



2023/24

NUMBER 19

Thursday 1st February 2024

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

Tel : 0118 9422003

Headteacher : Mrs N Oster

Email: [office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)School Website: [www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)

## ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 19



**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK** as we all celebrate Candlemass, the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

*"Simeon and Anna cherished the hope proclaimed by the prophets, even though it is slow to be fulfilled and grows silently amid the infidelities and ruins of our world. They did not complain about how wrong things are, but patiently looked for the light shining in the darkness of history."* (Pope Francis)



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.

### GOD'S HOLY MESSENGER



Our Gospel this week shows Jesus teaching with authority. Here we see Jesus the teacher, so different from the Scribes and Pharisees who purported to know the teachings of the Church, but who lacked the humility and nature to carry them out by example. In the Gospel all recognised Jesus as "God's holy messenger", not by His boasting or ordering or pontificating; but by His honesty, sincerity and faith in the Word of God His Father. So let us try, as I asked the children to think hard about this week, to be the best teachers of our faith who lead by example and integrity.

### HEADS UP

St Phillip

In music, St Phillip learnt how to sing a song called Shining Star and in English they wrote a story about animals in the Amazon Rainforest. They learnt how to count to twenty in French. In Maths they learnt how to tell the time on an analogue clock. In Science, they learnt about the different types of soil.



### SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH



Ryan Hawkes is in his fourth year of training. He says that a good piece of advice he was given is to make the most of every opportunity that comes one's way and adds that one such experience which he is enjoying this year is his house-job: 'Schola Master', the director of our seminary choir. He says it is really amazing to see how willing his brother seminarians are (even those who would admit to being less musically inclined than others) to throw themselves into choral singing.

At the end of this academic year he will be admitted to candidacy for holy orders, this is the last 'step' before ordination to the Diaconate. He thanks everyone for their support and continued support. Ryan adds "Please, at this time of year, remember in prayer those who, for whatever reason and in whatever way, do not know the love of God for them, or do not receive love from others. And of course, let's pray for peace in the Holy Land."

99% Attendance Owl awarded to St Bartholomew's Class for week ending 26th January 2024

95% Whole School attendance for week ending 26th January 2024

### **MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE**

**OFFICE HOURS**—Mon—Thurs 8.00—3.30pm, Fri 8.00—8.15 and 8.45—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 would like to remind you that trainers are not part of the school uniform and are to be worn during PE only. If boots are worn to school, please could children change out of these and into school shoes.

We have noticed an increasing number of girls wearing nail polish to school, we request that this is removed before coming back to school on a Monday morning.

Earrings are to be removed or taped for PE lessons. If your child needs to have their earrings taped, please ensure that you send the tape in to school for this purpose.

### **PTA UNIFORM SALE**

There will be a PTA uniform sale after school on Friday 9th February. This will take place on the infant school playground



### **PGL WINDMILL HILL**

Reminder to Yr5 parents that payments for the PGL trip to Windmill Hill are due.

### **PARENT CONSULTATIONS**

**Wednesday 21st February 4.00pm - 7pm and Thursday 22nd February 1.30pm - 4.30pm.**

Appointments will be available to book through ParentMail from **Monday 5th February at 7am**

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.

### **BUILDING FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thank you to all parents for your continued support of the school Building Fund which the school operates as a member of the Diocesan Buildings Fund Scheme. The school asks for £30 per academic year per child at the school as a voluntary contribution to fund the cost of maintenance works carried out in the school. A proportion of the funding for such works has to be secured by the school as it is a Voluntary Aided Catholic School.

The school claims Gift Aid in relation to these payments where possible (in the region of £700 in total per annum) and therefore we would ask you to let us know if your tax circumstances change to ensure that the school complies with the relevant legislation. Gift Aid can only be claimed in relation to your contribution if you are subject to income tax and/or capital gains tax for the year of donation at least equal to the tax treated as deducted from your Gift Aid donation. If you have not signed up, please do consider a voluntary contribution to the Building Fund.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### **February**

Tues 6th	Music Showcase Concert
Mon 12th	HALF TERM WEEK
Wed 21st	Parent Consultations
Thurs 22nd	Parent Consultations
Fri 23rd	School Disco
Sat 24th	10.30am First Holy Communion Session

#### **March**

Sat 9th	10.30am First Holy Communion Session
Tues 12th	YrR Vision Screening
Sat 16th	10.30am First Holy Communion Session
Thurs 21st	Last Street Dance
Fri 22nd	LKS2 Topic Day TBC
Sat 23rd	10.30am First Holy Communion Session
Mon 25th	1.30pm Reconciliation
Thurs 28th	1pm END OF TERM

### **CLUBS**

This term we have the following clubs on offer at school: Choir; Art Club; Jigsaw Club; Dance and Mr Browne's Sports Clubs. We facilitate peripatetic music lessons with Berkshire Music Trust and with Drama; Judo and Street Dance Teachers.

**We are looking for any keen parents to run Football and Netball Clubs. If this is something you feel you are able to do, please contact the school office.**



### **NETBALL AND FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**

Yr5 and Yr6 children have been invited to take part in a Catholic Cluster Netball/Football Tournament at Blessed Hugh Faringdon on Thursday 25th April 2024.

Netball Teams will consist of 7 players, both boys and girls can participate with a maximum of 3 boys on the Team. Football Teams will consist of 9 players, both boys and girls with no limitations.

Please indicate below if your child would like to take part in this event by **Friday 9th Feb**

Name: ..... Netball or Football (please circle)

Class: .....

Signed: ..... Date: .....