

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

Dated: Friday 7th September 2018

Dear Parents / Governors,

At the end of our first busy week in school I would like to welcome you all back and extend an especially warm welcome to our new families starting with us this year.

May I also take this opportunity to Thank you for ensuring that your children all look very smart and have returned to school ready to work really hard and do their best at all times.

We look forward to a very positive and successful time for all the children this year. We will continue to send out newsletters, however if you would like a preview of what is happening in school and when, please continue to have a look at our website (www.stpaulscrompton.org.uk) which is continually updated. I hope you will find it to be a useful source of information. The website is also updated with pictures and information when events have happened.

A mile a morning

Mrs Jones will be encouraging children to join her from 8.30am to walk around the school playground/field in order to complete a mile a morning. If your child is in Year 3 or above and would like to take part, please register their name at the office and then they can be dropped here at 8.30 to complete the mile a day. Places will be limited.

Speaking with teachers in the mornings at 8.45am

If your child is in Year 1-6 and you would like to see a class teacher in the morning please can we ask that you either make an appointment to

see the member of staff at a mutually convenient time, pass a message through the office, or staff may be available for a quick chat before 8.45am. Teaching staff are the only ones in class from 8.45am and are also supervising children at this time, so anything other than a message of a sentence or two, please can we ask you to make an appointment. Longer messages or requests can be given through the office, and staff will get them to the class teacher once the children are in the hall.

Fundraising and school discos

We are looking for volunteers for fundraising and to support school discos. Unfortunately without additional support from parents agreeing to support the whole evening of events we will be unable to run them in the future. If you feel you could support these events and would be willing to commit to helping in running them, please contact Liz at the office and then we can make a decision as to what events will be run in the future.

Data Collection Form

Just a reminder please to fill in and update details. Please can I ask that you send in any forms that haven't been returned, as soon as possible, to ensure that we have emergency contact information for all pupils.

Also if your child has a medical condition, please complete the individual care plan forms to ensure that we are aware of this and can treat them effectively.

Shoe Box appeal and raffle

We will again be supporting the Christmas Shoebox Appeal and your child has today been given a flier with some more information.

If you would like to take part in this appeal you should fill a wrapped shoebox and then once you have filled your box, please put the lid on and secure with an elastic band. Add a label stating whether it is for a boy or girl and the appropriate age, ranging from baby to teenager.

Other information that may further assist you:

- Each shoe box is to be filled to the top, ensuring the lid can shut.
- The lid and box must be wrapped separately (if they have come separately)
- Do not overfill the shoebox
- Items within the shoebox **MUST** not be second-hand or used items.

Please return your filled shoebox by Friday 12th October.

In previous years there have been an abundance of shoeboxes for children aged 5 – 9 and a shortage of 0-4 years and 10-16 years.

If you would like any more information, please call into the office.

Local area walk

On Monday 1st October at 1.15pm, Year 2 will be going on a local area walk as part of their geography topic. We would really appreciate it if any parents would be willing to support in walking with them and if so please let Liz know at the office. Many thanks.

Home school Reading changes

This year there are a few changes to the reading systems in school. Children will be bringing a new reading diary home which has daily sections for recording home reading in. As part of the rewards system we are now asking children to read **4 times** per week, which will then result in a home reading sticker. 10 stickers will then allow the children to choose a bookmark/pencil, 20 stickers to choose a book and 30 for an amazon voucher.

Children in KS2 (Years 3-6) will bring home their usual reading scheme book and one of the 100 books per week to read. These will

then be recorded in the children's reading diary.

Children in EYFS and KS1 (Years R-Y2) will bring home 3 books per week and one of their 100 books to read which can then be recorded in the reading diary.

Marking policy changes

There is a lot of recent guidance for schools on trying to establish an effective method of marking of children's work so we will be trialling a new method of marking.

Maths will continue to be marked as we currently do with objectives highlighted in pink and green and a challenge or green pen comment at the bottom, where appropriate.

English will be marked as follows:

- Objectives will be highlighted in green if the children have achieved them
- Marking symbols will be used to annotate the work and a class record sheet is completed daily with information to be fed into the next lesson to enhance further progress. Children will continue to use green pen to pick up on their own errors.

Mr O's Online Safety Corner

One often asked question is 'Should I let my child play a game that is age rated for older than them? They say that all of their friends are already playing it.' - This is very relevant at the moment with the ongoing popularity of Fortnite.

It is important to remember that just because everyone at your child's school is talking about a game, it doesn't necessarily mean that they are playing it. Try talking to other parents and asking if their children are playing it. It's easy for these kind of things to get exaggerated and you may find that far fewer of your children's classmates are actually playing the game than they may have you believe.

In order for you to make a decision about what kinds of games you allow your child to play, it is important that you do three key things: research, discuss, and explain.

Research – Look at the age and content ratings in the game. Know if there is the capacity for people to contact your child through the game, and if there are warnings for language, gore or any other unsuitable content.

Discuss – Speak to your child about why they want to play the game, is it the style, the graphics, the social aspect or something else? If you decide that the particular game is unsuitable from your discussion you could offer some more age appropriate alternatives.

Explain - If you've decided the game isn't suitable, then it's important to explain to your child why. It may be useful to show them what you found in your research to help them understand your concerns. This way they know that you're not just saying no to be mean, but because it's your job as a parent in wanting to protect them.

After School Clubs

After school clubs will begin on Monday 17th September 2018. Please see the email about clubs that will be sent separately on Monday.

Water Bottles

As we are a healthy school, please can you ensure that water only is in the children's water bottles. This is due to the effects on children's teeth of drinking juice or flavoured water throughout the day, and in line with school food trust guidance. Unless we have verified medical information that requires a child to be drinking anything other than water, if a child is found to have flavoured water or juice this will be replaced with non-flavoured water in school. Your support with this would be much appreciated.

Uniform and jewellery

As our Uniform policy states please can you ensure that all jewellery is removed for school, including earrings. Any children having had their ears pierced during the summer should now be able to remove the piercings and will be asked to do so. This is for health and safety reasons and children wearing earrings will be asked to remove them following the 6 week

piercing recommendations. As we are approaching winter too please can I ask that all children are in correct uniform, including red school jumpers or cardigans as well as school coloured tights and socks. Since we also play out in all weathers please can I also ask that all pupils have a warm winter coat and appropriate school shoes, with named hat, scarf and gloves, for being outside. Thank you.

Outdoor Equipment

Please can I remind you that school's outdoor equipment is for use only during supervised school sessions. It should not be used before and after school for safety reasons as we risk assess the weather and surface before every use. There have been a number of occasions where children have been asked to come off the equipment before and after school and parents have chosen to ignore the request potentially putting their children at risk, especially if the weather is wet.

Term Time Holidays

Just a polite reminder please that we don't authorise term time holidays based on the guidance from the LA which states. 'The Local Authority continues to hold the view that where an unauthorised holiday in term time has taken place this can constitute not attending school regularly which is an offence under the relevant legislation.'

Open Mornings

Many thanks to all parents and friends who came to support our class assemblies and activities last year. Please see the diary dates for your child's class workshop this term.

Evergreen Nursery Breakfast and After School Club

Evergreen will be continuing to provide our before and after school club. Breakfast club begins at 7.30 and after school club is until 6pm. If you are interested in your child attending please either come into school during these times or contact school and we can provide you with the contact details of the Nursery.

Emotionally Friendly Schools status

We will be continuing to work towards St Paul's gaining the Bronze, Silver and Gold awards as an Emotionally Friendly School.

Kind regards

We look forward to continuing working with you.

Yvette Sullivan
Headteacher

How can I help my child succeed in school?

- Read every day! Take turns at reading to your child and having your child read to you, asking questions to promote comprehension skills.
- Be positive, speaking well of school and learning. Encourage your child to talk about all of the fun things they have done or are going to do at school.
- Create a consistent after-school routine including meal times, homework time and play time (creating a visual display of this for your child can be very beneficial).
- Ensure your child is getting plenty of sleep on a school night, so they are fresh for school in the morning.
- Encourage your child in all aspects of academics, praising them both in their success and their efforts.
- Teach your child to be responsible for their actions, encouraging them to take responsibility for getting ready.
- Stay involved! If interested, inquire about volunteering within the classroom or about ways to support your child's learning at home.
- Communicate! Keep in regular contact with your child's teacher.