



SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER 2023

Break up for Half Term - Friday, February 10th

Half Term from Monday 13 - Friday 17 February

Spring Term ends - Friday 31 March

Summer Term begins Monday 17 April

If your child is unwell or unable to come to pre-school for any other reason please let the setting know by 10am of the morning concerned by **text** to the setting phone on 07534 673297. After that time if we have not heard from you we will contact you to ensure all is well. Please note this phone is not monitored outside of session hours. Absences known in advance may be emailed or texted though the latter is preferred.

Coffee Morning



Keren Hillman, the Little Fishes Pastor, is arranging a coffee morning for Little Fishes parents which will be held in The Hub from 9am on Wednesday 8th February. If you are a new parent or would just like to catch up with other parents do pop along.

Tea, coffee and pastries will be provided.

Spring Term News



The frosty mornings of the other week allowed some of the children to make lovely ice pendants. Leaves and seed heads were cut up and added to water in patty tins then left out overnight in the garden. The next morning they were frozen hard so they were hung up on the Christmas tree as decorations

What's On At St Paul's Church?

Alpha is starting this February at St Paul's.



Alpha is for anyone who is curious to explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning. Each week we meet for supper, then watch a short film about an aspect of Christianity and then talk informally in groups.

The first session is 21 February 7.30pm. However if you would like to do Alpha and can't make an evening meeting then Keren is happy to offer a morning Alpha during the week. Children are welcome to come too as we will meet over coffee, pastries and toys so that little ones can play. If you would be interested in this then please contact kerenh@saintpauls.co.uk

Family Events

The Big Games Mix 18 February 4.30-7pm for quizzes, games, challenges and adventures for all

The Big Easter Mix 25 March 4.30-7pm: A mega Easter Egg hunt, dinner and a movie.

New resource launched to help parents of under 5s get the right help if their child is unwell

Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership have launched a new resource to help Surrey parents of children, aged from 0-5 years old, access the right NHS support if their child is unwell.

This new leaflet has been developed at a time when we are seeing a rise in attendances at A&Es and increasing pressures on the health system.

NHS services are there for those who need them and choosing the right service helps make sure that parents get the right help for their child. To help keep A&E for people who are critically unwell and urgently need help, it provides information and advice about the full range of help available to parents of young children 24/7.

The resource aims to help parents navigate the local health system more easily and provides bite sized explanations of the help you can expect from pharmacies, NHS 111, Surrey 0-19 advice line, Call a Midwife and other NHS services. It also includes a one-page guide to keep at hand where you'll find all important contact details for local NHS services and details of links to further support.

The How to get the right help if your child is unwell leaflet is available as an A5 printed leaflet, an A4 pdf and a web accessible version on the [Surrey Heartlands HCP website](https://www.surreyheartlands.hcp.nhs.uk/).

Chinese New Year

We had fun learning about Chinese New Year. Some of us made rabbit masks, others made dragons or fans.



Bedtime Reading

A few parents have asked recently whether it matters if a child repeatedly asks for the same book to be read. Here's what a speech and language therapist says....

Repetition is key

While you might roll your eyes if your child picks the same book for the tenth night in a row, the repetition and familiarity is actually important for their development.

Janet says: "They're building their vocabulary and starting to understand sentence structures.

The prediction of the narrative becomes fun, they know what happens next. Children love having a fun time with you as a parent or carer, so when they are familiar with the story, you can change the words to see if they spot it.

That's great for their listening skills."

Janet believes how you tell the story is much more important than the story itself. If a parent feels anxious about reading aloud to their child, you don't even need to bring a book to bed.

"I find some of the most successful things can be when you just make up stories. Maybe looking at a picture or making up a story that's a bit of fun. It doesn't always have to make sense, children just love that time with you."

For more information see the [Tiny Happy People](#) website.



Fathers' Week

We'd like to re-introduce our Fathers' Week during the week of February 20th - 24th. This is an opportunity for dads (and granddads) to come into the setting for part of a morning to join in with their children (grandchildren) at 'work'. In the past several dads have commented on what an enjoyable and eye opening time it has been. Further details will follow later in the week. We'll also introduce a mothers' week later in the year.



Unwell Children

Children who are unwell and have a high temperature, must not come into Pre-school and we would ask that you let us know via the setting phone. Those with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend. If they have suffered from sickness/diarrhoea we ask that you do not bring them back until they have been free from symptoms for 48 hours. Please also inform the setting manager if your child has any contagious diseases such as impetigo, chicken pox, conjunctivitis, head lice or worms.

Nappy/Pull-Up Changing/Clothing Supplies

If your child is wearing nappies or pull-ups please would you ensure there are nappy sacks and baby wipes in your child's bag alongside any nappies/pull-ups. Please also pop in a small changing mat (disposable ones are fine) as this is more hygienic and avoids your child sharing one with other children.

If your child is potty training please bring in their own potty/toilet seat in a **named** bag.

For those wearing pants please could we ask for at least two spare pairs to be kept in their bags.

For all children please could there be a complete set of spare clothes including socks in their bag.



What is 30 hours Funded Childcare?

Most working parents of three and four year olds are eligible for an extra 15 hours of funded childcare a week, term time. Added to your current universal entitlement of 15 hours Funded Early Education for three and four year olds, this means that your entitlement will increase to a total of 30 hours a week, term time (or 1140 hours over a year). We are registered for 30 hours funded childcare term time and offer up to 24.75 hours. If you wish to claim all 30 hours some parents arrange for a childminder to cover the extra time.

If you think you might be eligible apply through the government's Childcare Choices website. There's 30 Hours Eligibility Guidance to help you understand whether you will qualify. If your application is successful, you'll get given an 11 digit eligibility code which you must then give us so that we can check your eligibility. A child can only take up their extended hours from the term following the date of issue of their 30 hour code. Eligibility code applications for the Summer Term 2023 may be made up until March 31st.

What is RevivR?

RevivR is the British Heart Foundation's [free, interactive, online CPR training course](#). In just 15 minutes, you can learn how to save a life and receive your very own CPR certificate. It couldn't be simpler - you just need your mobile phone or tablet and a cushion to practise on. Start the training now, or save it for later and get it sent straight to your inbox, ready when you are.

