly

re-furnished rooms over the half term. This will enable the contractors to refurbish their existing rooms. Staff will be on hand on the first day back to help children find their new classrooms at the start of the school day.

Pictures of the rebuild can be viewed on our surveyor's website:

<http://projects.dunphys.co.uk/what-we-do/schools/st-pauls-c-of-e-primary-school/st-pauls-school-refurbishment-mezzanine-2013-14/>

### **School Meals Update**

Earlier this week the advertisement for a new school chef went live. There is a PDF version of the advertisement attached to the email with this newsletter. The web address for the full advertisement, job description, person specification and application form is:

<http://www.caterer.com/JobSearch/JobDetails.aspx?JobId=59598901>

If you, a member of your family or friends would be interested, please do look at the advertisement and apply. Please be aware that hard copy applications need to be in school by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Applications on line can be submitted up until the published deadline – this is because we do not receive postal deliveries over the school holidays.

### **Parent Prayer Group**

Next Tuesday (20/05) sees the first of our Prayer and Worship meetings. This is the 'bigger' version of the weekly parent prayer group. There will be an opportunity for prayer and reflection, worship and refreshments. Please do join us after drop off.

### **KS2 SATs Assessments**

It has been so pleasing to observe the effort and stamina the children in Year 6 have shown over this week of assessments. The children were well prepared and gave their best over the week. The papers have now been sent off to be marked externally. We shall share the results with you in the end of year report to parents.

### **Parents in the Nursery**

Over the week the Nursery children have been bringing their parents in with them. These sessions have been great fun and I hope that you have found the visits to the nursery as rewarding as we have. Now you have an idea what a day in the Nursery is really like!

### **Punctuality**

We shall be holding a walk to school and punctuality week after the half term holidays. IT is great to see so many children in school punctually as it gives us a chance to start the day calmly. Let's see if we can have a week when nobody is late in.

### **Coming Up...**

Whole school events this month.

### **May**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Parents' Prayer and Worship meeting in church after drop-off

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> –Inset days

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> –Half term

## **June**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 & 6 @ Tate Britain

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Punctuality & Walk to school week

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – INSET DAY

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 and 4 trip to Odds Farm

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Kneller Hall Concert, Y3/4 Tennis Festival

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> – Hollycombe Learning Outdoors Day

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> – Junior sports morning