



2023/24

NUMBER 8

Thursday 2nd November '23

St Paul's Catholic Primary School, City Road, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 4SZ

Tel : 0118 9422003

Headteacher : Mrs N Oster

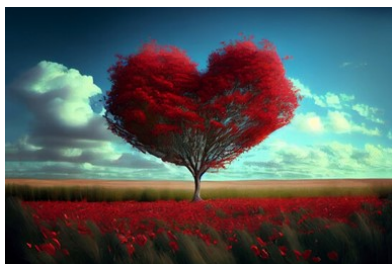
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ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 8



The Year of the Holy Spirit

A NEW COMMANDMENT



In the gospel this week, Matthew tells us that when challenged by the Jews to explain which is the greatest commandment; Jesus simply says, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This he said is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' Jesus said that on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets given previously. We need to ask ourselves what these mean to us? Do I really believe in God and love God? Do I take time in my busy day to praise, honour, thank or just talk to Him? The second is maybe easier for us to approach, as God is visible through my neighbour. I can think about my love for others, those close to me. I can think about my attitude towards every stranger around the world who is my sister and brother. I can pray for them. Yet as Jesus says we need to remember the order in which they were given and that we can't have one without the other.

HEADS UP

St Philip

This week St Philip learnt about Lord Carnarvon, Howard Carter and Tutankhamun. They also discovered how they found Tutankhamun's burial chamber. They researched many interesting facts about Tutankhamun in Computing. In French, they learned how to say the months of the year. They enjoyed playing dodgeball, bench ball in PE and learned about 'ly' words in SPAG. In RE, St Philip learned about the meaning of the word poverty. This week the Year 3s went to the church, along with the rest of the school, to celebrate All Saints' Day with members of the parish.



God of love

We pray for peace in our world, and
an end to war.
Instead of hatred, let there be love.
Shelter your children and protect us.
Guide us and keep us from harm,
so we can build a world of love and live our lives in
peace.
Amen



POPPY APPEAL

After half term our Year 6 pupils will be selling poppies, throughout the school, at break and lunchtimes. Parents will be able to make donations and collect poppies from the school office at the beginning and end of the school day. We ask for a silver donation, minimum of 20p per poppy. Thank you.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"When in the Rosary we plead with Mary, the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit (cf. Lk 1:35), she intercedes for us before the Father who filled her with grace and before the Son born of her womb, praying with us and for us." (Pope St John Paul II, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* 16.)

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

98% Attendance Owl awarded to St Bartholomew's Class for week ending 20th October 2023

94% Whole School attendance for week ending 20th October 2023

FEAST OF ALL SOULS

We remember those who have died and we pray for them during the month of November. In school the children have been invited to write the names of loved ones or anyone who has died and say a special prayer for the Holy Souls.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

The church will be open for private prayer on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8.30 am until after the 10.30 am Mass



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We are making the final arrangements for our First Holy Communion preparation sessions. We are inviting all children in **Year 3 and above** to please complete and return the attached form, by Friday 17th November, if you would like your child to receive this Holy Sacrament. There will be a short parent meeting on the 13th December in school at 6pm.

HOUSE CAPTAINS

St Anne - Klaudia and Kacper
St Bernadette - Julian and Amara
St Brigid - Matylda and David
St Margaret - Nikhil and Lucia
St Rose - Oscar H and Hannah

HOUSE CAPTAIN

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FOOD DONATIONS

The Parish SVP were most grateful for your donations for our Harvest Festival. They were able to provide aid to a great number of local people. They are now helping the West Berks Foodbank and we would like to add the School's support.

We know that times are very difficult for many at the present time and that winter will bring even more problems. We are asking staff and families to please if possible, make an occasional donation of just one item of essential foodstuff e.g. a can or packet, which our Mini Vinnies will take along to the SVP at St Joseph's parish on a monthly basis.

As always we are grateful for your continued support for those in need.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Following a ballot on Thursday 19th October, the following children were elected as School Council members by their peers.

St Andrew—Ela & Raff
St James—Finn & Amelia
St John—Florence & Arthur
St Philip—Lhadon & Michael
St Matthew—Gurmillie & Enrico
St Barnabas—Mylah & Cruz
St Bartholomew—India, Oscar H & Alex Jo
St Simon—Tess & Jude RF
St Jude—Amelia & Charlie

MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS—Mon—Thurs 8.00—3.30pm, Fri 8.00—8.30 and 8.50—3.30pm

ROSARY

Weekly Rosary Group will be held at 9am each Wednesday. It is a very informal group, our prayers last only around 15 minutes, all parents and carers are most welcome, just turn up after dropping off children.

UNIFORM

We have a staggering amount of UNNAMED school uniform. This will be passed to the PTA for the used uniform sale. We have also returned a smaller amount of named uniform to its rightful owner. Please ensure that ALL uniform is named.

1 water bottle
2 baseball caps
2 earmuffs
2 lunchboxes
6 Hoodies/sweatshirts (probably PE)
3 joggers
3 waterproof jacket
20 Jumpers/Cardigans



PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Wednesday 8th November 4pm - 7pm

Thursday 9th November 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Parents should enter the building through the white door in the link corridor between the admin block and the Early Years block for appointments on the 8th November and via the school office for appointments on the 9th November.

Teachers will be meeting with parents in the school hall. We ask parents to please keep to your **10 minute appointment**. If there is need to discuss a particular issue in depth you are asked to make a follow up appointment. Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

TURN TILEHURST RED

The School Choir will be singing at The Triangle on Friday 10th November at 11.30 for the Turn Tilehurst Red Remembrance Service. Please send in any loose change for the choir to take along to the service.

November is Cut Your Carbon month

Eco-Schools is challenging all young people in England to take action on their carbon footprint. Completing 9 simple actions with families and friends will raise awareness, change behaviours, and Cut Your Carbon - a greenhouse gas responsible for driving climate change.

Please see attached checklist of ways you can Cut your Carbon. Please ask your child to complete the checklist and hand to their class Eco Warrior at the end of November.

2023/2024 TERM DATES

Term 1 – Tues 5th Sept 2023 to Fri 20th Oct 2023, 3.20pm

Half Term Mon 23rd Oct to Fri 27th Oct 2023

Term 2 Mon 30th Oct 2023 to Wed 20th Dec, 1.00pm

Christmas Holidays Thurs 21st Dec 2023 to Fri 5th Jan 2024

Inset Day Mon 8th Jan 2024

Term 3 Tues 9th Jan 2024 to Fri 9th Feb 2024, 3.20pm

Half Term Mon 12th Feb to Fri 16th Feb 2024

Term 4 Mon 19th Feb 2024 to Thurs 28th Mar 2024, 1.00pm

Easter Holidays Fri 29th Mar 2024 to Fri 12th April 2024

Inset Day Mon 15th Apr 2024

Term 5 Tues 16th Apr 2024 to Fri 24th May 2024, 3.20pm

Bank Holiday Mon 6th May 2024

Half Term Mon 28th May to Fri 31st May 2024

Inset Day Mon 3rd June 2024

Term 6 Tues 4th June 2024 to Thurs 24th July 2024, 1.00pm.

Inset Day Fri 25th July 2024

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Fri 3 rd	PTA Used Uniform Sale after school
Mon 6 th	Choir Performance at The Hexagon
Wed 8 th	Parent Consultations 4– 7pm
Thurs 9 th	Parent Consultations 1.30–4.30pm
Fri 10 th	Remembrance

DECEMBER

Fri 1 st	Crazy Hair Day (nothing permanent) in exchange for a Fun Jar
Thurs 7 th	Yr3/4 Topic Day
Fri 8 th	Dress Down Day in exchange for a bottle for the Bottle Tombola
Sat 9 th	Christmas Fayre (new date)
Mon 11 th	Advent Liturgy 7pm at Church Yr3–6
Tues 12 th	EYFS Nativity to Parents 2pm
Wed 13 th	Christmas Lunch and Party Day
Thurs 14 th	KS1 Nativity to Parents 2pm & 6.30pm
Mon 18 th	Yr6 Fundraising Day
Tues 19 th	Reconciliation in school 1.30pm
Wed 20 th	End of Term 1pm



UNIFORM SALE

We will be holding a 'Good as New' uniform sale in the infant playground after school on Friday. Lots of bargains!

SCHOOL LOTTERY

<http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-pauls-catholic-primary>

Please do sign up for the school lottery. It generates money for the PTA/school and you stand the chance of winning too!

FUNDRAISING

We need your help! If you shop online, please could you sign up to easyfundraising to support St Paul's Catholic School?

It's a really easy way to raise money for our school – you just use the easyfundraising site to shop online with more than 4,000 well known online stores like Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S and when you make a purchase, the retailer sends us a free donation, at no extra cost to you. We want to raise as much as possible, so please visit our new easyfundraising page at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpaulscatholicschoolpta/> and click 'support us'.

School Lottery - Raised a staggering **£655.60**

Easyfundraising - Raised **£65.76**

NEW STARTERS September 2024

If you have a child due to start school, or know of anyone due to start, we have now set our Open Mornings for the September 2024 Intake

Thursday 23rd November 10am

Tuesday 5th December 10am

Wednesday 10th January 10am.

Booking is essential. Please pass the word around to friends and families to come and have a look around our Outstanding Catholic School, as judged by the Diocese.