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St Paul's
Catholic Primary School

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17th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

Firstly, a well-overdue thank you for your support and kindness during our recent Ofsted inspection. We were so heartened by the thoughtful emails we received as well as the 'thinking of you' and 'good luck' comments. The responses to both the parent and pupil questionnaires were over-whelming so thank you for taking the time to do this at such short notice. We will have our inspection report in the coming weeks, and once approved, we will be able to share this with you.

Secondly, thank you also for your generosity in supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal as well as the Seafarers. If you still want to donate to the Seafarers Appeal then the appeal is open until Wednesday 20th November.

The information below is aimed to keep you well informed about events taking place over the remainder of this term. We have a busy few weeks ahead!

Parents' Evenings - Monday 18th November and Wednesday 20th November – 3.40-6pm

Thank you for booking your parent consultation appointments. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you.

To ensure the events run smoothly please note the following:

- Please enter school via the main entrance near the school offices. On arrival you will be asked to check and update your child's personal information sheet including emergency contact numbers. You will be shown to the classroom of your first appointment where you will be able to have a look at your child's classroom and their work. If you do not have time to look at their work before your appointment with your child's class teacher then you can do so afterwards.
- We are delighted that our Mental Health Support Team practitioner, Louise from Alliance Psychological Therapies, will be present on both evenings. Please feel free to speak to Louise if you would like to. She will be delighted to share some resources or ideas which may support you or your child.
- Please leave the school the same way you came in so we can ensure that the school is kept secure.

School Mass - Wednesday 20th November at 9.10am

All are welcome.

Consultation Drop-in for the new school building – Thursday 21st November 3-7pm

Further to the correspondence last week, a reminder that you can drop in to school to view the proposals for our new school. We are very excited to share the plans with you and many of the team involved from the Department of Education (DfE) to the architects and contractors who will be here.

Holiday - Monday 25th November

Children and staff are not in school

FOSPs Christmas Fair - Wednesday 4th December 3.15-6pm

Further details from FOSPs to follow

Pantomime Trip – Monday 16th December

I am delighted to let you know that we have been able to secure tickets for Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at the Princess Alexandra Auditorium at Yarm School. This pantomime is for all children from Year 1 – Year 6. The Friends of St Paul's will pay for transport **so we ask for a voluntary donation of £8.50 per child which is the cost of the ticket. Payments to be made through MCAS.**



In Him we Live and Move and Have our Being

We will need some adults to accompany the children so please email the school office if you are able to accompany us. Unfortunately, we will be restricted with the number of adults we can take so please don't be disappointed if we can't take you up on your offer. We will let you know as soon as we can.

We will confirm details nearer the time, but just to note that the children will not be back at school until approximately 4.30pm as we are attending an afternoon performance.

Children in Nursery and Reception will enjoy an extra special Christmas event on the same afternoon but this will be in school, led by Katherine, our Forest School leader.

Nativities and Advent Services:

(dates previously shared in the October Information Letter)

Monday 9th December at 1.30pm - Nursery and Reception Nativity

Tuesday 10th December at 9.30am - Nursery and Reception Nativity

Tuesday 10th December at 1.30pm - Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Wednesday 11th December at 9.30am - Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Wednesday 11th December (afternoon) - Year 3 and Year 4 'Snappy Christmas' with Tees Valley Music Service

Tuesday 17th December at 6pm in Holy Rosary Church – Year 5 and Year 6 Carol Service – Everybody welcome

Online Safety Concerns

I am aware that some parents have received an alert from Cleveland Police which came via their child's sports club. This was related to the use of WhatsApp and particularly related to Year 7 pupils being encouraged to join a certain group which was then sharing alarming messages including pornography, threatening behaviour and self-harm.

School have not received this alert; however, it is a timely reminder to everyone about the importance of keeping children safe in the online world. If your child has a mobile phone or uses devices at home, please ensure that you know what they are accessing online and the apps they have installed. As parents you should have secure settings and you should know the age restrictions of apps and games. WhatsApp has an age restriction of 16+. We are also aware that children often have access to You Tube rather than Kids You Tube. We also know from talking to children that many of them have access to devices in their bedrooms including mobile phones.

Please be alert to the dangers of the online world.

The monthly online safety newsletters we send to you will support and guide, as will our website.

If you have any concerns or require any help with settings, then please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Cooke who is our Online Safety Lead.

Uniform and equipment

Thank you for ensuring that your child is ready for school each day in their winter uniform. A polite reminder to the very few children who are not wearing correct uniform that shirt/blouse and tie is part of our winter uniform. PLEASE CHECK UNIFORM TO ENSURE IT IS LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

Please also ensure that your child is only bringing their St Paul's School water bottle for classroom use. Please ensure that your child's name is on the bottle (a permanent marker pen is a great investment for labelling both uniform and water bottles). If you need to purchase a new bottle then please do so at the school office. They cost £3 (cash please).

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. As always, if you wish to discuss anything further, then please contact me at school.

Yours sincerely



Sheena Sinclair
Head Teacher



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