



St Paul's Friday Round Up

Friday 6th November 2020

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

School meals

We had a very positive trial of our hot meals served in the classroom on Wednesday this week. The children really seemed to enjoy the meals. We shall continue to work up hot meal provision over this half term. I know that some children who are currently on packed lunch from home are keen to try the hot meal offer. On Wednesday 18th November we shall be offering those children the chance to 'dip in' and try a hot meal.

Action:

If your child currently has packed lunch and wants to try a hot meal on Wednesday 18th November, please:

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, send an email to office@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk with the subject "Dip in Meal Day", include your child's full name and class. We must receive this email by 3pm on Wednesday 11th November 2020. You will then receive a confirmation that your child will be given a lunch on 18th November. You do not have to pay anything, as your child is eligible for UFSM (Universal Infant Free School Meals).

If your child is in Year 3,4,5 or 6 AND is eligible for Benefits related free school meals, send an email to office@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk with the subject "Dip in Meal Day", include your child's full name and class. We must receive this email by 3pm on Wednesday 11th November 2020. You will then receive a confirmation that your child will be given a lunch on 18th November. You do not have to pay anything, as your child is eligible for FSM (Free School Meals).

If your child is in Year 3,4,5 or 6 and IS NOT eligible for Free School Meals, select 'Dip in Day lunch' and pay the £2.20 for your child's meal.

All emails/bookings must be made on Parentpay by 3pm on Wednesday 11th November.

If your child already has school meals, carry on your booking as usual, you do not need to do anything special.

Changing Meals

All our food is ordered and prepared fresh on site. We plan our menus and food orders a week in advance for the whole week. As a result we are unable to facilitate a 'mixed meal' option – children having a home packed lunch on some days and a school meal on others.

If you wish to switch your child from home packed lunch to school meals or vice versa, please notify the office by email by the Wednesday of the week before you want to change. The office will confirm receipt of your request and the day on which your switch will take effect – usually the Monday of the following week.

National Lockdown

On Thursday 5th November England went into a National Lockdown in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. In recognition of the rising incidence of COVID in the locality, the strengthening of national measures as well as feedback from the parent survey last month the staff on the gates and at the doors to the school are wearing face coverings. I would like to ask all parents to wear face coverings on the school playground when you are collecting. Parents are careful to distance from one another whilst waiting at the gate, please continue to do this. Also, going to the playground in the park at the end of the day brings together children from across the school and with families meeting in the playground, potentially works against the current national guidance.

The school has received updated guidance from government on the National lockdown. The intention is to keep schools open. School remains open for all pupils. If your child is 'Clinically Extremely Vulnerable' they may still be allowed to attend school. The information below comes from the Department for Education and applies to pupils who are 'Clinically Extremely Vulnerable'.

More evidence has emerged that shows there is a very low risk of children becoming very unwell from coronavirus (COVID-19), even for children with existing health conditions. Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice. Parents should be advised to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable.

Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. Schools will need to make appropriate arrangements to enable them to continue their education at home.

Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education.

Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice.

Parent Survey

Thank you to the many parents who completed the short survey we distributed at the end of last half term. There were some very encouraging results and ideas that we can work on too. I have attached a copy of the outcomes to this bulletin for your information.

Starting Reception Class 2021

If your child is in the nursery, you will need to apply for a Reception place for September 2021. Applications are made through the local authority and need to be submitted by January 15th 2021. I attach a leaflet from the local authority with details of the application process to this bulletin.

Action:

Nursery parents please complete an application for your Child's reception place by January 15th 2021.

School Photographs

The school photographer was in school last half term and took individual photos. The 'proof' sheet showing your child's photo and with details on how to buy copies of the photographs will be sent home with your child this afternoon. Details of the website, password and photo code that you need to buy the photographs are on this proof sheet. Orders for photos will close on Friday 20th November.

Action:

Look out for your child's photo proof sheet in their bookbag this afternoon. Follow the instructions on the proof sheet to order photographs.

Class 5P

Sadly, Mrs Pape, the teacher in 5P is unwell and will be off work for at least a month. Ms R Davis will cover the class, with support from staff within the school, during Mrs Pape's absence. Ms Davis is an experienced teacher who has worked in the school before.

Number November

This week we launched Number November, our month-long focus on numbers and number facts. It was lovely to see so many imaginative number costumes in school today. We will post some photos of the costumes and maths work on our new website next week. On Wednesday this week we sent home a paper flier with highlights of the week – this is also in the news section of our school website.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a parent governor vacancy. We shall circulate information in a separate email today.

Action:

Look out for the email on the parent governor vacancy.

EXTERNAL PARTNERS

Remote Learning Tips for Parents

Currently the school is open to all pupils and so we are not running remote learning for any of our classes. Should the school need to close a bubble due to a COVID infection, the parents of all pupils who are affected would be contacted to let them know.

We have been working up plans to support remote learning in these circumstances over Google Classroom. We all know how challenging remote learning can be from last academic year. Mrs Ward, one of our governors, found the following advice that is aimed at supporting families in the event of a partial or full school closure. I hope that you find it useful: <https://www.wales247.co.uk/10-expert-tips-on-how-to-homeschool-children-while-working-from-home/>

Design our MP's Christmas Card

Every year the local MP, Ruth Cadbury, invites pupils across her constituency to design her official Christmas card. The design needs to be in colour and sent to her by 16th November 2020. I have attached the entry template to this bulletin.

Action:

If your child wishes to submit an entry, print off and complete the design. Post your design to the address at the bottom of the entry sheet to arrive by Monday 16th November – good luck!

Contact:

To contact the school, please send an email to office@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk or phone: 020 8560 3297

The office gate is currently kept closed to reduce mixing. You can call the office from the gate if you need face-to-face support.