



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been back at school for a couple of weeks now and the children have settled well into the routines of the school day. There has been lots going on in and around school including the installation of our solar panels, a new catering company serving up delicious food at lunchtime, a trip to Young Voices in Birmingham and a visit from the pantomime today, to name a few!



We just wanted to remind you of some systems and expectations to ensure this term goes as smoothly as possible and the children continue to learn and flourish.

Communications

We have a clear system of communication if you have any queries about your child(ren), whether this is face to face or via Class Dojo or email:

Keyworkers are the first point of contact and they will always try to answer your queries in a timely manner. **Phase Leads** are the next point of contact, followed by the **Deputy Head** (Miss Morrison) and then the **Headteacher and Co Headteacher** (Mrs Matthews and Mrs Bevan)

To also clarify:

Class Dojo should be used to ask general questions e.g. do the children have PE today/what time do they need to be there for school trip/ X doesn't understand the homework etc. It is not to be used to raise concerns or complaints or for information relating to other things like SEND/ escalation of behaviour. This should still be done via email to key workers as outlined in the complaints policy as this information might be needed at a later date or passed on to SLT.

Please note: there is an 'out of hours' setting on Class Dojo from 5pm to 8am where staff are not expected to answer messages. Please bear this in mind when messaging as there might be a delay in them responding.

Home Learning

Please make sure that children are engaging in and completing any work set to complete at home. Wednesday afternoons are time for you to complete the tasks set together and bring them back to school on Thursday. **Reading** regularly at home is really important as we all know how vital a life skill this is. We would appreciate your cooperation in ensuring reading records are signed and reading books and kindles (Phases 2 and 3) are in school every day.

Attendance and Punctuality

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success – both in school and in life. It is very important for all children to attend school every day and to arrive on time. Please ensure that children arrive in school no later than **8.45 am** so that they are able to check in with their keyworker, complete Thrive activities during our 'soft start' and be ready to begin the day. Phonics and Guided Reading starts at 9.00am on most days, so arriving late will mean this key learning is missed.

Equipment for school

Children should have a water bottle in school every day, and a coat, especially in the Winter months. PE and swimming kits (if applicable) need to be in school on the correct days. Please make sure all items of clothing are named so that if they get separated from their owner, we can easily return them.

First Aid and Medications

Please make sure you come to the main office to fill out an Administering Medicine Form if you require your child to receive medicine while at school. If your child has received medicine during school hours, they will be sent home with a slip detailing the time and ml they have had.

Every child who has had a head bump will be given first aid immediately and parents will be informed via telephone. They should be given a letter to take home and in severe cases parents may be required to come and see the injury for themselves.

If a child becomes unwell during the school day a member of the office team will call home.

Teacher's Strike

You may have heard that members of The National Education Union (NEU) have voted for teachers to strike on a number of days over the coming months, with the first planned day being Wednesday 1 February 2023.

We are currently assessing the potential impact of the teacher strikes but do not expect whole school disruption. However, it is possible that we may ask some year groups to stay at home on strike days while others attend school.

Schools across the country will be carrying out contingency planning to support staying open during these times. Each school will be affected differently, depending on the numbers of teachers in the union and depending on which of those teachers decide to go ahead with strike action. As soon as we know what the likely impact is, we will let you know immediately.

Thank you.

This Term's Value is Perseverance

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

The children have all been encouraged to think about ways that they have to persevere at school and who and what helps them with this. They came up with some great ideas and were all very keen to share their thoughts. We are learning that even when things are tricky and we think we are going to have to give up – it is important to persevere because the feeling of achievement and satisfaction at the end makes it all worthwhile. Year Six even said that this was true for their recent assessments that they did.

The CREW have been working very hard in readiness for their assembly on Monday which we are all looking forward to!

IMPORTANT DATES

Bikeability – beginning January 23rd **Safer Internet Day Safer Internet Day** - February 7th

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week - February 6th - February 12th

Job Opportunity

We are looking for a casual (this will be to cover staff absence possibly at short notice) Midday Supervisor to join our wonderful team here at St Paul's. Please come in to the main office or check the website for application form and details.

<https://www.st-pauls.gloucs.sch.uk/Vacancies/>

Foodbank

Please remember to use our St Paul's foodbank if you need to. It is available in front of the reception desk.

If you would rather have a bag of food made up and collect it more privately, please send a message to the school pastoral phone on: 07493531511.

If you have any concerns about your children that you feel you may need support with, please feel free to come to the main reception desk and see if Karen Paterson is available or if not, you can make an appointment.

After the February half term, we will be starting a coffee morning at St Paul's school. Please look out for more information coming soon!

STARS OF THE WEEK! (13.01.2023)

Phase 1 Earth Lennox for persevering at telling the time.

Phase 1 Water Piper-Rose for excellent perseverance in phonics and literacy.

Phase 2 Air Kevaughn for persevering in tasks even when a little upset.

Phase 2 Earth Ron for persevering with his handwriting.

Phase 2 Water Riley for great participation and perseverance at young voices.

Phase 3 Earth Alicia for persevering with her history research.

Phase 3 Water McKenzie for persevering in his SATs tests.



STARS OF THE WEEK! (20.01.2023)

Phase 1 Earth Aaila for persevering when trying new activities.

Phase 1 Water Jaydon for persevering with his reading, making super progress!

Phase 2 Air Shalom for persevering in her maths.

Phase 2 Earth David for persevering with his reading.

Phase 2 Water Mustafa for persevering in his learning and having a great week.

Phase 3 Earth Duwayne for persevering with his home learning tasks.

Phase 3 Water Taya for persevering in all aspects of her learning which has shown through the progress she is making. Keep it up!



Well done everyone!

Class Dojo Winners are

Phase 3 Water

Individual Winners are:

1 Earth— Isaac

1 Water—Piper-Rose

2 Air— Amelia

2 Earth— William

2 Water— Jecoliah

3 Earth— Victoria

3 Water— Jayden

