



St Paul's Friday Round Up

Friday 10th December 201

Welcome to our round up of news and information for the week.

Staffing Update

At the end of this term, Mrs Bradley, currently teaching class 3B will be leaving us, to further her career closer to home. Mrs Bradley started with us almost nineteen years ago. During this time, she has taught many generations of St Paul's Children. I am sure that you will want to join me in thanking her for her service to the school and to wish her every success as she moves on. In January, Mr Darren Johnson will join the school to teach class 3B.

School Attendance

We have a history of very good attendance and punctuality in our school an essential life skill for us all. Lateness and low attendance can often contribute to poor academic progress and social and emotional difficulties. We are keen to support families where lateness or poor attendance is a challenge and to celebrate excellence in attendance and punctuality.

From next term, we shall be introducing a new set of strategies to support our existing attendance monitoring and support processes. We shall be awarding special certificates and conducting a prize draw for our termly '**Attendance Angels**'. These are pupils who are present in school every day of the term. At the end of the summer term, we shall award a special sew-on badge for children who have 100% attendance for the spring and summer terms. These badges can be sewn onto uniform for the next academic year. We will also recognise '**Ambitious Attenders**' pupils with 97%-99.9% attendance with special certificates and a prize draw at the end of each term.

For children with poorer attendance. Those currently below 90%, we shall track improvement over the term, to award '**Aspiring Attenders**' at the end of the term. These will be children with the greatest percentage improvement in attendance over the school term.

For pupils with very low attendance, we shall enrol them on a six week attendance programme '**Attendance Adventurers**', where each day's attendance is tracked and recorded. Success in this programme will lead to a celebration prize and a 'graduation certificate'. Miss Wellington will operate this scheme and contact pupils and families individually to support this programme.

We recognise that poor attendance and punctuality can sometimes be due to specific problems or difficulties that a family may be experiencing. If you are worried about your child's attendance or punctuality and would like to discuss some of the barriers that your family face, in order to improve his/her attendance or punctuality, please contact Miss Wellington in the school office.

Illness

Whilst good attendance is important, we don't want children who are ill to attend school. If your child is unwell, please ensure that you contact the school on the first and subsequent morning of their absence to let us know why they are not at school.

Consultation on Changes to our Admissions Criteria 2023-24

Each year, the governing body of the school must set out the admissions criteria for future years. If the criteria are outdated or require revision, we must launch a consultation. At our most recent Governing

Body meeting we discussed our current admissions criteria and the effect of the foundation places on admissions to our school.

The school has a very firm founding principle, which was established in the late Victorian period, to educate the children of our parish within an inclusive Christian ethos. Our Christian ethos and foundation was judged Outstanding in our last SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) in November 2017. This principle is as important to us now as it was more than 100 years ago. We want our school to be as inclusive as possible, drawing in all local children. We want our admissions criteria to reflect this desire.

Experience over many years shows that some of our foundation places can be 'blocked' in the initial application round at the expense of local children who want to attend our school. As a result, some local families do not get offered a place in our school, despite the fact that many of those offered a foundation place in the first round of admission have little intention of taking up a place at our school. Consequently, families living close to our school can be put off applying to their local school by the foundation criteria.

We believe that the time is right to remove the foundation criteria from our admissions criteria. This will mean that admission will be determined primarily by distance from the school. By doing this, we hope to demonstrate our commitment to providing Church of England education to as many local families in the parish as possible.

The consultation will run from Monday 13th December 2021 to Monday 31st January 2022. I attach to this bulletin an explanation letter and the proposed admissions for 2023-24. Comments should be submitted in writing to:

Katharine Churcher,
Clerk to the Governing Body,
St Paul's School,
St Paul's Road,
Brentford
TW8 0PN

Or by email to:

admissions@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk

Holiday Activities and Food Programme

The Holidays Activities and Food Programme (HAF) is a scheme to support to provide a nutritious meal and exciting activities for benefits eligible free school meal pupils. This is separate from the free school meal vouchers, but supports the same group of families. I attach a flier to this Roundup with more information on the HAF. Families eligible for the HAF (those in receipt of Benefits Eligible Free School Meals) will have received their HAF vouchers by email this morning.

Benefits Eligible Free School Meal Vouchers – Christmas 2021

The vouchers for Benefits eligible free school meals will be issued by email in two rounds during the Christmas holidays. Each voucher is for £15. The first round is on: 20/12/21 and the second on 27/12/21. Families whose child(ren) receives benefits eligible free school meals will receive their voucher on the dates above.

PFA Discos

This week we held the two PFA discos in the St Paul's site playground. They were a great success and it was lovely to see so many happy children. This event simply couldn't have taken place without our amazing PFA volunteers and staff volunteers – they were the ones with the flashing reindeer accessories who helped set up, serve hot dogs and hot chocolate, sold glow bands, provided water, stewarded the playground and toilets as well as closing down afterwards. I would like to extend a big 'thank you' to Mrs Jane Stead (mother of Grace 4L and Ruby 2B), Miss Jessica Silva (mother of Nicholas 1L), Ms Sandra Guthrie (mother of Annabel 3C), Mrs Neeta Norton (mother of Rohan in Nursery and Amiya 5J), Mr Tommy Norton (father of Rohan in Nursery and Amiya 5J), Miss Rita Jones (mother of Jerome 5J), Mrs Rahela Shafa (mother of Armaan RR), Mrs Ivy Wong (mother of Gabriel RR and Frederick 3B), Ms Mairead Flynn (mother of Arun 1S) and Ms Natalia Namyslo (mother of Sophia 2B). I would also like to thank all the staff who helped with first aid, stewarding, setting up and tidying down.

When we return next term, we shall start planning PFA events for the spring term.

Class Christmas Parties

Next week, we shall be holding our class Christmas parties. Years 3,4,5 & 6 will have their class parties on Tuesday 14th December and Years N,R,1 & 2 will have their class parties on Thursday 16th December. The teachers are currently arranging the party contributions (each child is asked to bring something specific to contribute to the party food). On the day of your child's party they may wear their party clothes to school. These clothes should be warm and practical (as the party is not all day and the normal playtimes etc. continue as usual). They should not wear anything too precious, as delicate clothing can get damaged or spoilt in school. Make up and jewellery is not allowed.

Extra-Curricular Clubs – Spring 2022

Letters advertising next term's extra-curricular clubs will be sent home along with booking details next week. Our clubs will start in the week beginning 10th January 2022.

COVID

The government announced the implementation of their 'Plan B' earlier this week. This plan introduces additional measures to guard against the Omicron variant. It is still unclear what impact the Omicron variant may have on our society. The government is prioritising keeping schools open and so we expect to open as planned in January. Plans can change at short notice, so please monitor your emails over the holidays. If a national or local change occurs, we shall communicate our school plans with parents via email.

Christmas Appeal 2021

The generosity of our school community shone through once again with this year's Salvation Army Christmas present appeal. On Tuesday a member of the local Salvation Army came to collect these gifts. Each gift will be given to a family in West London whose child(ren) won't otherwise get a new Christmas present this year. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Final Day of the Autumn Term – Friday 17th December 2021

The final day of this term is Friday 17th December. We shall close early on this day,



at 1:30pm. There is no aftercare club on the final day of the term.

First Day of the Spring Term – Tuesday 4th January 2021

The first day of the Spring term is Tuesday 4th January. School opens on this day for all pupils at the normal time.

Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs, Chess Club and Peripatetic Instrument Lessons – renewals

Next week, we shall be sending home details of next term's sports clubs, chess and peripatetic instrument lessons. Please look out for these letters.

School Meal Menu

This half term, we have a new menu. This week's menu is below:

Monday
Jacket Potato
Mild Texan Beef
Vegetarian Texan Mince
Cheese
Sweetcorn
Fruit Salad

Tuesday
Beef Spaghetti
Bolognese
Vegetarian Bolognese
Mixed Vegetable
Coco and Orange Cake

Menu 1
w/c 01/11
w/c 22/11
W/C 13/12
St Paul's Lunch Menu

Wednesday
Chicken & Vegetable Pie
Vegetarian Pasty
Herb Roasted Potatoes
Green Beans
Fromage Fraise

Thursday
Frankie & James' Fish & Chips
Vegetable Burger
Chips
Baked Beans
Strawberry Jelly

Friday
Balti Style Chicken
Roasted Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry
Basmati Rice
Green Peas
Chelsea Buns

Allergen information available on request
(Wednesday 15th December Christmas lunch menu will be on the website)

If you would like your child to change their meal pattern – from packed lunch to school dinners, or vice versa – please contact the school office before making the change. We need a week's notice prior to the change, as we need to adjust the food orders with our suppliers before a change can go ahead.

EXTERNAL PARTNERS

Brentford Christmas Market – 11/12/21 & 12/12/21

Please find attached to this bulletin a flier advertising a Christmas community event this weekend in Brentford.

Contact:

To contact the school, please send an email to office@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk

To contact the Chair of Governors: chair@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk