

BENDISH LANE BUZZ

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST PAUL'S WALDEN SCHOOL, WHITWELL ISSUE 5- 12 JAN 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a good start to 2018. All of our children have come back to school happy and with a great mindset for being the best learners that they can be.

This month our school value is 'Quality', which is perfect for a brand new term. We will be talking to the children about what quality means, in terms of being the best learner that you can be and with promoting positive relationships within our school community and beyond.

During January, the whole school is on the lookout for some donations. In order to construct a log cabin with our youngest children and be a little creative with our new school value, we are looking for lots and lots of tubes! If you have any tubes going spare, please drop them into school from Thursday 4 January. We are looking for:

- Wrapping paper tubes;
- Kitchen roll tubes;
- Toilet paper tubes;
- Parcel tubes;
- Cling film/foil tubes.

The more tubes the merrier!

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS!

You will find the following items in this newsletter:

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Willows parents' sessions

During this half term, we are running two workshops for parents of children in the Willows. These are taking place on:

- Friday 19 January from 9.15-10am focusing on strategies to learn key words and high frequency words
- Friday 9 February from 9.15-10am focusing on early maths skills

Thank you

Mrs Johnson would like to say a massive thank you for the lovely comments, appreciation and gifts from the school community at the end of the Autumn term.

We were also very sorry to say 'Goodbye' to Mrs Foxworthy this week. She is excited about joining her new school, but sad that she is leaving such a lovely school as ours, and wanted to say a big thank you for the gifts and cards she received.

REMINDERS

Fri 19 Jan	9.15am English session - Willows parents
Wed 7 Feb	5.15-7.00pm PTA Film Night
Thurs 8 Feb	Oaks class assembly & cake sale
Fri 9 Feb	9.15am Maths session - Willows parents
12-16 Feb	Half Term
	Next newsletter published: 9 Feb

Before and After School Clubs Timetable Spring Term 2017

Monday	8.00am Archery Club 3.15-4.30pm Stay & Play 3.30-4.30pm Football Training (Yr 3-6)
Tuesday	8.00am Apex Street Dance Club 3.15-4.30pm Stay & Play 3.25-4.25pm Netball Club (Yr 2-6)
Wednesday	8.00am Trampoline Club 3.30-4.30pm Multi sports Club
Thursday	8.00am Fencing Club 8.00am Yr 6 Maths Club 3.15-4.30pm Athletics Club
Friday	8.00am Creatively Mindful Kids 8.00am Yr 6 Maths Club 3.25-4.25pm Gymnastics Club

School Uniform – New Supplier

We are pleased to announce that we now have a new uniform supplier. Our new supplier is Tylers Sportswear based in Welwyn Garden City. Their uniform is reasonably priced and they come recommended to us by other local schools. Tylers have provided us with a web shop for parents to order online. You will also be able to visit their showroom to buy things in person. They offer free delivery to school/pick up from Whitwell village. Orders can be made online: <http://www.tylers-sportswear.co.uk/Catalogue/School-Webshops/St-Pauls-Walden-School>

Eye tests for children

Did you know that 15-20% of children have poor vision in one or both of their eyes? The College of Optometrists recommend that children should have an eye test every year up to the age of 16. For further information regarding children's eye care please see: <https://www.specsavers.co.uk/childrens-eyecare>.

Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering your time to hear children read in our school, please contact the school office. In line with safer recruitment, volunteers will be required to provide referees and to apply for a DBS check prior to volunteering in our school.



St Paul's Walden School Growing Together Garden

Please join our new Facebook page!

Dogs on the school site

Just a polite reminder that dogs are not permitted on the school site. Dora has been risk assessed as the school dog, and does come into school on an occasional basis.

Results from our pupil questionnaire

Every January our children complete a questionnaire which tells us their views about the school, which helps us to reflect and continually improve our school. Here are our results below:

Question	Willows and Rowans	Silver Birches and Oaks
Do you feel safe in school?	100%	94%
Do you and your friends behave well in school?	88%	100%
Are there adults that you can talk to if you are unhappy?	100%	96%
Do adults listen to you?	97%	96%
Does the teacher make lessons interesting?	100%	98%
Does your teacher like you to do your best?	100%	100%
Do adults in your class help you when you need help?	100%	96%

So parents, now it is your turn....

To help us with continually improving our school, we would like you to complete OFSTED parentview for us. It is available at <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk> Once your login has been activated it takes only a couple of minutes to complete answers to the short questions about aspects of the school.

Your views are important in helping us to know what is going well and where improvements and developments can be made, and also show prospective parents the strengths of our school.

When our school is notified of its next Ofsted inspection, the views expressed by parents on Parent View will be taken into consideration. Each parent can register their views.

Snow procedure

There is a likelihood that snow could be heading in our direction at some point during the next couple of months. If we wake up to snow on the ground, we will always endeavour to inform parents as early as we can in the morning if this affects either the school opening time or results in school closure.



Information regarding school closure will be sent by text and email to parents, and will also be available via: www.hertsdirect.org - click on the severe weather/school closure tab www.stpaulswalden.herts.sch.uk, and Three Counties Radio. If we were in need of an early closure during a school day, we would use the same systems as above to inform parents.

In the event of snow, if any parents would be able to lend a hand to Mr Dilley with snow shovelling or de-icing the school grounds to keep them safe, any help would be gratefully received. Please let the school office know. Thank you!

If we are fortunate enough to have some snowy weather, we politely request for families to not come down to our school site when our school is closed. Our school grounds will be locked and will be inaccessible.

Stay and play aeroplane designers!

Our children in Tuesday's stay and play have been enjoying some imaginative play, by designing an aeroplane, complete with a slide for a door.



Christingle Service

All Saints' St Paul's Walden Christingle 2018



Sunday 21 January 2018

11.00am

followed by refreshments

Fundraising thank you for Make a Wish Foundation UK

Thank you for all your support with our Autumn term fundraising. From the sales of jewellery at the Christmas Fair, made by our enrichment group Jewels4U, and the proceeds of the retiring collections at both our Christmas performances, we have raised £246.62 for Make a Wish. This charity was chosen by the children participating in jewellery enrichment last term.



Thank you to the PTA

The Willow's would like to say a big thank you to the PTA for helping us to buy polar animals, snow and craft material to create winter and polar pictures. The children are looking forward to exploring the new resources and making books about the animals.

Thank you to the PTA from the Rowans class for the money to spend on things for our class.

We have bought Snakes and Ladders, Draughts and Chess to play at wet play. We also have some new playing cards. We love our new twistable crayons and new felt pens. We also have a new bean bag to sit on.

Thank you very much from the Rowans.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA. We have got lots of new things for our classroom. We have some really comfy bean bags. We are also getting a rug and cushions to make our book corner comfy and cosy. We got tablecloths for art so we no longer have to borrow from the Rowans! We have an electric pencil sharpener which is great because our sharpeners kept breaking! We also got two new games for wet play. These are Kerplunk and Monopoly Junior. They are going

to be really fun and we can't wait to play them. We are really grateful for the PTA's generosity. Thank you to the PTA.
Silver Birches Class

Thank you very much for your kind donation from all the staff and children of Oaks class. The children have decided to use the funds to re-stock our class library and have been excitedly choosing new titles written by their favourite authors, including Liz Pichon, Lemony Snicket, Adam Blade and Jeff Kinney. We have also decided to update some of our wet-play games and have jointly purchased some new art tablecloths with Silver Birches class.
Oaks Class

Inspiring Libraries: The Next Phase 2018-2021

We have been requested by the Parish Council to share details of the Inspiring Libraries consultation being carried out by Herts County Council.

In 2014 'Inspiring Libraries' aimed to set a vision and direction for the service over the next 10 years, based on three main themes:

- The library as a vibrant community asset – shaped with local people and partners to reflect local need, support sustainability and enrich communities.
- The digital library – a service that is ambitious in its use of technology and digital formats for the benefit of residents.
- The library as an enhanced gateway to reading, information and wellbeing.

A public consultation is taking place between 8 January and 18 February 2018 to seek customer and stakeholder views on their ambitions for the next phase of 'Inspiring Libraries, and the options for how they deliver the service in the face of further expected budget cuts. Please see the following link to the questionnaire to have your say in how library services are managed in the years ahead:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraryconsultation .

Attendance

Our school attendance from Monday 4 December – Friday 12 January is 97%. Well done everyone! Please endeavour to get children to school promptly by leaving home in plenty of time to get to school by 8.50am. Children should be at school between 8.50am-9.00am where they can take part in early morning learning. Late attendance is also regularly monitored by the Attendance Officer, and affects your child's school attendance record.

Registration is at 9.00am, and registers close at 9.15am. Doors into school and the Willows gate are both locked at 9.00am. If your child arrives after 9.00am, please sign your child in at the school office.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

Best wishes

Louise Phillips
Headteacher

Dream - Believe - Succeed