

# St. Paul's C.E. Primary School (Crompton Street - Walkden) NEWSLETTER

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Parents

Please find below details of upcoming events in school and events that have taken place this half term.

## **Disco**

There will be another school disco on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February – tickets will be on sale shortly. Children must purchase a ticket before the day of the disco as tickets will not be on sale on the door. Many thanks to the staff and volunteers for organising and supervising this event on the night.

## **Safer Internet Day/Esafety.**

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February children in school will be taking part in safer internet day to encourage the safe use of technology. This year there will be a theatre production from Footlights theatre to illustrate and highlight positive use of the internet. Please ask your children what they have been doing following this. We still have a set of books that deal with the issue of staying safe online and if you would like to borrow any of these please come in and ask at the office. The books are on display on our main corridor

## **Mr O's online safety corner**

Messenger Kids, Facebook's new app designed to allow those under the age of 13 to more safely communicate thanks to parental controls, is launching soon in the UK. The service had originally debuted on iPad, iPhone and iPod touch in early December in the U.S.

The move comes at a difficult time for Facebook and for social media in general, where there are

increasing concerns about social media's ability to addict adults, and the impact that screen time has on children in particular. The launch of Messenger Kids has been criticised as the equivalent of cigarette marketers targeting underage smokers.

The truth is, children are messaging each other anyway – through apps like Musical.ly, Snapchat and WhatsApp. None of these have any tools for parental controls, which actually makes it harder for parents who do try to monitor their children's usage of devices and communication software when they're young.

Messenger Kids is available only via a parent's Facebook account, and aims to allow parents to keep an eye on who and what children are messaging.

## **Emotional Health and Well being**

As a school we are working towards obtaining a new Emotionally Friendly Schools status. Children are working in school on a programme of wellbeing activities and we have continued to add to our book collection in this area with story books and child friendly non-fiction books to support children learning about their own and other's emotional health and wellbeing. Again if you would be interested in borrowing any of these books please come in and speak to us.

## **Young Voices – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018**

The Young Voices concert is always a fantastic event that our Year 4 class takes part in annually. This year Young Voices have produced a choir app for practising which can be downloaded now for phones and tablets

from the APP store. There is a cost to this however.

### **Confirmations in Church**

Annually our Year 6 children are invited to take part in confirmation classes in order to be confirmed into the church. This year's service is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February. 7 of our Year 6 children will be being confirmed in this service.

### **Parents Evening.**

Letters will be going out shortly to request times for parent's evenings on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Please return these as soon as possible. We do ask that all parents make an appointment to see their child's class teacher. We will also endeavour to ensure that siblings times are on the same days if you indicate the siblings on the form too please. If you receive times on 2 different days please come in and see us. On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February Emily Rogers from Walkden High School will be attending to talk to parents and answer any questions parents have about transition to Walkden High at the end of Year 6.

### **After school clubs**

All after school clubs will end Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Many thanks to everyone who has signed up for these and has attended. Please be aware that where a child has committed to the club and does not attend regularly with no good explanation, serious consideration will be given as to whether to offer them a place in future clubs. The letter for the next terms clubs will be sent out w/c 5<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Attendance**

Please can I ask that unless absolutely necessary children should be in school every day. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter as even odd days off makes a difference to how secure your children's learning is.

### **Changes of details**

Please can you ensure that you keep us up to date with any changes in details including changes of address and telephone numbers, especially if they have changed over the Christmas break.

### **Outdoor play reminders**

Please can you ensure that children do not play on the outdoor equipment before and after school. Children should be supervised at all times by a member of staff on this equipment so shouldn't be using the equipment outside of the school day, and if children are found to be on the equipment at these times, we will not accept liability for any incidents occurring.

### **Volunteers in school – Thank you ...and Wanted in school!**

Many thanks to all the amazing volunteers we have in school who hear readers and support children in their learning. We would really appreciate any help, whether it is 30 minutes or longer in hearing our children read in school. The children really enjoy this 1 to 1 time with an adult and any support would be greatly appreciated.

### **Reading and Bug Club**

Please can I ask that children are encouraged to access the Bug Club online resources at home. Every child in school has this access which is funded through our school budget for home access, as we feel it is a really useful and motivating addition to our reading resources. It does however come at a cost and we do monitor how many children are accessing it to ensure that access to it remains cost effective and is having the greatest impact. If you have lost your child's password your child's class teacher can reissue this, please just ask!

### **World Book Day**

World Book Day is on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March. To celebrate this event children are invited to dress up as a character from a book and bring their favourite book in to school. Please do not feel the need to purchase expensive outfits, many characters in books can be achieved through normal everyday clothes. Children will also receive a book day voucher.

The school cook will also be serving a special 'World Book Day' dinner. A letter will follow shortly giving you the menu and the opportunity to book a dinner for your child on this day.

## **OFSTED Inspection**

Many thanks to everyone in school, staff, pupils and parents for all your support during our recent inspection. The staff and children were as amazing as always and we are really proud of them all. We are really pleased with the positive comments that were made by the inspector in judging our school as consistently good. The inspection letter is now available on the school website as well as on the OFSTED website.

## **Class assemblies and open mornings this term**

Many thanks to the parents who regularly attend our assemblies and open mornings and complete our comment cards – we do appreciate it, and the children really look forward to these events. We will be continuing to hold our open mornings where you can also have an opportunity to take part in class activities and look at your child's work. If you are unable to attend please feel free to ask a relative or friend to come and take part in the morning – children do love sharing their learning with someone special to them. The dates are on the diary dates calendar and on the school website.

This, and last, half term has seen many activities in school. For more information and photographs please see the latest events section of the school website at [www.stpaulscrompton.org.uk](http://www.stpaulscrompton.org.uk). We also have our new photo book for the Autumn Term, please come and have a look if you are in school.

We look forward to continuing working together and hope you can join us in school during this time.

Kind regards

Yvette Sullivan and the staff at St Paul's.