



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

5th January 2018

Welcome back after the school holidays. I wish you all happy and prosperous new year.

Walking Challenge

Next week (8th – 12th January 2018) is the January Walking Challenge! During this week Southwark will be running an inter-school walking challenge, to see which school in Southwark can walk the most miles! The winners of the walking challenge will win the Walking Champion trophy! Teachers will enter the number of minutes each child has spent walking each day and the table will calculate how many miles each pupil has walked and then give us a class total amount of miles. We will then send this information on to Southwark, to find the winner. So please walk to school if you can, and count up the minutes spent walking for the children to enter on the walking table. This will ensure we all get off to a healthy start in the new year as an added bonus!

Staffing news

Unfortunately we were not able to recruit a permanent teacher for Birch Class following Mr Jibb leaving at Christmas. We have Ms D'Souza with us until the end of next week, by which time, hopefully, the teacher who will be with Birch Class for the rest of the year will have completed all his employment checks.

We welcome Miss Tucker this term, who will be working with some Year 6 children 3 mornings a week. We welcome Miss Rita back, after a prolonged absence, and also Miss Shelley will be returning on Monday 7th January. Unfortunately Miss Madge has not recovered as quickly as she had hoped, and she will be away from school for another month, in all likelihood.

Be the Best You Can Be

This term we are launching a new initiative called Be the Best you can Be. This organisation was founded by the Olympic athlete David Hemery, and uses Olympians to use what they know about improving performance, to help children improve their own performance in all aspects of their lives and school work. This is a very exciting project to be involved in, as the staff found out in our INSET training on Wednesday. The next step is Olympic athletes coming into school, taking assemblies and leading workshops for the Year 1-6 classes. The first workshops will take place on Wednesday next week.

Working with other schools

St. Paul's has good links with other schools. We work closely with other church schools to ensure our teacher assessments are accurate, and support each other in different ways. For the rest of this year, the schools are volunteering to run master classes in different areas for children who have an aptitude for a certain subject, and we will be sending some children from St. Paul's school to those. We are also lucky to have a teacher from St. Gabriel's College come to work with some of our Year 6 pupils for a few sessions this term. Last term many of our teachers visited Crampton School to forge closer links with our nearest school, and I will be working closely with the headteacher of Crampton School this term. By using our relationships with other schools, we can find cost effective ways of providing even more exciting opportunities for our pupils.

