

ST PAUL'S WALDEN NEWS



THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES FROM ST PAUL'S WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



A MESSAGE FROM MRS ADSHEAD

We would like to thank you for all your positive comments that we have received around our first virtual parents evening! It has been a great success, our online booking system has made the process much easier for everyone. If you have any comments about the process we would love to hear from you, as we are continually striving to improve.

As we finish the second week of lockdown mark 2, I am very aware of the effect that it may be having on some families in our community. It will be effecting us all in some way, from finding ways to juggle family life and working at home, caring for ill relatives, the worry of redundancy and being furloughed. I would like to remind you that we are here to support, we have access to a wealth of advice and support that means we can support you and your family through these difficult times. Our support is confidential and if we make referrals we only do so with your permission.

If you think that you may be eligible for free school meals we can apply on your behalf. This gives you access to food boxes if you are self-isolating. Your child will also get extra funding, which is used to support them and their learning at school.

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OUR WEBSITE

The half termly curriculum information for each class is now on our website. This can be used alongside the class pages to support your child in their learning while at home. The class pages are updated by the teachers on a regular basis, Where you will find examples of work that has taken place at school and an explanation about what they have been learning. In the current situation where we are not allowed visitors on site, our website plays an important link between home and school.

On the homepage you will find our events calendar, where there are reminders of events that are taking place in our school and local community. It is updated regularly, so please be sure to check for new items!



All you need to do is wear odd socks! It's a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique in Anti-Bullying Week! It will be held on Monday 16th November 2020, the first day of Anti-Bullying Week.

The way that the adults and pupils behave towards each other is very important at St Paul's Walden and we believe that our values, be respectful, be responsible and be safe are fundamental to everything that we do and teach. We also believe that our motto 'Growing and Learning Together' forms a very important part of all that we do everyday. Anti-bullying week provides us with another opportunity to revisit these again with the pupils and staff.

We would like you to join us in discussing what growing and learning together means with your children. There will be a whole school homework task relating to our motto so look out for it on Google Classroom.

GOLDEN TICKETS!



We are very happy to share the pupils who have achieved 10 gold cards! Well done George, Joseph, Harry P, Albie, Tayler, Teddy, Max and Isaac. We are very proud of your hard work and commitment to your learning.

There are lots of pupils who are only a few cards away, so don't give up, if you have already achieved a ticket you can always earn another! The totals are carried over from one half term to the next and only reset at the end of the academic year.

Mrs Adshead is looking forward to giving out many more tickets in the coming weeks!

DISPLAYS AROUND OUR SCHOOL!

We are very aware that as parents you are not able to come in and see the amazing work that your children are doing so this week we have taken some photographs of displays from around our school. We hope that you enjoy looking at them.



COVID GUIDANCE

It is inevitable at this time of year that there are lots of other seasonal viral infections in circulation. Your child does not need a test if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste.

The symptoms of Covid-19 are: A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back.

A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

We have been asked by Herts County Council to remind parents and carers that to knowingly ignore the self-isolation guidance is breaking the law and they could be fined £1,000, you can find the latest Government information at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-legal-duty-to-self-isolate-comes-into-force-today>.

If you are unsure whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/

Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they present with any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.

If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self isolate does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.

TERM DATES 2020/2021

Autumn Term 2020

School starts: Thursday 3rd September

Half Term: **Monday 26th to Friday 30th October**

Last day of term: Friday 18th December **finishing at 2pm**

Occasional Day: **Monday 23rd November**

Inset Days: Wednesday 2nd September & Friday 20th November

Spring Term 2021

School starts: Tuesday 5th January

Half Term: **Monday 15th to Friday 19th February**

Last day of term: Thursday 26th March **finishing at 2pm**

Inset Days: Monday 4th January

Summer Term 2021

School starts: Tuesday 13th April

Half Term: **Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June**

Last day of term: Wednesday 21st July **finishing at 2pm**

Inset Days: Monday 12th April & Thursday 22nd July

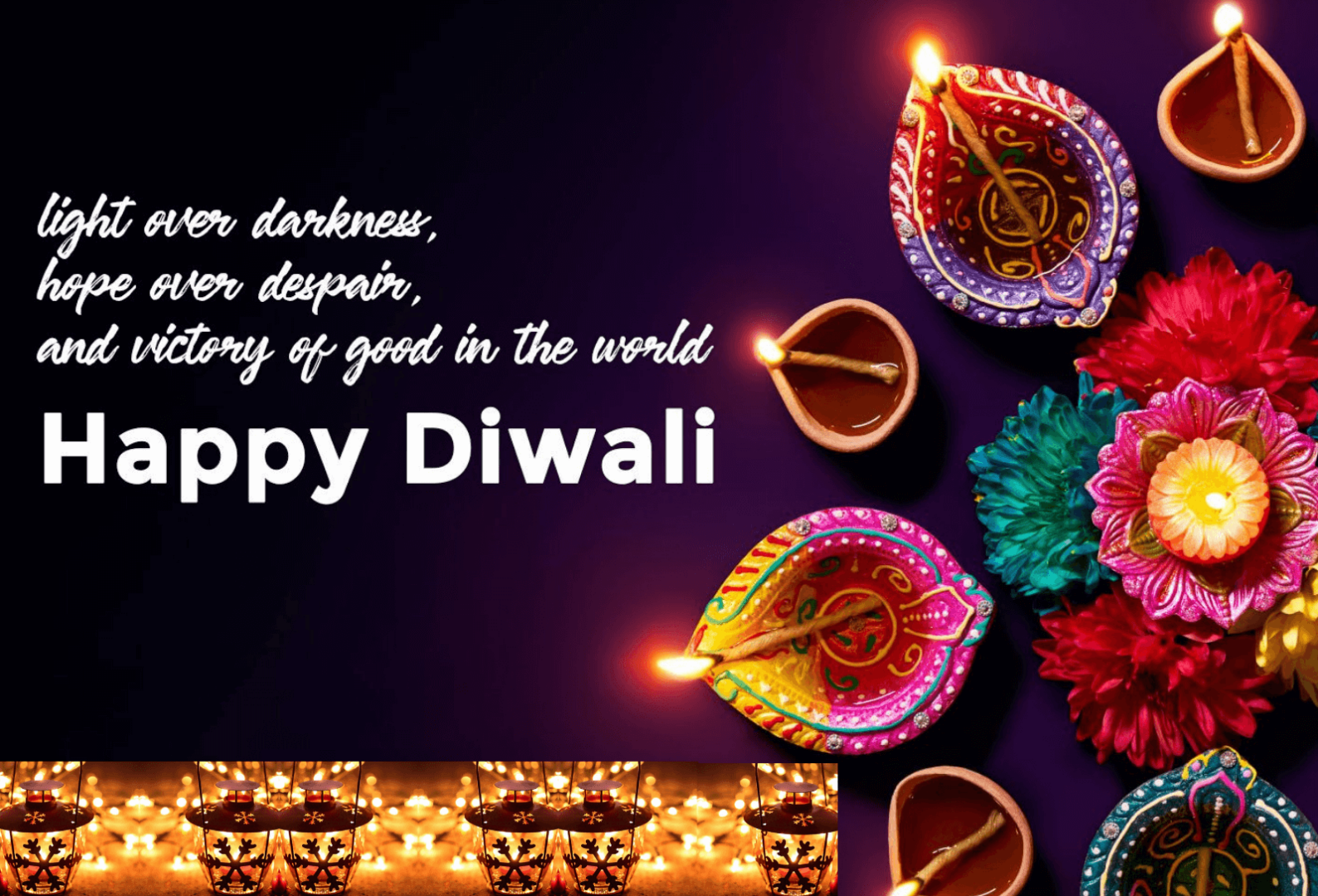
Bank Holiday: **Friday 8th May**

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

For general enquiries, report of an absence or to inform the school of pupil collection arrangements please contact the school office by email : admin@stpaulswalden.herts.sch.uk or telephone on: 01438 871241. The office is open between the hours of 8:30am and 4pm during term time only.

*light over darkness,
hope over despair,
and victory of good in the world*

Happy Diwali



What is Diwali?

- Diwali is a festival of light, joy, splendor, brightness and happiness. Diwali celebrated with great enthusiasm by all Indians worldwide.
- The term Diwali or Deepavali means cluster of lamps. "Deep" meaning lamp, 'Avali' meaning 'line or row'.
- Diwali is five days of festivities
 - First Day : Dhanteras – welcoming Goddess of wealth
 - Second Day : Vanquishing demon Narak
 - Third Day : Worship of Lakshmi
 - Fourth Day : Govardhan Pooja
 - Fifth Day : Bhai Dooj – Gift giving/Siblings
- In comparison to the celebrations in US, it has elements from
 - Thanks Giving : Give thanks, Family Get-togethers
 - Christmas : Prayer, Rejoice & Celebrate
 - July 4 : Fireworks





Hitchin Christmas Hamper Appeal

The Hitchin Christmas Hamper Appeal supports local individuals and families at Christmas with a festive food parcel. Last year we provided 151 hampers. This year however Covid 19 has changed how we are running the appeal. Instead of food donations this year we are asking you to help us raise funds so we can give our families supermarket vouchers plus we still want to be able to give gift bags to the children.

If you can donate to the Christmas Hamper Appeal fund then please go to the JustGiving Page
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/feedHitchin>

Doing your shopping online this year? Even if you can't shop local this year, you can still support the community by shopping at smile.amazon.co.uk and nominate Rotary Club Of Hitchin Tilehouse Trust Fund as your charity of choice. They will receive a percentage of the price of your purchase at no extra cost to you.

