

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

Love to Learn; Learn to Love



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Newsletter 9

22nd October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing and sending the newsletter today as school is closed tomorrow for INSET. In some ways it seems like we have only just come back to school - and in other ways it seems like it has already been a very long term! I think that everybody is tired - partly because there is so much more to have to consider right now - and is more than ready for the half term break. It has been fantastic how positively everybody has come back to school and how quickly they - and you - have adapted to the new procedures we are having to adhere to. As we cannot currently sing together in a confined space, a definite highlight of today has been Y5 jiggling about and signing to Bon Jovi's 'Living on a Prayer.'

I have started to show prospective parents around in preparation for next year. This has had to be adapted considerably as the tour is now being done with strict social distancing and from outside. I was wondering how this would work out, and if it would still give a feel for what our school is like. I am happy to say that you can still feel that 'buzz' of happy children (and staff!) flourishing, busy in activity and enjoying their learning. Our Y6 school ambassadors have done a fantastic job in helping me to lead on this and the children that we have passed on the playground have been incredibly welcoming.

Crossing Patrol: We have just been informed that after half term there will be no crossing patrol in the afternoons outside the Two Brewers.

Secondary Admissions 2021 Deadline - 31st October: Applications need to be made by the closing date of Saturday 31st October 2020. The admissions team would recommend that parents complete their application by Friday 23rd October (which is just next Friday), so that if there are any queries, they can be dealt with by the Admissions Team ahead of the deadline.

Virtual Dacorum Cross Country Event: Unfortunately this event had to be postponed due to the wet weather. We are hoping to hold the event on the first Wednesday back after half term (4th).

Diary Dates

(new events highlighted)



October

23rd - INSET day - school closed to children

26th - 30th - **HALF TERM**

31st - Deadline for applications for secondary schools

November

2nd - Online system opens for admissions (Reception 2021)

3rd - School Photographs

4th - **Dacorum Virtual Cross Country**

w/b 9th and 16th - Telephone parent consultations

w/b 16th - Just Talk Week

17th - Flu vaccinations

26th - History dress-up day

27th - INSET - school closed to children

30th - Occasional Day - school closed

December

11th - **Christmas Jumper Day**

14th - Flu vaccinations

16th - **Christmas Accessory Day**
- Christmas Dinner

18th - End of term - 1.30pm

FOSP Virtual Christmas Fair - 13th, 14th and 15th November: One of our Nursery parents (Mrs Hinton) has volunteered to organise a virtual Christmas Fair. Whether you are a customer or looking to be a vendor, you need to be a member of the Facebook group, which is where the event will be taking place: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stpaulsschoolvirtualfair>
All vendor enquiries need to contact her through the group. There will also be a tombola happening virtually. Anyone wishing to donate something - or for other enquiries - please contact Jennifer Hibberd on here. Thank you.

Online Safety: With half term approaching, we have been sent the following advice from a Lead e-Safety Adviser:

The current Covid situation may have forced many families to stay together for more time than usual, and it is natural that many of you might feel online activity time limits for your children could be relaxed or extended to help pass the time. Whilst this is a parental decision, we would advise that you still ensure a balance of online and real-world activity. It is important to ensure consistent supervision, to ensure that children remain safe during their time online, whether gaming, searching, watching videos/sound/images, or communicating with others. Naturally there will be some suitable activities for children of all ages but equally, there are many risks associated with unlimited and/or unrestricted access. Please monitor their online activity and check that all options, on each accessible device within the home, are age appropriate. For example, WhatsApp is age 16+, Twitter, Instagram and many other social media apps are age 13+. Gaming has a PEGI age rating system just like the DVD classification system and it is easy to find out what is and what is not appropriate by visiting <https://pegi.info/page/pegi-age-ratings>.

If you need further help locking a device down, do check out the following.

General advice: www.internetmatters.org

Apple: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

PC: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-365/family-safety>

Android:

https://families.google.com/familylink/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=families_google&utm_term=android_parental_controls&&gclid=CjwKCAjwlbr8BRAOEiwAnt4MTsKFxUOt-WoZtMLWokCbM7TmaU2guPJPcdMivdH5u5n4zhHw10asmRoCgegQAvD_BwE

Android app:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.zerodesktop.appdetox.dinnertimeplus>

Coming up in the week after half term:

Monday 2 nd November	Online system opens for admissions to Reception 2021
Tuesday 3 rd November	School Photographs
Wednesday 4 th November	Dacorum Virtual Cross County (weather permitting)



Value Award:	Reception:	Y1 - Sienna	Y2 - Esme	
Responsibility	Y3 - Millie	Y4 - Darsh	Y5 - Caleb	Y6 - Christopher
Bronze	Y1 - Kit Y2 - Darcey, Henri and Rupert Y4 - Alexa, Jasper, Bethany and Jamie Y5 - Harrison and Lois Y6 - Daniel and Sophia			
Headteacher's Trophy	Henri (Y2) for working so hard with his writing and being proud in his achievements. He decided himself to continue his Iron Man story and kept going throughout Golden Time. He is generally showing a positive attitude to learning and great focus in maths.			

Y6 have been leading fantastically with the value of 'Responsibility.' Not being able to interact with other 'bubbles', they are finding new and different ways to do this. After half term, Y5 lead on the value of 'Respect' and our PSHE Jigsaw theme is 'Celebrating Difference,' which includes a specific focus on anti-bullying.

I would like to thank the staff for all their hard work this half-term in welcoming the children back and continuing to engage them so well. I thank families as well for your fantastic support and hope that you have a lovely half-term break. We look forward to seeing you when school re-opens again on Monday 2nd November.

Best wishes and take care,

Caroline Moore

Headteacher