



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

St Paulinus CE Primary Newsletter

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Dear Pupils, Parents and Carers,

As 2023 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and commitment to St. Paulinus CE Primary School.

Together, we have created a school environment where our pupils feel safe, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. Their enthusiasm for learning and their commitment to positive behaviour are a source of immense pride for all of us.

I would like to take a moment to mention our exceptional staff team, I extend my deepest appreciation for your exceptional hard work and dedication. Your commitment to continuous improvement has been instrumental in shaping our school into a beacon of excellence

I wish you and your families a joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year filled with love, laughter, and the spirit of giving. May the coming year bring you all the blessings you deserve.



School News:

Well, what an end to the term we have had! It has been jam packed with so much exciting learning not to mention special Christmas events!

Thank you to everyone who completed the **survey concerning homework** at St Paulinus, the results of which are attached to this newsletter. Following this and consultation with class teachers, **details of homework for each year group can be found at the end of the survey** and class pages are being updated to provide further details for you. If you have any questions, when we return in January, please do contact your child's teacher for further information.





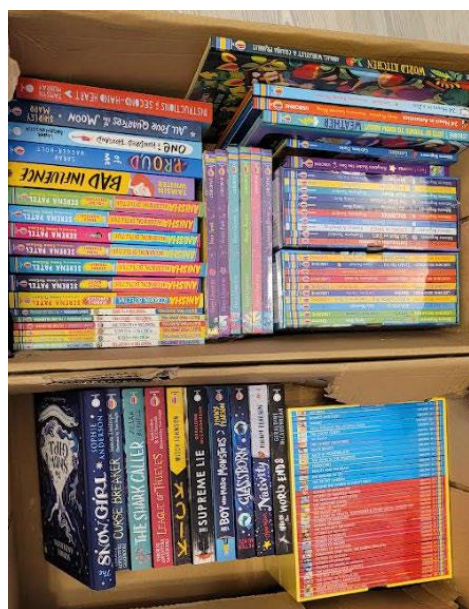
Unfortunately, we have had several complaints from local residents and other parents concerning **unsafe parking and blocking of access** to properties during school drop off and pick up times. We know how difficult it is to park outside the school but ask you to **please be considerate** of our local community, pedestrians and especially the safety of our children.

In January, we have two new clubs starting for children in Years 2-6 - please see the previous newsletter for the information sent out.

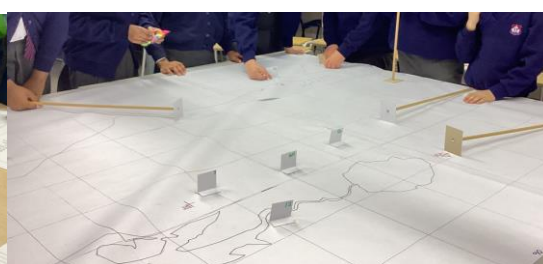
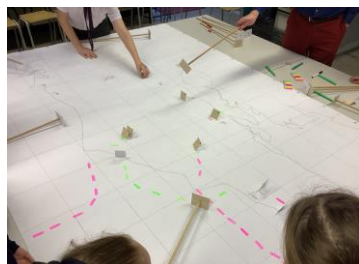


Governors Fundraising...

Here are a couple of photos of some of the titles that are going into the KS1 & KS2 libraries, £360 worth of books. Many thanks to everyone who came along to raise funds by buying a book or 2. I am sure the children will enjoy reading some new material.



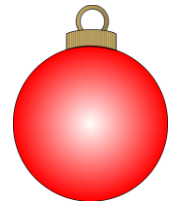
This half term, **Y6** were lucky enough to have a **visit from the Curator of the museum at Hever Castle**. The children took part in an afternoon where they recreated Churchill's War Room during the Battle of Britain. The children had a truly fantastic afternoon learning what it would have been like at the heart of the British wartime campaign!





Our amazing **KS1** wowed us with their annual **Nativity performance**, we were so proud of them. Everyone worked so hard to bring this to life and we thank you all: staff, parents & carers and most importantly the stars – the children! It was a wonderful retelling of this important story, well done to you all!

This term the children were asked to **decorate a bauble** to hang in the corridors of the school. Mrs Youngs, our office manager, had the weighty task of anonymously choosing a winner and a runner up from each KeyStage and these were announced in our end of term celebration worship this week.



KeyStage 1 winner was Ara in Y2, the runner up was Albert in YR.

KeyStage 2 winner was Evie in Y4, the runner up was Darcey in Y5.

Congratulations to you for your winning designs and thank you to everyone who took part, you really brightened up the school!

We finished the term with a **very special Golden Tea Party** with all of our wonderful **Y6 Prefects**. They have had an exceptional first term but in particular, we were so proud of all the positive feedback we received from prospective new parents during the tours the children helped out on. They really were fantastic ambassadors for us so we felt it was only right they were treated to a special afternoon of games, fizzy drinks and snacks!



Finally, we came together as our school family to celebrate this holy season with our **carol service at St Paulinus Church**. It was lovely to see so many of you in the congregation supporting your children and joining in with the carols. The children had worked so hard and practised the carols each day in our collective worship and it was certainly worth all their efforts as they sounded angelic as their voices rang out in the church. A special thank you to our Leading Lights team for leading the service with the readings and to our Head Boy & Girl, Sam & Eve for closing with their special prayers for the festive season. Thank you all for supporting this lovely event.



On behalf of all the staff here at St Paulinus, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support this term and to wish you, your children and your families a peaceful and blessed festive season. We look forward to seeing you on the 8th of January for the beginning of the new term.



Safeguarding advice for some of those new toys at Christmas!

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.

Up-coming diary dates:

Date	Event
Monday 8 th January	All children return to school
Wednesday 10 th January	Year 6 in church
Thursday 11 th January	SEND parent coffee morning
Thursday 11 th January	Phonics Information Meeting for EYFS and Yr1 parents 3:30pm

Message from St Paulinus Church:

Nativity Performance

St Paulinus Christmas Eve Nativity is at 4pm on the 24th of December at St Paulinus Church.

Father Paul has advised that he still needs lots of children to take part in a 'non-speaking' role – angels, shepherds and various other roles. If your child would like to be part of the Nativity service, please can they arrive at church for 3:30pm, Father Paul can then explain their role in person.

We hope you will be able to come and support this wonderful service, full of familiar carols and a special story told by the children themselves.

Please see the Church noticeboard and website for details of further services this Christmastime