



St Paul's C of E Infant School  
The Cardinals  
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Headteacher: Sue Brown

## Headteacher's Newsletter – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Welcome

I would like to welcome the new children and families who have joined us this school year. I hope we can work together so that all children make great progress both socially and academically. I hope that this first newsletter of the year will be helpful in providing information or reminding parents about St Paul's.

It is lovely to have the children back in school and hear all their voices again. I think that we are all enjoying being back in a "new normal" routine.

### Changes due to Covid19/ The Pandemic

As I am sure you would expect there are a number of different procedures and routines based upon government guidance and our risk assessments. These will be changed and adapted as the guidance is updated and also as the weather gets colder and damper.

#### - **Drop offs and Pick ups**

You can drop your child off at any time between 8.50 and 9.05 and pick up any time between 2.50 and 3.05. At the moment, Beech Class drop at the back, via the play area and Rowan and Elm at the front.

We need the adults to socially distance in the playground. Ideally, we don't want any more than 6-8 adults in the playground at any one time and no-one should arrive in the playground before 8.50/2.50. Staggering the arrival time means that only a few children arrive in the class at any one time and so we can support them to wash their hands properly.

#### - **Class Bubbles**

The children stay in their class "bubbles" and so do not mix for playtimes, lunchtimes, assembly etc

#### - **Curriculum**

We have made some changes to maximise the amount of outside time and work around restrictions with sharing of resources.

#### - **Books and Book Bags**

At the moment, the recommendation is to minimise items transferring from home to school and so the children do not need to bring in book bags and we are not sending home reader or library books home.

#### - **School Uniform**

We have relaxed the footwear part of our uniform so that children can wear either trainers or school shoes to school.

#### - **PE**

At this time, children are only having 2 PE sessions a week – dance and games – and these are outside on the playground (not the field).

The children do not change into PE kit so if you want your child to wear different footwear for that day (I understand that some children have expensive new shiny school shoes), please send your child in trainers for PE days.

This week PE days are Mondays and Thursdays and from next week they will be Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### Jewellery and earrings

Please remember that children should not wear jewellery in school with the exception of small stud earrings for pierced ears. Earrings must be removed for PE and so if your child is not able to remove his/her earrings they should not be worn to school on PE days. Surrey Health and Safety guidance does not allow children to take part in PE wearing earrings, even if taped over.

### **Illness/Testing etc**

It is that time of year where illnesses normally start to increase again, plus we have the worry of coronavirus/covid19.

Tests for coronavirus are for anyone who has one or more of the main symptoms

- A high temperature
- A new and continuous cough
- A loss or change of their sense of smell

The tests are only for the person with symptoms. Others in the household do not need to be tested, unless they also have symptoms.

It is really likely that we will have children who may feel unwell in other ways, for example with a runny nose, a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. (but without the coronavirus/covid19 symptoms). These children don't need to be tested, but may need to stay off school if not well enough to come in and parents may need to seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as they would in the past.

### **In Service Training Days (InSeT Days)**

Schools must take 5 staff InSeT days each year. We had the first on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Our next training day is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September and so school will be closed for the children on this day.

### **Individual School Photographs**

The photographer will visit school on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September. If you have more than one child in school we will make sure that they are photographed together and individually. I am sorry but we won't be able to accommodate photographs with younger brothers and sisters this year.

### **Pupil Premium/Free School Meals**

If, as a parent, you are in receipt of any of the following benefits, you may be entitled to additional financial support

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Eligible for Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and the household income (as used by HMRC to assess tax credits) is not more than £16,190. (Please note: anyone eligible for Working Tax Credit, or if you have a partner and they receive it, regardless of Income, you will not qualify)
- In receipt of the 4 week run on of working tax credit (this is where someone becomes unemployed or reduces their hours and so is no longer entitled to working tax credit but will continue to receive it for a further 4 weeks and is entitled to free meals during that time)
- Universal credit (provided you have an annual net earned household income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

This is commonly known as entitlement to free school meals. All children in Key Stage 1 receive free lunches but for those who are pupil premium entitled, additional funding is provided to the school for us to support the children. Parents also receive financial support with other things such as trips and uniform. If we went into any sort of national or local lockdown it is likely that supermarket vouchers would be provided and the laptop/tablet loan scheme extended.

Please click here <https://forms.gle/U6TEc1fAYpa93ymK8> to complete the form.

### **Website and Calendar**

Please remember to check our website –for information. It also has a calendar with lots of key dates. The calendar can be added to your phone/Ipad calendars