



St Paul's Friday Round Up

Friday 20th November 2020

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

Remote Learning Trial Afternoon – Tuesday 24th November 4pm

Next Tuesday we shall hold our remote learning trial afternoon. Your child's classroom will go live from 4pm. A teacher in the school will host a brief introduction before setting a short lesson. Please help your child to participate in the lesson, complete and return the task. If you have questions or queries during the trial, please use the stream function to communicate with the teacher. If your child attends aftercare, we shall use school iPads to participate in the trial. The teachers have prepared carefully for this event, however things may well go wrong. We shall seek feedback after the trial in order to address any difficulties that arise.

Action:

Log in to Google Classroom from 4pm on Tuesday 24th November to help test run remote learning.

Remote Learning Ground Rules – Acceptable Use Policy for Remote Learning

In order that we use the remote learning facilities as safely as possible Mr Johnston, our Computing Subject leader, has created an *Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)* for remote learning. This sets out the expectations for how Google Classroom should be used. We are sending a hard copy of this policy home with all children from Reception to Year 6 this afternoon. Nursery children will be given a copy on Monday. An electronic copy of the AUP is attached to this bulletin for your reference.

Action:

Please read through and discuss the Acceptable Use Policy sent home with your child. Please sign the document and return it to your child's class teacher by Tuesday 24th November.

Christmas Under COVID

The lead up to Christmas is always such an exciting part of the school year and very special for pupils, parents and staff. Clearly with the restrictions required for COVID safety we will not be able to run our Christmas events and services as we would normally do.

We are determined to make the best of the situation and continue in a COVID safe way to mark Christmas effectively and to include our whole school community. Our plans are evolving as I type.

Nativity and Christmas Performances

Year 1 traditionally lead the school's celebrations with a nativity service in the church. This will not be possible this year, however Year 1 will prepare a retelling of the nativity which we hope to film and photograph to share with you all later in the term.

The other year groups will also participate in a recorded retelling of the Christmas story. We aim to share this with you all either through the school's new website or through Google Classroom. The children may be asked to bring in a Christmas hat on the day they are preparing their contribution.

As ever, we need to ensure that we have correct permissions in place to include the children in these performances and recordings.

We have previously sought permission for photographs to be used in school, on our website and in marketing materials.

I now need to ask permission for your child to be filmed and photographed as part of the education offer of the school or when performing. These films would then be placed on the school website or shared with the school community through the school's Google Classroom account.

If you do not give consent for filming as described above, your child will not be present in the video/audio files that we are preparing for Christmas.

This afternoon we have sent home hard copy permission slips (an electronic copy is included with this bulletin) for you to complete and return to your child's class teacher by Friday 27th November.

Action:

Please read through and complete the filming permission letter sent home in book bags this evening.

Other Christmas Events

Christmas Cards

The children will be able to send other children in their year group bubble and staff Christmas cards, bringing their addressed cards to their classroom from Monday 30th November. The cards will be quarantined and distributed. The final day for bringing in Christmas cards will be Tuesday 15th December, to allow time to quarantine before distribution.

School Christmas Lunch

We shall have our traditional Christmas lunch, served in classrooms, on Wednesday 16th December. The menu will be shared shortly. Children who ordinarily have packed lunch will be invited to sign up for the Christmas lunch shortly.

Class Parties

We intend to arrange COVID safe class parties. We shall seek donations of party food nearer the time. This year we will be asking for commercially produced food items that are sealed in their packaging, rather than home made contributions. These will then be shared onto 'party plates' and given to the children, rather than served in a 'buffet' style. Classes will remain in their classrooms, rather than coming together in the hall for games and the games will be adapted appropriately.

Care for Others

This year we have not been able to participate in our usual shoebox appeal. Instead, we hope to collect food donations for the Hounslow Foodbox. In this way we can support our immediate community at a particularly difficult time. We shall share further details with you later in the term.

Free School Meal Vouchers for the Christmas Holidays

Families whose children receive benefits eligible free school meals will receive a £15 voucher for each week of the Christmas holidays. The voucher will be sent to your email address that we hold, as happened after the October half term. If you have changed email address, please update the school office by Monday 23rd November.

If your employment or financial circumstances have changed recently and you would like to apply for free school meals, please click [here](#).

Peripatetic Instrument Tuition

We are working closely with Hounslow Music Service to provide some peripatetic brass and ukulele lessons for pupils in Years 3 and 4 in the Spring term. There will be further information about the offer, as well as details of how to sign up in next week's bulletin.

Flu Vaccines

The school nursing team will be visiting the school to deliver flu vaccines to pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 on Monday 14th December as part of the national flu vaccination programme. Parental consent is needed for every child and your child will not be included in the programme if you have not given consent. Consent is given online through the school nursing service. We sent an email to parents with details of the process on 29th September.

Action:

If you have not yet given consent online for your child to participate in the national vaccination programme, please retrieve the email from 29th September and follow the consent process. If you cannot find the details or need help, please contact the school office.

St Andrew's Day – Monday 30th November

On the days of our national saints, the Scout and Guide associations like to encourage members of their groups to attend school in their beaver, cub, scout, rainbow, brownie or guide uniform. We have supported this initiative in the past and will allow members of these groups to wear their uniform on St Andrew's Day on Monday 30th November.

Parent Governor Nominations

Just a reminder that the deadline for nominations for the parent governor vacancy close at 10am on Monday 23rd November. Please see the email sent on Friday 6th November for details of the nomination process and the relevant paperwork.

EXTERNAL PARTNERS

Economic Hardship as a result of COVID pandemic

Our community has been hit hard by the COVID pandemic. I know that families will have experienced illness, bereavement, furloughing, redundancy and reduced working hours. The local authority has established a fund to support families experiencing financial difficulties as a result of the COVID pandemic. There is support for food costs, utility bills, essential white goods etc. If you would like to find out more about the support available, please click [here](#).

UK Government Call for Evidence - Faith

The UK Government has commissioned a survey to examine how government engages with faith groups. They have launched a four-week consultation which everyone is invited to contribute to. The online response can be viewed and completed [here](#). Further information about the Call for Evidence can be found below.

This Call for Evidence aims to collect views from the public and from experts in the subject; these views will help underpin this review's recommendations.

The last few months have been very challenging for places of worship and people of faith. The significant restrictions that have been put in place to control the spread of the virus have limited people's ability to worship, practice and celebrate their faith as they normally would. This review began before the Covid-19 pandemic, but it is timely as the recommendations may well come to strengthen how government engages with faith groups during the Covid-19 recovery phase and beyond.

The call for evidence will pose a series of questions around how those of all faiths, or none, perceive the Government's engagement with faith organisations. Because the review is specifically about faith and religion, priority will be given to responses that fit within those parameters. However, space is given for respondents to share their views in a way that they feel is appropriate.

Colin Bloom's initial proposal is to structure the review around four main sections.

- ***The first section asks the question, "Are faith groups, places of worship and people of faith a force for good in society?"***
- ***The second section explores the extent to which Government and its agencies have sufficient faith literacy and considers the partnership between faith groups and the State.***
- ***The third section looks at some aspects where harm might be caused through religious or faith-based practices and a review of the Government's role in tackling them.***

- *The fourth and final section will be a set of recommendations for the Government to consider and respond to.*

Respondents should feel free to make use of a range of sources, reports, case studies, surveys or even personal anecdotes to underpin their points where a general response is requested.

Action:

Share your views using the link above.

Youth Sports Trust After School Sports Club

Many children and young people across the UK will be missing out on their usual sport clubs. The Youth Sport Trust are here to help all young people feel part of a club that helps them develop skills and learn something new. The Youth Sport Trust's After School Sport Club is about much more than physical fitness. It will help children develop physical literacy and confidence to try lots of new sports, helping all children find a sport for them.

The After School Sport Club will be led by Athlete Mentors from different backgrounds, abilities and sports. The first session took place on Thursday 12 November at 5pm, with the world's number one female inline skater and ten times British Champion, [Jenna Downing](#), you can see her session [here](#).

Every day at 5pm from 16 November until 18 December, children and young people can join in with the live broadcast for free on our [YouTube](#) channel. Join in the conversation on social using #YSTAfterSchool and tagging [@YouthSportTrust](#) across all social media channels.

Hounslow Adult and Community Education – Digital Skills Training

The Hounslow Adult and Community Education team are offering three new digital skills courses for adults, starting in January. Please see the fliers attached to this bulletin.

Action:

Read the digital skills fliers and sign up for the courses if they are of interest to you.

Contact:

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

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

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.