



St Paul's Friday Round Up

Friday 26th February 2021

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

Reopening of Primary Schools

I am sure that you will all be aware that primary schools across England will reopen to all pupils on Monday 8th March. From that date all pupils, excluding those with a government issued instruction to continuing shielding or those with COVID in their household, will be expected to attend school on site. We shall cease the remote learning offer as all pupils and staff return to school. Our return will be very much like it was in the autumn term, with all of the additional safety measures that we developed in the autumn term.

Friday 5th March – Closure of the school site at 12:30pm

In order to rearrange, prepare and clean the school site for the return on March 8th, we shall be closing the school site to ALL pupils at 12:30pm. I am sorry for any challenge this causes to families currently using the critical worker and vulnerable child provision. We have tried to keep disruption to a minimum, but need some time for staff to prepare rooms etc for the full school return.

There will be a full day's learning on the Google Classroom that all children can access remotely on Friday 5th March. The opening live stream will take place as normal at 9am. The end of day live stream will be brought forward to 11:30am. On the afternoon of 5th March children will be able to access the remaining lessons, however the class stream will not be monitored. Any questions or queries can be addressed in school on Monday 8th March.

Action:

If your child attends the nursery in school – collect them as usual at 12:00pm

If your child attends the Reception to Year 6 critical worker provision in school – Please collect them 12:30pm after they have had their lunch – if your child has a packed lunch, please send it in as normal. Your child can log on to the afternoon session via Google Classroom from home.

Detailed arrangements for the reopening of our school

We shall send 3 emails over the next week with specific details of our return plans. The first of these was sent this afternoon by Mr Roy. Please look out for these emails as they will set out detailed information that you will need to prepare for the school's return.

Action:

Monitor emails to receive, read (and where necessary respond to) three key emails with details of the school's reopening arrangements.

Below I set out some key information to support the return:

School Meals

We shall resume the provision of hot school meals to every classroom, as we were doing at the end of the autumn term. The benefits eligible free school meal parcels will stop being produced next week. **If you wish to change the meal arrangements** that your child had in place in December as you return on 08/03/21, **please read and respond to the email** Mr Roy has sent to parents this afternoon. **If you do not wish to change the meal arrangements** that your child had in place in December **you do not need to take any action.**

Provided the school enters a more settled phase, we intend to phase in dining hall dining in the summer term.

Breakfast Club and Aftercare Club

We are exploring the possibility of reopening the school's breakfast and aftercare clubs from Monday 8th March. They will be run on the same basis as the autumn term. **If you wish to use these clubs please read and respond to the email** Mr Roy has sent to parents this afternoon. Provided the clubs are viable, we will contact those interested to arrange payment and confirm places later next week.

Peripatetic Instrument Lessons – Years 3 & 4

Pupils who signed up for the brass and ukulele peripatetic lessons to start in January will now have their lessons in the Summer term. Once they are confirmed, we shall share arrangements for the hire of brass instruments through the Hounslow Music Service.

Afterschool Dodgeball and Multisports Clubs

We shall work with Brentford Football club to reschedule these clubs for the pupils who signed up to them for the spring term. I anticipate this being in the summer term. We shall share further details once we have confirmation.

Teachers in Class 4M and 5P

As the autumn term finished Miss Mayor left the school. We had planned for Mr Lotz to take the class, however he has been unable to relocate to the UK due to the pandemic lockdown. Earlier this term I shared the exciting news of Mrs Pape's pregnancy. In this late stage of her pregnancy, she will not be returning to school with us on 8th March and will continue to work from home until her maternity leave starts. As a result, I am planning for a teacher to take the class through to the end of the academic year.

Plans for new teachers in for class 4M and 5P are at an advanced stage and I shall share further details in next week's bulletin once they are confirmed.

School Uniform

Over the last few weeks, you children may have had a growth spurt and last term's uniform may no longer fit comfortably. We have reopened our uniform sales. If you would like to purchase new uniform please log into your *Parentpay* account. You can order uniform through *Parentpay*. Please use the notes section to share the size that you want. Please be aware that we are unable to accept returns at present, so order on the large size if you are in doubt. We shall distribute new uniform items during the school day on Monday 8th March, for your child to bring home at the end of the day. If you would prefer to collect your order from the school late next week instead, please leave a message in the notes section of your order, the school office will then share a collection time for you – likely to be on Friday 5th March.

Many items of our school uniform are not branded and can be purchased widely. As non-essential shops are closed, you may need to use online delivery or click and collect services.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, you may be eligible to apply for a school uniform grant from the local authority. Please follow this [link](#) for information.

Thank you

I am sure that the prospect of a return to school is a welcome, if slightly worrying prospect for you, as it is for us. Over the last year we have established a whole range of new procedures and routines to mitigate against the risk of COVID infection in the school. I shall share more details of these with you in the emails next week.

We cannot wait to have all the children back at school. I am incredibly proud of the effort and commitment our families have shown towards the remote learning. I know that it really is no substitute for actually being at school and that it has placed considerable strain and pressure onto all of us. However, I admire and appreciate how hard every family has worked to make it as positive and successful as possible. I know that teachers have made many calls over the closure to families and that the live streams have been very well attended. Thank you for the part you have played in supporting your children with the remote learning.

I am also equally proud and grateful of the effort and commitment my entire staff team have shown throughout the closure. The teachers have planned and delivered the remote learning, my teaching assistants, learning support assistants and Early Years practitioners have led and supported the pupils attending the school site, my catering team have provided food on site and food parcels for families working at home, my premises team have endlessly cleaned the site and moved resources to meet the changing needs of the building, my admin team have tackled the endless administrative workload presented by the 'ever shifting sands' and my leadership team have, at every turn, solved, led and orchestrated the whole enterprise with grace and good humour.

Our clergy have provided some great recorded worship videos helping to keep God's presence close at hand through these difficult times. I am thankful too for all the very many prayers that have been said for our school.

This is by no means the end of this pandemic and I am sure that many challenges and frustrations lie ahead of us all, but we stand strong to face them together.

EXTERNAL PARTNERS

EU Settlement Scheme

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK before 31 December 2020, and their families, can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 30 June 2021. The deadline for applying is **30 June 2021**.

The Citizens Advice centre is offering information and support for families. I have attached an information leaflet with details to this bulletin.

Easter Family Workshops

The adult and community education department of the local authority have organised some family activities for the Easter holidays. I have attached a flier with details of the activities to this bulletin.

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