



# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Faith, Hope and Love

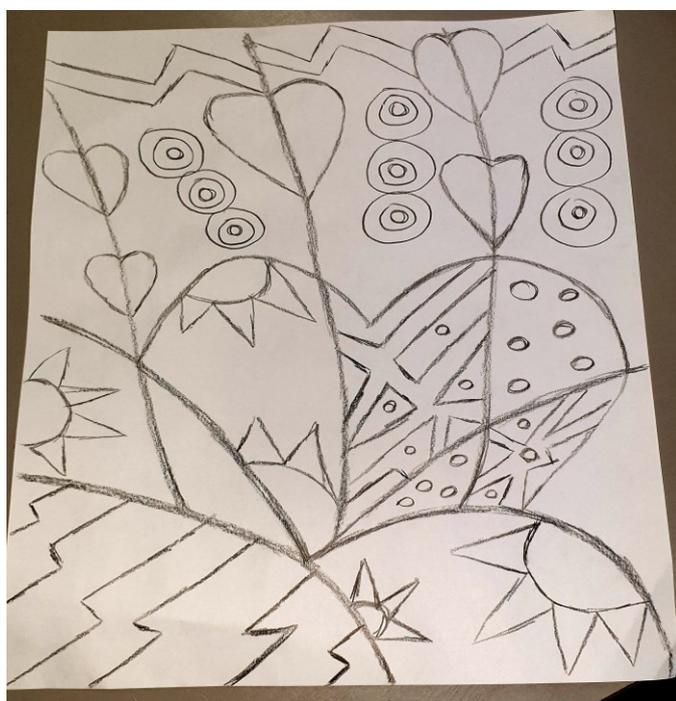
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Headteacher: Mrs Ali Silke  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Crannitch  
Inclusion Lead: Mr Anthony Chavez

## A Message From Your Headteacher, Mrs Silke

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope and pray that you and your families are keeping safe and well. Thank you so much for supporting your child/ren with their remote learning. It has been brilliant to see so many of our children learning online and also returning the work in the packs. Our 'attendance' figure for remote learning week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> Jan was an amazing 92%. We can't thank you all enough for the hard work you are doing at home with your children to help them with their learning as we know it isn't easy. We are also delighted to see work of such a high standard in all the packs. I am sure that some of you were disappointed to hear from the Prime Minister this week that schools will not be opening after half term as were we. It is hoped that schools will reopen on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> March, but in the meantime, please keep up the great job that you are all doing by working with us in partnership with your child/ren to ensure that they do not miss out on their education. You are all amazing. Our teachers and teaching assistants also really appreciate your gratitude for all they are doing – thank you as this means a great deal.



Romero Britto is a Brazilian born artist who now lives in Miami, Florida. His modern pop culture art work is known and celebrated all over the world, and loved for his vibrant use of colour. These pieces of work were created by Miss Linda Mc and Miss Linda May as models for our children. We thought you would like to know how talented our staff are 😊. The remote learning art gallery is on the website - the link is on the home page so do have a look.

## Breakfast Bags from School Food Matters

We are very grateful to the School Food Matters organisation for including us their breakfast bag scheme which is free of charge. These bags contain enough food for breakfast for a fortnight for each child and so you can collect your next bag on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February from 9am** and on every alternate Tuesday thereafter. As fresh milk is included in the bags please do come to collect on the above date as we do not have the facility to refrigerate 216 bottles of milk. Please note that we have no say whatsoever regarding the contents of the bags as it is decided by the School Food Matters charity. Some of you have queried how you should use the coconut. Just a couple of suggestions it is delicious in porridge and also when cooked with rice or added to curries. You can also collect a small pack of food on Fridays when collecting your child's work pack. We will send you a text as a reminder as well as reminding you in the newsletter.

## Home Learning Packs Collection

Thank you for coming to collect your children's home learning packs every Friday as well as returning the work done by your child. This work is marked by your child's class teacher and it helps them to decide what to plan to teach your children during the following weeks.

## Critical Worker and Invited Children Bubbles

We continue to have 4 bubbles in operation as follows:  
Acorn, Sycamore, Silver Birch (mixed ages) Walnut (mixed ages)

Please note that the children in school in the bubbles are not being taught by their classteachers, with the exception of Acorn class. This is because the teachers are doing their remote teaching from home to help them stay safe. They do pop into school to look at the returned learning packs and mark the work so do keep up the good work.

We have updated our risk assessment given the increased transmission rate of the new variant of Covid which means that places in the bubbles are limited. The DfE changed their guidance on Critical Worker provision on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January as follows:

*Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, **but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.***

#### Devices for Home Learning

The DfE devices have now been allocated. We have requested more but we have been informed it could take 6 weeks for them to arrive. Please understand that when devices are allocated it is on the basis of a loan and a loan agreement has to be signed. We are now operating a waiting list and if we are fortunate enough to get a further allocation they will be prioritised in line with DfE guidance for children eligible for Free School Meals in Year 3 to 6, with a limit of 1 per household. The live lessons are all recorded so if you have more than one child, they can watch the recorded version if the laptop is being used by a sibling during their 'live' lessons. We are aware that family financial circumstances may have changed due to Covid so if you would like us to check if you are now eligible please call the school office with your National Insurance number and we can check for you.

#### Behaviour Online

Thank you for your support with our request last week regarding your children's behaviour on line. There has been a marked improvement in the way children are using the chat rooms which is much appreciated.

#### Contact Details at St Paul's For Support with Remote Learning

If you have questions or need help with Microsoft Teams and home learning, please email [teams@stpauls.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:teams@stpauls.southwark.sch.uk)

If you have questions or need help with a child who has special needs or if you think your child needs additional academic or emotional support, please email [senco@stpauls.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:senco@stpauls.southwark.sch.uk)

#### Illness and sickness during Lockdown and Remote Learning

Now that we are in the midst of winter months, it is the time of coughs, colds and sniffles. Please ensure if your child is too unwell to access their remote learning, even for one day, that you call the school to let us know. You can call at any time and leave a message with this information as all messages will be picked up by a member of the office staff when they are in. Please ensure you leave your child's name, class and the reason for them not being able to do their remote learning. When you leave the reason, please be specific i.e. they have a blocked nose and red eyes, please do not just say they are unwell. The reason for this is because we have to report to the DfE and the SDBE multi academy trust how many children are accessing their remote learning and the reasons why some children are not.

As in previous information sent out, if your child has any of the following 3 symptoms:

- High temperature (hot to touch)
- Continuous new cough (3 or 4 coughing episodes in a 24-hour period)
- Loss of smell or taste or a change in smell or taste

Please call the NHS helpline on 119 for advice. They will then advise if your child or anyone else needs to take a test. If this is the case please let the school know that are calling for advice and keep us updated. Thank you in advance.

#### **A Prayer for Hope**

Heavenly Father, We are your humble servants,

We come before you today in need of hope. There are times when we feel helpless,

There are times when we feel weak. We pray for hope. We need hope for a better future.

We need hope for a better life. We need hope for love and kindness.

Some say that the sky is at its darkest just before the light. We pray that this is true, for all seems dark.

We need your light, Lord, in every way. We pray to be filled with your light from head to toe.

To bask in your glory. To know that all is right in the world, as you have planned, and as you want it to be.

Help us to walk in your light, and live our lives in faith and glory.

In your name, we pray,

**Amen.**

*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear..." Psalm 46:1-2*

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