



2024/2025

NUMBER 31

Friday 23rd May 2025

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ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 31



*"I was chosen, without any merit of my own, and now, with fear and trembling, I come to you as a brother, who desires to be the servant of your faith and your joy, walking with you on the path of God's love, for he wants us all to be united in one family."
(Pope Leo XIV)*



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

LOVE ONE ANOTHER



"Now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples." These are the key words from John's gospel this week. By this single new commandment, Jesus is removing all the rules and restrictions of the past ie "Don't steal, kill, or bear false witness." Genuine love as he has asked of us, makes all those rules superfluous. Jesus' love is selfless, sacrificial, indiscriminate, understanding, and

forgiving. We remember the washing of the feet; true humility and servitude. Love is closely tied to humility: Perhaps our pride does not allow us to be truly humble and therefore not able to fully love our neighbour. Yet unless we are willing to try to show love like that, we have not fulfilled the new commandment.

HEADS UP

This week we interviewed two students from St Matthew's Class. In English, they were locating rivers in and seas around the UK. In Maths, they were revising their Times Tables. For RE, St Matthew learnt about the qualities of Mary and in PE they were practising for Sports Day.

Popular playground game: Tag



MAY PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

Wednesday saw the whole school process behind our school banner, all the way to church. It was such a beautiful sight on such a beautiful day to honour Our Holy Mother Mary, in her month of May.

To see the procession walk down City Road, all the way to St Joseph's carrying flowers was very special indeed. The children then entered church, most reverently and laid their flowers at the altar before a statue of Mary. The Liturgy was celebrated by our First Holy Communion children leading the readings and singing. Afterwards, Our Faith in Action children walked back to church to present bouquets of the flowers to members of the local community who attend the Welcome Wednesday sessions.



A huge thank you to all who provided the floral tributes.

99% Attendance for St Jude's Class for week ending 15th May 2025

97% Whole School Attendance for week ending 15th May 2025

SEEKER OF THE MONTH

Gregory Tyler is from Winchester but is currently half way through his Novice year with the Augustinian Friars in Galway, a time when Candidates spend time in Discernment, testing their sense of vocation. Brother Gregory has many duties within his parish as well as spending time studying and praying. He's also been helping a group of children prepare for their First Holy Communion and has particularly enjoyed this part of his work. He asks that we pray for him and his brother Novices during this testing time in God's service.



TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK

We are supporting 35 households with food, thanks to your donations. The number benefitting is increasing every month, so we appeal to your generosity for more donations. This week we are short of wheatabix/cornflakes, pot noodles, tinned meat, long life whole/semi-skimmed milk, apple/orange juice, oil (small/medium size), shampoo and shower gel. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph.

Sort Code: 30-93-04.

Account No: 00885992. Include as a reference, 'Your Surname, Foodbank'.

Many thanks.



MINI VINNIE REQUEST

In this Jubilee Year of Hope we the Mini Vinnies politely ask you to please buy some socks or pants for the homeless in our community. Please send in any you can afford, either to the school office or with your children after the half term break. They will be collected by the Mini Vinnies and delivered to the Drop In Centre.

Thank you for your support.

Diya and Eddie on behalf of the Mini Vinnies

MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS—Mon—Thurs 8.00—3.30pm, Fri 8.00—8.15 and 8.35—3.30pm

Diocesan Building Fund

There is now an item in the ParentMail shop for any Parents to contribute towards the Diocesan Building Fund (now known as the Legacy Fund).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

Mon 26th—30th HALF TERM

JUNE

Mon 2nd YrR Hearing Screening
Mon 2nd First Aid Workshops for all year groups
Tue 3rd Class Photos
Thurs 5th First Holy Communion Corpus Christi

Mon 9th International Day
Mon 11th Listen Up music performance
Mon 11th 6pm New Parents Welcome Meeting

Thurs 12th Bikeability make up session
Tue 17th New Children Parent/Child Interviews
Wed 18th New Children Parent/Child Interviews

Mon 23rd Interhouse Tournament TBC
Tue 24th Yr6 Leavers Mass at Douai Abbey
Fri 27th Mass for the Feast of St Peter & St Paul

Fri 27th School Disco (details to follow)

JULY

Tue 1st Yr6 Leavers Trip TBC
Tue 2nd New Children Stay and Play
Mon 7th Denefield/Little Heath and Theale Yr7
Transition Day

Tue 8th BHF Public Speaking
Wed 9th UKS2 Production to Parents 2pm and
6.30pm

Fri 11th French Day

Sat 12th Family Fun

Thurs 17th Yr6 Leavers Party

Fri 18th Yr6 Leavers Mass