



As God's family, together we achieve

1.4.2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Spring Term School Progress Report

Update on COVID

This term has been a refreshing change to the last 7 terms where COVID infections and isolations affected the attendance and consistency of face to face learning in school. We have continued to see some positive cases amongst staff, children and our families, but this has remained relatively mild in nature and all positive individuals have returned to school with full health.

As a result of the positive Spring Term, school will move to remove all COVID restrictions and return to pre-COVID times. From Monday 25th April, parents and carers will be contacted if their child has been awarded a Certificate of Achievement or a Golden Jumper. This is such a special time in the weekly calendar when we can come together and celebrate our children's efforts and achievements.

We will continue to follow the National Guidance in the instances when infection arises. As we move to the Summer Term, our thoughts are that infections will continue to reduce and no longer pose a threat to the continuity of children's education.

Admissions

Over the Easter Holidays, parents of children who are of reception age in September 2022 will find out their selection of primary school. We are extremely grateful for the families who took the time to view school and make Hoddlesden St Paul's CE Primary School their preferred school. Information on Admissions can be located on the school website and a formal offer will be delivered via email, or the method you chose to take when completing the application form.

Parents and Carers will need to 'accept' an offer, then upon this acceptance, the school administration team will be in contact with the next steps. We always aim to have contact with our families by the end of April.

Curriculum Achievements

The school team continue to inspire me and the children with their creativity, resourcefulness and knowledge of the curriculum and world around them. Children have loved our connector themes, Amazing Asia and Treasured Tales. Evidence of learning is updated on each class page weekly and our Facebook page continually celebrates the end outcomes children have achieved.

Our main school improvement focuses this year are as follows:

- To develop the use of research to ensure high quality teaching and learning for all pupils is developed. To further refine our curriculum intent and teaching, drawing on research and securing detailed knowledge and skills across the curriculum for all pupils ensuring they develop holistically in readiness for the next stage of learning.
- To ensure all leaders across school create a consistent, curious and coherent culture that contributes towards a strategic subject decision-making process. The continued development of teaching and learning, curriculum diet and our 'experience offer' is disseminated and distributed across all branches of school leadership, ultimately securing key concepts are taught effectively and efficiently.

- To ensure the EYFS reforms and new curriculum are understood, embedded and celebrated across the early year's department. The promotion of pupil's success and further school readiness is disseminated across school and subject leaders.

As a school staff, we continue to develop on the use of instructional coaching to further develop our progression as teachers and educators. Subject Leaders and curriculum specialists have worked hard to ensure all areas of the curriculum are taught consistently with knowledge of children's prior learning being built upon. The consistency of the last year in school has ensured children become fully attached to school, routines and expectations once more. This is not an easy learning curve to take, but one that all children should be very proud of achieving.

Our whole school activities have once again filled the school and community with joy and love for learning. Parents' evening was a huge success and it was excellent to see you viewing your children's learning, development and growth. Our whole school worship has been a breath of fresh air and the highlight of everyone's day.

The school team are working on our upcoming Sports Day, Summer Fair and curriculum showcases. Mrs Harrison and Mrs Bass will be sharing further information in the Summer Term.

Our class pages continue to showcase the awesome learning that is taking place in the classes across school. The early years' classes continue to impress the whole school community with the holistic achievements that our 3-5 year olds make. Children across Pre-School are starting to work towards their school readiness level and Reception children are blossoming into independent learners, ready for their move to Year 1.

Uniform Update

Please ensure your child's uniform (both PE and School) follows our agreed policy. Over the last 2 years, we have relaxed our policy in light of COVID-19 and the impact to clothes shopping. We are asking all our families to make a concerted effort to ensure school uniform is in line with our school policy. Should you have any questions, please ask the school office for further support.

I must also stress that children are not allowed to wear jewellery in school, unless for religious purposes (agreed with School prior to wearing). In addition, medical tags and bracelets can be worn should a child have a medical condition.

Child Health Update

Tooth decay can cause problems with eating, sleeping, communication and socialising, and results in at least 60,000 days being missed from school during the year for hospital extractions alone.

Tooth decay could be prevented by cutting down on sugar, as well as brushing teeth with fluoride toothpaste. The cost to the NHS of treating oral conditions is about £3.4 billion per year.

Regularly consuming food and drinks containing sugar increases the risk of tooth decay, and can lead to an increased risk of obesity and type 2 diabetes. Children are still consuming more than the recommended daily limit.

The key messages for promoting oral health:

1. Brush children's teeth twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste containing 1350–1500ppm
2. Healthy eating and restricting sugar consumption to mealtimes
3. Have a first dental check up by the age of 1-year-old and keep regular check-up appointments

Please see the latest guidance on oral health using the links below;

[How to keep your teeth clean - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/health-topics/teeth/brushing-teeth/)

[Children's teeth - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/health-topics/teeth/childrens-teeth/)

Top 3 interventions for preventing tooth decay

1



Reduce the consumption of foods and drinks that contain sugars

2



Brush teeth twice daily with fluoride toothpaste (1350-1500ppm), last thing at night and at least on one other occasion. After brushing, spit don't rinse

3



Take your child to the dentist when the first tooth erupts, at about 6 months and then on a regular basis

Under 3s should use a smear of toothpaste

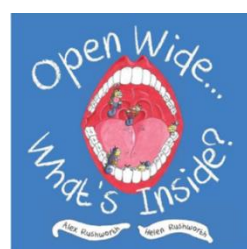


3 to 6 year olds should use a pea sized amount



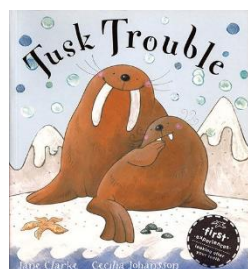
Parents/carers should brush or supervise tooth brushing until their **child is at least 7**

Books for children to encourage good oral health <https://bda.org/library/oral-hygiene/bookschildren>



Open Wide...What's Inside? by Alex and Helen Rushworth

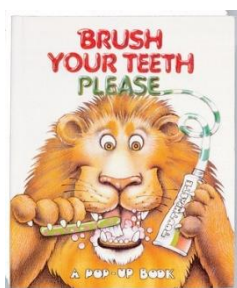
Open Wide...What's Inside? You don't really want to find out! Dentist Alex Rushworth reveals the revolting truth that will have children everywhere running for their toothbrush. This humorous, rhyming story of the Sugarbugs and their horrible habits helps children - and their parents! - understand what happens to their food to make their breath smell and their teeth need brushing.



Tusk trouble by Jane Clarke & Cecilia Johansson

Wilbur stabbed his tusks into the ice and... 'Owww!' yelled Wilbur. 'My tusk hurts!' You'll have to go to the dentist,' Wanda said. 'I don't want to go to the dentist,' said Wilbur.

Wilbur's tusk hurts every time he uses it...but he doesn't want to go to the dentist.



Brush Your Teeth, Please by Leslie McGuire

What child can resist imitating a chimp brushing its teeth back and forth? Or a shark that flosses every day? Youngsters will have lots of fun learning about proper dental hygiene in this delightful pop-up book.

Parents and Community

Our Spring Term parents' evening was a fantastic opportunity for us all to celebrate the successes of our children. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us, by completing the questionnaire. This is a vital way of the senior leadership team taking a temperature check of school and ensuring what we say we are doing, is actually what we are doing. The data collection of this can found by following the [link](#).

The PTFA are now meeting face to face to start to plan events for the Summer Term and new academic year. As a school, we are extremely lucky to have such a fantastic group of parent and carer volunteers who work so hard to help fund initiatives in school. Now more than ever, the PTFA financial contribution to school is very much needed due to the increasing costs of resourcing school. If you are interested in joining the PTFA, please contact the school office.

Appointment of an Assistant Headteacher

As you will be aware, this half term saw members of the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body interview and recruit a new member of the St Paul's team, this was for an Assistant Headteacher position from September. The calibre and amount of applications for this post was inspiring and amazing to see so much aspiring leadership talent. Further information on our new Assistant Headteacher will be shared in the Summer Term along with information on transition, class teachers and support deployment for the next academic year. Due to the additional catch-up funding and staff aspirations, we will see some movement of staff at the end of the year. As a school family, it is bitter sweet when staff decide to leave St Paul's, whether it be for a temporary or for a permanent move. We are a successful and hardworking team who go above and beyond for the children on a daily basis and staff have high aspirations for professional growth, just like our children.

Following on from the information above, sadly I have to share with you that a member of the staff team is leaving sooner than the end of the academic year. Mrs Joanne Mackey, one of my right hand members of staff in school and who I have worked with for the last 5 years, has secured a new job and promotion in another school. Mrs Mackey is a huge asset to this school and any other organisation she is in; she will be greatly missed. I do not believe for one minute that we won't see her in school again. She will always be warmly welcomed in school and I hope you join me and the rest of the school family in congratulating her on new role and wishing her all the best for the future. The school administration team have been working closely with Mrs Mackey over the half term to ensure her knowledge and experience is passed on.

I wish you and all our children a restful and enjoyable Easter holidays. May God bless and watch over you all and return you to school safely on Wednesday 20th April 2022.



Mr C Dugdale

Headteacher

