



# Newsletter 9

6<sup>th</sup> November 2009

## The St Paul's BPS Community

'Community' is one of those strange words which can mean so much to some people, but a lot less to others. It seems that those parts of the world that have less material wealth bond more naturally as communities than those that are wealthier, and therefore less dependent on others.

When Jesus was asked what the most important law in the Bible was, he replied that we should love God with all our hearts and minds and strength. But He did not stop there; he went on to say that the second most important law is like the first, that we should love each other as we love ourselves. We will be focusing this half term on what it means to love and care for those around us, because we believe that this is an essential value for our children to be learning.

'Community' is also key to the prosperity of our school, because it forms part of our identity. We strive to be so much more than just a school, and with the help of dozens of parents and volunteers we are achieving just that. Please pop in and have a look at our community board in the reception area. Hopefully it will never be complete, as people will keep coming in and being added to our community, but for now at least you will get a good idea of who we are.

In fact, we are very pleased to have been able to welcome a few new people to our community just this week. We have 2 new families in First Steps and we are pleased to welcome the Hallam family (Millie) and the Dodd family (Lilibeth). We hope that your association with St Paul's British Primary School is a long and happy one.

I know that many of you have already popped in to the office to say 'Hi' to Sarah, who has taken up the role of school nurse and receptionist. Please do come in and introduce yourself if you have not done so yet – she has a very welcoming smile and she makes great coffee! We are also happy to have Rosaria Scharf join our teaching staff this week. Rosaria will be providing advanced level French tutorial sessions 3 times a week.

## Paper-less community

This term we are going to strive to put an end to the endless reams of paper and printer ink which keep going into our weekly newsletter. In the interests of the planet, the forests and the sanity of our office staff, we are moving to publishing our weekly newsletters electronically. A copy will be emailed every Friday to each family (to as many email addresses as you like) and published on our school website. If there is a specific need for a paper copy, these can be requested from the school office. We will begin emailing trials on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2009 and hope to be ready to start 2010 with a much smaller carbon footprint.

## Safer streets community

May I appeal to everyone who comes to school by car to park in the community car park on the village square at the beginning and end of the school day. It is the best way to ease the congestion in front of the school and to reduce the risk to our parents and children who have to cross over between the 2 parts of the school to drop off children of different ages. If it is a little inconvenient to have to walk the few extra steps to the school, please try to see it as an opportunity to teach your children some valuable road safety lessons, whilst serving the best interests of our whole community.

## No School on Wednesday or Friday next week

Please remember that the school is closed next Wednesday for the public holiday, and again on Friday for a staff training day. All the teaching staff will be at a conference in Amsterdam on Friday and Saturday, but the school office will be open for any enquiries on Friday.

## Dates for the diary

Wednesday 11 November	Public Holiday
Friday 13 November	In-Service (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 17 November	Parent Contact Meetings – 6:00 to 8:00 pm The Ark Bible Club - 4:30 to 5:45 pm
Friday 20 November	Celebration Class Assembly – Year 2 at 9:00am
Wednesday 25 November	Nursery Parent Meetings – 1:30 to 3.30 pm Parent Contact Meetings – 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Friday 27 November	Celebration Class Assembly – Reception at 9:00am
Friday 4 December	Celebration Class Assembly – Year 1 at 9:00am
Wednesday 9 December	Christmas 'shopping' morning
Friday 11 December	Celebration Class Assembly – Year 3/4 at 9:00am
Saturday 12 December	Christmas Fair from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Sunday 13 December	St Paul's Church Tervuren Carol Service Sint Jan Kerk, Tervuren at 7:30 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 2010