



Look Out!

At a function, hosted by the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium recently, the British Ambassador, Dr Rachel Aaron commented on how businesses that had survived and even thrived in the current economic climate had one thing in common. They all **looked out**, beyond themselves, at the community at large and found new and innovative ways to become involved in these communities. At St Paul's British Primary School, we subscribe exactly to the attitude that there is so much more to life than serving our own needs. We are striving to become involved in the communities in which we have been placed, in order to understand them and serve them better. However, we cannot carry this torch alone. We need all of you – our parents and supporters to be on board with us. So please keep a **look out**, in the months ahead, for community initiatives that we will be getting involved in. We are currently establishing links with our local 'Basis school', the Lions International club in Tervuren, Ziekenzorg - a local charity for the aged and infirm and several other local organizations. Our aim is to broaden our impact on the community by teaching our children how to show that they care, in the most meaningful way possible – service!

Farewell Gift from

In your folders today you will find that each child has a bag of chocolate coins, these are a leaving gift from Janet. She just wanted to give a little something to all the children as a thank you for all her happy years spent with them in the school



Christianity Explored

Have you ever wondered what the fundamental principles of Christianity are and why we run a Christian school such as St Paul's British Primary School by those principles? Have you ever been put off Christianity without ever really finding out what it's all about?

Then why not come and find out on the 'Christianity Explored' course.

We will be running the course at school for anyone who may be interested, starting on 13 January 2010. The course will be presented by Chris Edwards (from St Paul's Church) and will run each Wednesday morning from 9:15 to 10:30am for 10 weeks. There will be tea and coffee provided (possibly even a croissant or muffin too) and some time at the beginning or end to chat to other people on the course.

Please book a place by emailing Brett at brettneilson@stpaulsbps.com or calling the school on 02 767 3098. For further information on the course, please have a look at the Christianity Explored website at www.christianityexplored.org/

Christmas Shopping Day



The Christmas shopping day went really well on Wednesday. The children were so excited about the gifts they had bought and some of them could not bear to keep the secret at the end of the day. I hope that those of you who already know what you're getting, will look suitably surprised on Christmas day when you unwrap them!

A huge thank you to all the class reps and their legions of helpers who made the day such fun for the children.



Now that's what I call music!

Do you enjoy singing popular, upbeat music?
Will one of your New Year's Resolutions be taking up a new hobby
or re-kindling a favourite past-time?
If the answer is **yes**, then read on!

A new adult choir is being established, starting on Thursday 07 January 2010 from 8.00 - 9.30pm. We will meet in the school hall of St. Paul's British Primary School, Stationsstraat 3, Vossem on alternate Thursdays. We aim to sing for pleasure and have fun, whilst making new friends.

No auditions, but a good voice and ear for music are desirable. A minimal joining fee of €25 for the year and a small weekly payment of €2.50 will cover the cost of music and overheads.

For more information contact Rachael Bateman, 02 306 5515 or rachael_bateman@hotmail.com or Sian Macey, 02 731 3201 or maceycardiff@hotmail.co.uk

Christmas Concerts Next Week

There is much excitement around school, as the final preparations are made for next weeks events. In addition to the slips that went home this week, please note the following arrangements: 11:00am on Tuesday is a dress rehearsal, to which a small audience has been invited. It is also an opportunity for those parents who cannot make it on Wednesday to attend. Space is very limited, so please check with the office if you would like to attend this show. Please do not come on both days as we just could not fit everyone in! 11:00am on Wednesday is the main Christmas concert and it's the one your children would like you to attend. Please ensure that the children wear their red sweatshirts on both days.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 12 December	Christmas Fair from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Tuesday 15 December	Christmas Concert Dress rehearsal
Wednesday 16 December	Christmas Concert at 11:00 am
Thursday 17 December	Carols Evening 6:30 for 7:00 pm
Friday 18 December	End of term, 12 noon
Monday 4 January 2010	Start of Spring Term
Monday 15 to Friday 19 February	Half term break
Monday 22 February	In Service Day
Wednesday 10 March	Parent Contact Meetings 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Tuesday 16 March	Parent Contact Meetings 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Saturday 27 March	Grand Opening of the School Hall
Wednesday 31 March	End of term, 12 noon

Christmas Fair

Don't forget our Christmas Fair on Saturday 12th December 2009. Stalls and activities open at 2.00pm and there will be something for everyone.

Why not come along and enjoy our freshly made cakes and confectionary, try your hand at cookie decorating and get your face painted.

Obviously Santa will be there, with a friendly 'Ho ho ho' for all the children, but there will also be gifts on sale – from books to bags; artworks, crafts and tea towels!

A great afternoon out for all the family.

Christmas Carols Evening

Whether you can sing or not, everyone loves a carols evening at this time of the year. This festive season will see the first of many 'Carols-in-the-courtyard' events on Thursday 18th December. Please bring along a traditional Christmas nibble per family (i.e. mince pies, stollen, panettone) and we will supply the mulled wine. We have planned a wide range of traditional carols and children's favourites to ensure an evening for all the family.



Newsletter

The weekly newsletter is meant to be informative and keep you updated on news and events at the school. If you have any questions about the articles featured in this or any other issue of the SPBPS Newsletter, or would like to see additional information featured, please send an email to: newsletter@stpaulsbps.com.

Brett