



St Paul's CE Primary School – Newsletter October 2024

www.stpaulswithington.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter @stpaulspri



Update from Miss Lee...

I can hardly believe we are reaching the end of our first half term; what a busy seven weeks it has been! I would like to thank all our parents and carers, your support in helping our pupils settle back into the school year has been invaluable and has enabled them to flourish this half term.

It has been fantastic to witness the positive attitudes displayed by all the pupils towards our new behaviour policy. Today, Lowry (red) triumphed, winning our very first reward by the narrowest of margins. The children celebrated this achievement with organised games and juice (we have included some photos below). What warmed my heart was observing the pupils from the other three houses joining in cheerfully to celebrate their friends' success during worship, despite their own disappointment. I would also like to express my appreciation to all the parents who attended our recent behaviour workshop, where we discussed our policy and how it can positively influence behaviour beyond the school gates.

Wishing you all a wonderful break, Miss Lee.

Dates for Your Diary



- School closes on Friday 18th October for half term and re-opens on Monday 28th October
- PTA Disco at St Paul's Church – EY's & KS1 5.00-6.00pm/Year 3/4 & 5/6 6.00-7.00pm
- Thursday 31st October 9.00am – Reception & Year 1 parent meeting – Phonics and Reading
- School closes for Christmas holidays – Friday 20th December and reopens on Monday 6th January



Christmas Events

- PTA Christmas Fair – Saturday 30th November
- Thursday 12th December – Christmas Jumper day.

Tickets are not required for the Christmas shows, however due to hall space restrictions only 2 family members can attend and watch for each child.

- EY's Christmas show - Thursday 12th December at 9.30am
- Year 1/2 Christmas show – Monday 16th December at 9.30am
- Year 3/4 Christmas show – Tuesday 17th December at 2.00pm
- Christmas Party Day – Wednesday 18th December. A party themed lunch will be provided to all pupils free of charge. Pupils can wear their party clothes to school on this day.
- Christmas Lunch – Thursday 19th December. All pupils will receive a Christmas lunch, free of charge.
- Christmas Church Service –TBC

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to all who attended and donated to our Macmillan Coffee Morning – we raised over £300.00!



St Paul's Kitchen

Try one of our popular school lunch menu items (suitable for freezing) ...

Chocolate and Beetroot Muffin

	25 portions
Plain Flour	370g
Cocoa Powder	150g
Baking Powder	30g
Caster Sugar	485g
Eggs	4
Beetroot (packet)	500g
Vanilla Flavouring	½ tbspn
Margarine	400g
Muffin Cases	

Method

1. Place paper muffin cases into muffin tins
2. Pre heat the oven to gas mark 4, electric 180°C, Fan 160°C
3. Sift together the flour, cocoa and baking powder into a bowl, mix in sugar
4. Puree the beetroot in a food processor, add the eggs one at a time then add the vanilla essence and melted margarine, mix well
5. Pour in the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients then stir until just combined. The batter will be lumpy but no dry flour should be visible. Do not over-stir
6. Spoon into the paper cases, approximately 1 dessert spoon per case
7. Bake for approximately 20 minutes until top spring back when pressed gently.

Year 1/2 Planting

KS1 have enjoyed planting some bulbs to link with our Science topic on Autumn and seasons. We can't wait to observe the changes and growth we see!



Rights Respecting



St Paul's has gold status for being a Rights Respecting School. We have taken part in the Unicef Outright campaigns for several years to raise awareness for different causes including mental health, climate change and health care around the world. This year, OutRight is all about empowering children and young people to use their voices, take action and make change!

We will use resources in school, to encourage children to learn about children's rights, the many ways they can have their voices heard, and how to take action! If any parents would like to come and speak about this to the children or any ideas to help our campaign, please contact Ms Gallienne.

Year 3/4 Stone Age Day

Year 3 and 4 recently celebrated their stone age day. The day was led by Portals to the Past. The children engaged in a variety of activities aimed at deepening their understanding of what life was like in the stone age times was. The children really enjoyed the experience.



Science at Home

Last Academic year we started 'Science at Home.' This provides an opportunity for pupils and their families to engage with science outside of school. We hope this will lead to a science share event in the summer term where families can share a science project with others. To support this we are providing a scientific activity each half-term for families to carry out. Please email any pictures, comments, etc. to the school with the subject *science share*. This activity, and the previous ones, can be completed at any time: the more children are exposed to science, the more they will engage with science.

Lava Lamp Experiment

Materials:

- A clean plastic bottle, try to use one with smooth sides
- water
- Vegetable Oil (or you could use Mineral or Baby Oil instead)
- Fizzing tablets (such as Alka Seltzer)
- Food Colouring

[*Watch Scientist Joe as he makes the Lava Lamp Experiment here!*](#)

Instructions:

1. Fill the bottle up about 1/4th (1 quarter) with water.
2. Pour the vegetable oil in the bottle until it is almost full. You may want to use a measuring cup with a spout or a funnel. You may have to wait a couple of minutes for the oil and water to separate.
3. Add a few drops of your favourite food colouring. Watch as the colour sinks through the oil. Did your drops of colour mix with the water immediately or float in between for a few minutes?
4. Break your fizzy tablet in half and drop part of it into the bottle. Get ready ... here come the bubbly blobs!
5. You can even get a flashlight, turn off the lights and drop in another half tablet. This time shine the flashlight through the lava lamp while the blobs are bubbling!

How it Works:

The oil floats on top of the water because it is less dense or lighter than water. The food colouring has the same density as the water so it sinks through the oil and mixes with the water. When you add the tablet it sinks to the bottom then starts to dissolve. As it dissolves it makes gas, carbon dioxide. Gas or air, is lighter than water so it floats to the top. The air bubbles bring some coloured water with them to the top. When the air comes out of the coloured water blob, the water gets heavy again and sinks. It does this over and over again until the tablet is completely dissolved.

School Library

KS1 have enjoyed using our new library system to get their reading for pleasure books each Friday.



House Winners

Well done to members of the 'Lowry' house for being this half terms winners! We hope you enjoyed your extra play time party.



Harvest

Unfortunately, we weren't able to have our Harvest Service in church this year however we still celebrated Harvest in school. The children all worked hard to retell The Creation Story.

