



2023/24

NUMBER 14

Thursday 14th December '23

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

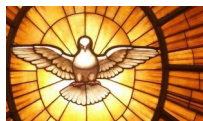
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ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 14



The Year of the Holy Spirit

*Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy.
Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy.
Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.
(Saint Augustine)*

PREPARE AND BE READY



Luke's Gospel on the second week of Advent is once again telling us of our need to prepare and be ready. In ancient times, when a king was going to visit a city, he would send before him someone to herald his coming, someone to announce that he would be arriving soon. Luke tells of such a herald, John the Baptist. Indeed Isaiah prophesied that he was: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" John the Baptist's message is that the people need to repair their lives and prepare for Christ's coming. He does this by calling the people to repent and be baptized. As we continue our journey through Advent, we too need to listen to his words and make sure that our pathway to Christ is clear and straight not blocked by our own selfishness.

HEADS UP

St Simon

This week St Simon had Art Days on Thursday and Friday. They created a stamp and printed an Art Deco design using screen print. They also watched the Nativity performed by Key Stage 1 and Reception. They particularly enjoyed making stars out of paper using STEM. On Wednesday, the whole school had Christmas Party Day and did lots of Christmas themed activities and the Year Sixes met Santa in the Secret Santa that some of them participated in.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope." (Pope Benedict XVI)



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



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

100% Attendance Owl awarded to St Simon's Class for week ending 1st December 2023

97% Whole School attendance for week ending 1st December 2023

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
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.

FOOD BANK

Basket for any donations to the Food Bank can be found in the in School Reception area.
Any donations of dried or tinned food products gratefully received.



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.



CHRISTMAS POST BOX

The Christmas internal post box is now open. Children are able to post their Christmas cards to other pupils in school. The deliveries will be made by the Yr 6 children. Please ensure that children's full names and classes are written on the envelopes to help the Yr 6 posties.



CHRISTMAS CRIB SERVICE 23rd December 12noon

St Bernadette's church in Horseshoe Road, Pangbourne, will be holding a Christmas Crib service for children on Saturday 23rd December. This is a short service of readings, carols and blessings starting at 12 noon, and will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome to join us, and children are invited to dress as one of the characters in the Nativity story.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

A huge Thank You to everyone who attended and supported the Christmas Fayre. We have raised over £4000.

UNIFORM SALE

Our next 'Good As New' uniform sale will be on Friday 15th December.

DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

Fri 15th	PTA Good as New uniform sale
Mon 18th	Yr6 Fundraising Day
Tues 19th	Reconciliation in school 1.30pm
Wed 20th	End of Term 1pm

JANUARY

Mon 8th	INSET Day—School Closed to pupils
Tues 9th	M&M Productions—Beauty and the Beast
Thurs 25th	Mass for the Conversion of St Paul (St Joseph's Church)

MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS—Mon—Thurs 8.00—3.30pm, Fri 8.00—8.15 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.

PARKING

We have continued complaints from neighbours about inconsiderate/illegal parking. A blue Skoda has been reported for parking on the double yellow lines on the corner of City Road and Ayrton Senna.



Reminder that term ends for the Christmas holidays at
1pm on Wednesday 20th December

St Paul's Catholic Primary School are looking for the following staff members to join our team

Teaching Assistant

- Teaching Assistant for 27.5 hours a week to join our dedicated and enthusiastic staff as soon as possible. **Fixed term contract** till 31st August 2024.
- Teaching Assistant for 15 hours a week to join our dedicated and enthusiastic staff as soon as possible. **Fixed term contract** till 31st August 2024

Lunch time Controller

Lunch time Controller for 5 hours a week to join our dedicated and enthusiastic staff as soon as possible. **Fixed term contract** till 31st August 2024.

We welcome applications from people of any faith.
Part time/Job share may be considered for the right candidate.

The successful candidate will:

- Be fully supportive of our Catholic ethos
- Love working with young children
- Be enthusiastic, imaginative, open and reflective
- Have high expectations
- Enjoy working in partnership with parents.

We can offer you:

An Outstanding Catholic School in *“Overall Effectiveness and all aspects of learning”* as judged in our Diocesan Section 48 Validation

Where:

- *“Leaders are highly ambitious for what they want all pupils to achieve in their time at School. Lessons are active and purposeful, while classrooms are calm. The staff are very happy to work at the school. This unity shines through and creates a very strong and inclusive learning environment for every pupil.”* according to the recent OFSTED report
- Delightful and happy children
- A caring and supportive ethos
- A vibrant, stimulating, well-resourced environment.

Please come and visit us to see our lovely school and children.

Closing Date: Monday 08th January 2024 Midday

Interviews: Thursday 11th January 2024

For an application pack please contact the school.

Application packs are also available on line at

<http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk>

St. Paul's whole school community (all staff, governors, parents and volunteers working in the school) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

An Enhanced DBS will be sought alongside other checks from the successful candidate.