

ST PAUL'S C of E VA PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHIPPERFIELD

Love to Learn; Learn to Love



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Newsletter 41
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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an incredibly busy final week of term - with much of the focus quite rightly being on our Y6 leavers. It has been difficult with current restrictions for them to carry out the usual Y6 leadership roles, but they have found different ways to lead - and have done so brilliantly. Their leadership Teams assemblies have really helped to bring the children and staff together in a time when bubbles have made that hard. Their assemblies have been informative, entertaining and funny. They have given in so many ways and their positivity, humour and great respect have been noticed beyond the classroom.

This week they have worked together on a Y6 production of 'The Wizard of Oz.' What a way to finish their time at St Paul's! Mrs Smith chose this particular play as a tale of friendship, teamwork, determination and courage - values that are always important, but even more so in this difficult year. Y6 have shown these values at their best and we are so incredibly proud of them. They have been fabulous ambassadors for St Paul's and they are now more than ready to take the next step on their journey.

Staff Leavers

Miss Riordan is leaving Reception. She feels that now the time is right to move on and do other things. We thank her for her hard work, kindness and care with the Reception class and wish her every success and happiness in the next chapter of her life.

Mrs Bennett is leaving to relocate and move closer to her family. She is also starting teacher training. As a teaching assistant in Y2, she has been fabulous and we know that we were very lucky to have found her. She will be the most amazing teacher (she already is!) and wherever she ends up, she will be a real asset. We will really miss Mrs Bennett and wish her every success and happiness in her move and future career.

Mr Kelly has already left us once - then came back - and is now leaving again! I think this time it is for good as he is taking semi-retirement. Now that he will have more time on his hands he is looking forward to more flexible holidays and spending more time with his family. Mr Kelly has worked so hard for us over the years to keep our school in good working order and clean and tidy. As well as all his hard work, we will miss his friendship and continual stream of jokes and impressions!

Diary Dates

Dates are provisional and dependent on the situation at the time

(New events highlighted)



July

22nd - End of term - from 1.15pm

September

1st - INSET day - school closed to children

2nd - Children return to school

Mrs Holloway has been part of our staff team for many, many years. She has worked in various parts of the school, including KS2, but finally found herself in Nursery and supporting children on the playground at lunchtimes. Y6 memory readings in church today - and in previous years - are testimony to what a positive impact she has had on so many young lives - the love and care shines through time and time again. As well as this, Mrs Holloway looks after the staff, baking tasty treats for the staff room (she makes the most delicious, light shortbread) and answering any call for help. During lockdown, she helped us all to stay connected with beautiful images and wise words. She really is so much of the heart of our school and we are all really going to miss her.

Summer Reading Challenge 2021: www.wildworldheroes.org.uk

The Summer Reading Challenge 2021 is now here! The libraries are teaming up with WWF for a very special nature-themed Challenge that will inspire you to stand up for the planet! It would be great to get as many children taking part in the challenge as possible; it is so important that reading continues over the summer, and this is a fun and encouraging way to do it. We will celebrate all those children who have taken part when we return to school next year.



On behalf of the governors and staff of St Paul's, I would like to **thank you parents** for your continued support throughout this year. We know that it has been the most challenging of times. We cannot believe that we have got to the end of this academic year without having burst a bubble - there are not many schools that can say that - and much of that is down to you in adhering to procedures and working together in keeping our school safe. Thank you as well for the many messages of support and appreciation for everything that the staff do.

Thank you to the PTA/FOSP for their continuing work this year - especially in these challenging circumstances. The highlight was probably St Paul's Got Talent - thank you to Emma Kell for leading on this and for being our fantastic Chair.

I would also like to take this opportunity to **thank the staff**. It has been the most challenging of years for them too and, along with many other places of work, it has been challenging to provide cover with staff having to isolate, as well as covering for illness. As one parent has written: *'The last two years have probably been the hardest that any school has had to cope with. You have had to continually adapt, sometimes with little warning and make difficult decisions, always keeping the children, families and staff safety in mind.'* Throughout, I am very proud in the knowledge that our staff have continued to show the utmost commitment and care in their provision for the children, and also their support of each other.

Please see the separate letter outlining the main arrangements for September; there will be further information when you come back. Please do check emails towards the end of August in case there have been any changes. I wish you all an enjoyable, peaceful and safe summer. Our leavers leave with our prayers and love, and we look forward to seeing the rest of you back for the new academic year on **Thursday 2nd September**.

Best wishes,
Caroline Moore
Headteacher

