

*“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them”
(Romans: 12,6)*

St Paulinus Newsletter

Monday 4th December 2023

Dear Pupils, Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe we are already in December! EYFS and KS1 children have been hard at work learning their Nativity ready to perform on the 12th December. Father Paul came into school to judge the Crown competition last week. Congratulations to the overall winner George from Year Five and the runners up Sebastian and Oscar R both from Year One. From the competition to create the flyer for the Church Christmas events – the overall winner was Darcey from Year 5 and the runners up were sisters Scholastica in Year Five and Magdalene in Year 3 Darcey's picture will be used on the flyer and Scholastica and Magdalene's picture will be used for the church's Christmas card for the foodbank.

We would also like to mention the fantastic job done by our Year 6 prefects in showing prospective parents around the school. Visitors went into all classes and we had many comments about the excellent behaviour observed. The visitors were also very impressed with how the children were able to explain their school and learning as well as answer any questions the prospective parents had. We look forward to a Christmas themed tea party just for you prefects. Well done to all!



Christmas Cards:

Please do send in your Christmas cards - we have the post box open in the hall. Please could we request that envelopes have the child's full name and class written on to help our Year 6 children to deliver them to the right place! Please do not include anything other than a card.

Congratulations:

I am sure you will join us all in congratulating Miss Hobin-Brady on the exciting news that she is expecting her first child. Miss Hobin-Brady has been an invaluable asset to the school and we would like to thank her for all the work she has already done for our children with SEND. We have adverts out and are already actively recruiting for cover for the interim period.

Safeguarding:

Christmas is on the way and quite often a gift of choice can be something technology based – please see the top tips below from National Online Safety:

1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

Curriculum Visions:

To complement the curriculum in History, Geography and Science children all have access to a number of high-quality non-fiction online texts to explore various topics – please see the details below for how to access this – the username and password will be in the text sent alongside this newsletter.

www.curriculumvisions.com

Visitors and Volunteers:

Thank you so much to the parents who have started the process of volunteering their time to support classes across the school. We have also already benefitted from visitors to Year 1 – with a talk on toys from the past and another about Christianity. We also look forward to welcoming the curate from the museum at Hever castle to bring to life the Battle of Britian topic which has been covered by Year Six.

If you are interested in becoming part of the volunteer team at St Paulinus supporting in areas like reading, going on trips, supporting when visitors come in or providing general classroom support – please use the link below for the google form.

<https://forms.gle/WuP6Wt7q21wiD3p59>

Up-coming diary dates:

Date	Event
Wednesday 6th December	Year 1 to Church
Friday 8 th December	Christmas Jumper Day – wear your own clothes with a Christmas Jumper! Please bring a donation for the Christmas Fair
Friday 8th December	PTA Christmas Fair after school – Volunteers still required please get in touch with the PTA if you can help.
Tuesday 12th December	KS1 Nativity Performances at 2pm and 6pm
Wednesday 13th December	Reception and Year 6 to Church
Thursday 14 th December	Christmas Dinner – wear your Christmas jumper instead of your school one!
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas Service at Church 2pm
Wednesday 20 th December	CRiBS Christmas Play 11am
Wednesday 20th December	End of term finish at 1:30pm
Thursday 11 th January	SEND parent coffee morning

CRiBS Christmas Play:



This has been booked for the children on Wednesday 20th December at 11am. We would appreciate any donations/contributions towards the costs CRiBS incur to put on these shows for us and schools like us – there will be buckets for donations on the day.

St Paulinus Church Services:

St Paulinus Advent & Christmas Services

Sunday 3rd December

8am Low Mass (BCP)

10am Christingle

6pm Advent Carols

Sunday 10th December

8am Low Mass

10am Parish Mass

Sunday 17th December

8am Low Mass

10am Parish Mass

6pm 9 Lessons & Carols

Sunday 24th December

9.30am Said Mass

4pm Nativity

6pm Carols by Candlelight

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th December

10am Christmas Toy Service

Tuesday 26th December

10am Low Mass (St Stephen)

Wednesday 27th December

9.30am Low Mass (St John)

Thursday 28th December

10am Low Mass (The Holy Innocents)

Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year to you all.