

St Paul's CE Primary School – Newsletter December 2023

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Update from Miss Lee...

What a busy term packed with activities, visitors into school, competitions, workshops for parents and celebration days. This has all been in addition to our staff and children working extremely hard to cover the national curriculum to ensure our children all fulfil their potential. The Christmas productions this year were amazing, it was great to see the smiles on our pupils' faces and their confidence shining through. All our staff would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.



Dates for Your Diary

- School closes on Friday 15th December for Christmas holidays and reopens on Wednesday 3rd January. (Tuesday 2nd January is a teacher training day and closed to all pupils)
- KS1 Parent Meeting Wednesday 10th January at 9.00am
- School closes for half term on Friday 16th February and reopens on Monday 26th February

Winter Warmer Project

A big well done and thank you to pupils in year 3, 4, 5 & 6 for making Christmas cards to be included in the Winter Warmer Project bags. The bags have been put together to help elderly people stay warm this winter – they will have a huge impact on people's lives!



Science at St Paul's

We have been exploring ways to further engage pupils in their science learning and develop their curiosity. One way of doing this is through raising pupils' science capital. These are the experiences that they have of science both in and outside of school. Research suggests that those pupils who receive regular exposure to science in varying formats are more likely to see science as something that they are good at and as a potential career path. To build on this, we are going to hold a *St Paul's Science Share* at the end of the year where parents and children can showcase a science project activity that they have completed at home like the traditional American science fair. To support with this, we will send home a science at-home activity every half term. The idea is that families can complete the activity together and learn about the science behind what happens.

Our First Science at Home Activity can be found <u>here</u>. The activity can be completed in its entirety or it can be modified to suit your needs. If you do complete the activity, please take some pictures and send them to school with the subject title Science at home.



Rights Respecting

Another great term working the Rights of all the children in our school and across the world. Our focus on Climate Change has been enjoyed by everyone and we know if everyone does just one thing, it can make a huge difference. See below our card we made and sent to Parliament. The footprints are pledges made by pupils on how we are all going to do our bit.





Maths Week 2023

The children really enjoyed celebrating Maths week this year with the theme 'The Power of 3'. They completed lots of different challenges such as estimating how many sweets in the jar, playground challenges and enjoyed exploring maths in their classrooms.



Year 1/2 Africa Day

Year 1 and 2 really enjoyed a special flight to Kenya as part of their Africa day! Whilst we were in Kenya we made a Maasai Mara tribe necklace and took part in African drumming and dancing. We also learnt some Swahili and tried some African fruits.







Year 5/6 Trip to Manchester Museum



The three year-five-and-six classes each spent a day at Manchester Museum this half term. They visited the Golden Mummy exhibition and explored the Ancient World Gallery and many others. It was great to hear the children relate their learning from the classroom to the artefacts they were looking at.

"It made me very inquisitive"

"Lots of interesting things to see and learn about"

"It was really cool listening to music from different cultures"

- "I learnt lots of new things"
- "I was surprised to see mummified bodies"

"In the Golden Mummies exhibit, it felt like everything was alive."



Year 1/2 Frida Khalo Art Exhibition

On Friday 1st December KS1 held an Art Exhibition at school for parents and carers to come and celebrate the amazing work the children had produced inspired by the famous Frida Kahlo. It was lovely to see so many people attend the event and get involved in the various art activities arranged. The children were so happy to have their adults in school and very proud of the amazing the work they had done. We hope everyone enjoyed it and liked their framed gift they got to take away. What a fantastic morning!





A huge thank you to St Paul's PTA members for once again organising such a successful event – the Christmas Fair. Your hard work is very much appreciated by all.



Thank you from the children of St Paul's who enjoyed the hot chocolate afternoon treat funded by the PTA. Well done to the PTA raffle winner, we hope you liked your prize!



Upcoming Events

'Coffee and Chat' Sessions for parents - All parents are welcome (pre-school children also welcome), come and have a brew and a chat. The sessions will be held at scout hut 9-10am on the following dates:

Friday 19th January Friday 16th February Friday 15th March

Next PTA Meeting – Thursday 25th January 2024 at 6.00pm in the school staff room

Year 5/6 VR Workshop

Year 5/6 explored the Ancient Egyptian civilisation through a Virtual Reality field trip to Ancient Egypt. They explored daily life, The Pyramids, The Book of the Dead and Pharaohs. This session provided a perfect accompaniment to our trip to Manchester Museum and the children were immensely engaged with their learning.

"I liked it when we could explore the information boards on the space ship"

- "I liked exploring the pyramids and finding out about the different Gods and what they did"
- "It was a fun way to learn about Ancient Egyptians"
- "I liked the fact it felt like it was real"
- "I would love to use VR in my other lessons"





Lunchtime Choir Club – Performance at The Christies Hospital



This term the choir have worked very hard to learn lots of Christmas carols. A huge thank you their beautiful singing at the Christie. The patients, visitors and staff really enjoyed listening to the carols. Well done!

Christmas at St Paul's...







