



2023/24

NUMBER 23

Thursday 7th March 2024

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ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 23



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"The evil one makes us see and condemn our frailty, whereas the Spirit brings it to light with tender love. Tenderness is the best way to touch the frailty within us. Pointing fingers and judging others are frequently signs of an inability to accept our own weaknesses, our own frailty. Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser. That is why it is so important to encounter God's mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where we experience his truth and tenderness." (Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*, 2)



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

JESUS IN THE TEMPLE



During the Passover, Jesus and His Disciples went to Jerusalem to celebrate and visit the Temple. Jesus saw shame and deception in the Temple as merchants were selling the wares for worship - even the animals needed for the sacrifice. He was justifiably angry that His Father's house was being used in such an inappropriate manner. Jesus' cleansing of the temple is also a prophetic sign of what he wants to do with each of us. He is always seeking to cleanse us of sin and make us living temples of his Holy Spirit. As we enter the

last few weeks of Lent, we pray that we are able to cleanse ourselves of all that keeps us apart from Jesus and so enjoy his presence both now and forever.

HEADS UP

St Peter

In RE, they acted out the story of Jesus and the blind man. They have also been on a very exciting walk to the Water Tower. They then revised sounds and words in Phonics. In Music, they sang Five Little Monkeys and drew a 'Hundred Decker Bus' in Drawing Club- we would love to see that!!



LENTEN REFLECTION

Pupils from the Middle School, Year 3 & 4, will be performing the Lenten Reflection in school during the final week of term.

Tuesday 26th March performance for the school

Wednesday 27th March 2pm performance to parents

Wednesday 27th March 6.30pm performance to Parents.

Tickets are not required for these performances. **For the evening performance could children please return to school at 6pm.**

NO PHOTOGRAPH'S OR VIDEOING OF PERFORMANCES Due to safeguarding protocol we have to enforce a blanket ban on parent's videoing or photographing any part of any performance in school.

98% Attendance Owl awarded to St Andrew's Class for week ending 1st March 2024

95% Whole School attendance for week ending 1st March 2024

CHARITY RAFFLE TICKETS

Year 6 pupils will begin selling raffle tickets the week commencing Monday 4th March. No tickets will be sold during Holy Week and the draw will take place when we return after the Easter Holidays. Tickets will cost 20p each and staff will generously be providing prizes.



CELEBRATION OF THE WORD

During Lent, our Mini Vinnies lead our Monday Celebration of the Word. You can find a copy of the readings and prayers on our website each week.

<https://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Prayer+Life%3A+Lent&pid=757>

SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH

Farvin Gonsalves is originally from Goa India. He moved to Reading after finishing a Masters degree in Computer Applications and worked as a software tester before starting to study for the priesthood. He is in his second year and has enjoyed visiting museums while he is studying in London. He also helps young people prepare for their Confirmation. Farvin asks that we continue to pray for peace, especially in the Holy Land and Ukraine.



WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS

St Bartholomew walked to Mass on Wednesday 6th, St Barnabas will be attending Mass at St Joseph's on Wednesday 13th March at 9.30am.

Parents and families are welcome to join them.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

Thurs 7th	YrR Height, Weight and Hearing Tests
Thurs 7th	World Book Day
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
Wed 27th	Lenten Reflection 2pm and 6.30pm
Thurs 28th	1pm END OF TERM

APRIL

Mon 15th	INSET DAY—School closed to pupils
Tues 16th	Pupils return
Sat 20th	10.30am First Holy Communion Session
Sat 27th	10.30am First Holy Communion Session

MAY

Sat 11th	First Confessions at Church
Mon 13th	SATs Week
Sat 18th	First Holy Communion
Fri 24th	Sports Day followed by Family Picnic
Mon 27th	HALF TERM Week

JUNE

Mon 3rd	INSET DAY—School closed to pupils
Mon 10th	Class Photos
Fri 21st	Fun Jar for Crazy Hair
Wed 26th	St Matthew School Trip TBC
Thurs 27th	St Philip School Trip TBC
Fri 28th	St Barnabas School Trip TBC
Fri 28th	Dress Down for Bottle Tombola
Fri 28th	Mass for St Peter and St Paul at school
Fri 28th	Family Fun Night (3.30—7pm)

JULY

Mon 22nd	Leavers Mass 10am at Church
Wed 24th	1pm END OF TERM

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.

NAMED CLOTHING

Please ensure that all clothing items are clearly named.

ABSENCES

When notifying school of your child's absence, please leave the exact nature of their illness/reason for absence. 'Unwell' is not accepted as a reason by the Education Welfare Officer.