



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Faith, Hope and Love

Monday 18th May 2020

Headteacher: Mrs Ali Silke
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Crannitch
Inclusion Lead: Miss Anne Browne



A message from your Headteacher, Mrs Silke:

I would like to begin by once again expressing my sincere condolences on behalf of the St Paul's team, to any of our families who have sadly suffered family bereavements during this lock down period. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

School Reopening Update

Due to the guidance we have received from the SBDE MAT and Southwark LA we are currently doing the risk assessments to ensure that when we do open for certain Year groups it will be safe for children and staff to do so. To ensure that there is sufficient time to do this thoroughly in a comprehensive manner we have made the decision that we will not be welcoming any additional children back to St Paul's until **8th June at the earliest**. The school will continue to be open **only** for invited children and the children of key workers from 1st June. We know some employers will be encouraging you to return to work, but we're not in a position right now to extend places to other children until we have all the risk assessments in place and it is safe to do so.

We will be emailing you this week with a survey to ask how likely it is that you would send your child in to school if/when your child's year group was invited to come back.

Please note that this is a planning stage and we will only know if these plans will go ahead on 28th may when the Prime Minister will decide if the 5 tests outlined in the news permit schools to reopen safely.

I will write to all parents during week commencing 1st June to inform you which Year groups will open and when, following this announcement.

If your email address has changed recently please contact the school office asap to advise us of any updates. Similarly, if you have a new mobile telephone number please let us know. The school is in the process of transferring to Arbor, a communication system for schools to message parents and I want to ensure that we have accurate contact information for every family so that we can stay in touch.

I'd like to thank you again for your continuous support in helping your children learn from home. We'll need to keep going with this for a while yet, so please do continue to do what you can and stay in touch with us about how your children are doing. Your children's class teachers will continue to ring your child once a week to answer any questions they have.

National Thank a Teacher Day – Wednesday May 20th 2020

#ThankATeacher #HowWillYouSayThankYou • National Thank a Teacher Day is a day when we, as a nation, can come together to say Thank You to teachers across the country who make a huge difference to young people's lives - not just now during these unprecedented times - but every day! • This will take place this year on Wednesday 20th May 2020 – and we will be celebrating and thanking teachers on social media all that week • We are launching the campaign on Monday 27th April, with the aim of getting as many messages of thanks and some great stories about the teachers who are being thanked packaged up for the media on National Thank a Teacher Day on May 20th. • It will be led by the Teaching Awards Trust, in partnership with the DfE and other education partners all sharing the same message and CTA • With the #ThankATeacher and #HowWillYouSayThankYou hashtags we are encouraging people to share their message of thanks, ideally in a video clip - leading up to the day, This can be in an expression of their choosing - singing a song, writing and/or reciting a poem, or sharing a picture of a drawing. You can find more detail here <https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher-day/>

Supermarket Vouchers for Children with Free School Meal (FSM) status

All children at St Paul's are entitled to receive a free school dinner, which is an initiative unique to Southwark LA.

This is totally different to having FSM status in line with the DfE criteria and it is only FSM children who are entitled to the supermarket vouchers.

We are very aware that a number of families' personal circumstances may have changed over the lockdown period and you may find that you are now eligible to apply for Free School Meals.

If have not yet registered for FSM status then please contact the school by emailing office@stpauls.southwark.sch.uk or calling 0207 703 4896 and speaking to Sandra Bettinelli or Donna Goodes who will arrange for you to complete the necessary paperwork.

If you are already registered for the FSM supermarket vouchers, Southwark Local authority have said that they will honour these over the half term break.

St Paul's Foodbank

Once again huge thanks must go to Mr Roy, Miss Linda May and Mr Barry Knight who continue to work relentlessly together to facilitate a weekly food bank at St Paul's church on Tuesdays between 10 am and 2pm so that every family at St Pauls can receive a weekly bag of groceries and other essential items. I have very much enjoyed seeing you at the food bank between 10 am and 12 noon. Please do keep coming as we love to see you there.

Weekly learning

Weekly learning will continue to be set for all year groups by the class teachers on the school's website using the following link: <http://st-paulsprimaryschool.co.uk/home-learning-resources/> You can also access this page by going to the school's website page and clicking on the 'Learning' link along the top and selecting 'Home Learning Resources'. There are also regular updates on the website regarding online resources that provide useful and enjoyable learning opportunities for your children. So please do check regularly.

Please note there are still things we can continue to do together even though we are not in school:

- Every Thursday at 8pm join together as a community, on your doorstep or through the window to clap and cheer and bash your pots and pans for our NHS and all other keyworkers.
- Bishop Christopher invites us, as we hold onto hope whilst facing reality, to pray together for our nation and for all those affected by the Coronavirus. He encourages us to pause in whatever we are doing at 1pm each day and again at 7pm to say The Lord's Prayer.

Although we may be physically apart, these actions of hope in faith will keep us together.

Any further updates regarding the reopening of the school will be put on the school website as soon as we are advised to do so by the government. Please ensure you are checking this regularly. We really look forward to seeing you all back in school when it is safe to do so. So until then please stay safe and look out for your family, friends and neighbours during these challenging times.

A prayer for a global pandemic

'Love...bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, Love never ends.'
(1 Corinthians 13:7-8)

Loving God,
strengthen our innermost being
with your love that bears all things
even the weight of this global pandemic
even the long haul of watching for symptoms
of patiently waiting for this to pass
watching and waiting,
keeping our gaze fixed on you,
and looking out for our neighbours
near and far.

Instil in our shaken souls
the belief and hope that all things
are possible with your creative love
for strangers to become friends
for science to source solutions
for resources to be generously shared
so everyone, everywhere, may have what they need
for your perfect love that knows no borders
may cast out any fear and selfishness that divides.

May your love that never ends
be our comfort, strength and guide
for the wellbeing of all and
the glory of God.

Amen.

**Love and prayers to you all,
The St Paul's Team.**

