



**St Pauls CE (C) Primary School**

Learning and growing together in God's love



*'There is one body, and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you.'*

**Ephesians 4: 4-5**

## **Weekly Newsletter - Autumn Term – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

### **Message from the Headteacher**

Good afternoon.

Wow! That wind sure has been windy today! Our Forest School leader made the decision to cancel Forest School to keep the children safe as our trees certainly have been swaying! We attempted the playground at playtime – and even though we had a lot of fun and laughter, after 10 minutes we decided to come in before anyone blew away!

This week in Worship we have continued our theme of Perseverance and discussed a scripture from Hebrews 12:1 *"Let us run with perseverance the race that lies before us."*

We had some wonderful discussions around how in life if something is challenging, we persevere to keep on going, with friends and family by our side cheering us on to the finish line.

Today we have launched with the children a Safer Internet Day Poster Competition. The closing date is next Friday, the 31<sup>st</sup> January. The poster can be paper or digital either brought into school or sent via dojo. The winners will be announced on Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. All entries will be displayed around the school highlighting how important it is to be safe when using the internet.

We would also like to invite you into school for a short workshop to learn with your child/ren and see the iPads in action – details below.

Please don't forget our SEND drop-ins are available with Mrs Nevins-Stanford. Please let the office know if you would like a phone call or an in-person chat.

Have a lovely weekend and please stay safe

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team

### **Design a poster competition**



**Safer Internet Day 2025** | **Tuesday 11 February**

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

[saferinternetday.org.uk](https://saferinternetday.org.uk)

#### **Workshop times**

1:15pm Y1/2

1:45pm Y3/4

2:15pm Y5/6

2:45pm Reception



If you would like to enter – design a poster that informs people how to keep safe online. Remember that posters need to be bright and easy to read and can contain words and pictures. You can either design one on paper, or create one digitally and send in via dojo. Winners and prizes to be announced on Safer Internet Day. Good luck!

**Closing date: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

Class	%
Reception	96.7
Year 1/2	97.7
Year 3/4	95
Year 5	98.5
Year 6	98.9

Whole School Weekly  
Attendance

**96.1%**

OUR WEEKLY  
WINNERS!

**Year 6**

Being in school every day is so important to ensure children have the best chance possible of achieving well and reaching their potential.

This term our target as a school is 96%. To help children to achieve this we will be inviting parents into school to speak with Miss Gaskell to look at ways in which we can support to raise the attendance of your child. We will be launching attendance awards and leading assemblies with the children so that they understand the importance of being in school every day and on time.



## Diary Dates

- **The gates close at 8:45am – this is so that we are open for our statutory time of 32.5 hours. Please be on time as the morning session until 9:00am is target learning time for all children.**
- Our school equipment should not be used in the mornings before school. The children are not supervised at this time.
- We still have some children who are taking PE kits home and not bringing them back into school. It is really important that Forest School Kit is separate and PE kit is not used for this club

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January

SEND Drop-in

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February

Safer Internet Day – parent workshop

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February

SEND Drop-in

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Year 3/4 Bikeability

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Valentine's Day Disco



Class	Winner!
Reception	Maelynn
Year 1	Evan
Year 2	Everlyn
Year 3	Harley
Year 4	William
Year 5	Jaren
Year 6	Gabi

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Values Award

Congratulations

\_\_\_\_\_

For being a shining rainbow in our learning community, showing the value

Respect of \_\_\_\_\_

Excellence

Perseverance

Belief and Courage

Equality

Honest

Friendship and Love



Swords of Success Award

Congratulations

\_\_\_\_\_

Their excellence in building their knowledge and skills in

\_\_\_\_\_

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Class	Winner!
Reception	Lumen
Year 1	Jayden
Year 2	Dimitar
Year 3	Celine
Year 4	Aous
Year 5	Logan
Year 6	Sienna

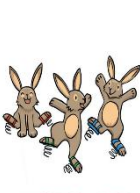






# Reception

What a fantastic week we've had in Reception! Our little learners have been busy working on their phonics, and we've introduced some new sounds:



'ur' as in "curl the fur"

'ow' as in "wow owl"

'oi' as in "boing boing"

'ear' as in "get near to hear"

We've been practicing these sounds with lots of fun activities, and the children have been doing a brilliant job blending and segmenting words with these new sounds! Also, the children have been using their developing phonics knowledge and writing skills to describe what they can see on a farm. They've come up with some amazing sentences, and we've been blown away by how much their writing has improved since Christmas – it's really starting to shine!



In Maths this week, we've also been diving into capacity! They've been measuring how many cubes can fit inside a box, comparing how much 'snow' can fit inside different containers, and having a great time exploring further with water play.



In RE, we've been learning all about Chinese New Year celebrations. The children have made beautiful lanterns to decorate our classroom and have been fascinated by how people celebrate this special time with parades, dragons, and delicious food. The dumplings looked absolutely delicious – it was such a fun way to start exploring the traditions!



Funky Fingers this week has all been about cutting! The children have been practicing how to hold scissors safely (we always remind them, "When you carry scissors, they point to your toes!"), strengthening their hands by opening and closing the scissors carefully, and moving the paper instead of their hands to cut around zig-zags and curves. This is helping them make much neater edges as they practice their fine motor skills.



We've also been looking back in time as we learned about winter in the past. The children watched a short news reel from 1962-63 and saw photographs of children from that time. They were really engaged in talking about how they knew these sources came from the past, and what was different about the winters then compared to now. They were particularly amazed by the steam train cutting through the snow drifts – it was such a cool moment!



Finally, we've started learning about the Arctic and some of the amazing animals that live there. We also continued to strengthen our hands by scrunching tissue paper and cotton wool pads to make our very own polar bear masks – they looked fantastic!

Reception have worked so hard this week, and we can't wait to see what they achieve

next week!

Mrs Nevins-Stanford



# Year 1 and Year 2



In English this week, we have begun our new writing journey on Paddington. We have read Paddington at the Palace. On Monday, the children had an engage lesson, in this lesson the children took part in various activities including 'What's in the bag?' and a London riddle game. Alongside this, Paddington has already been visiting children's houses for an evening, the children have loved getting the opportunity to take Paddington home and the whole class has been eager to find out what Paddington has been up to on his adventures!



In Maths this week, Year 1 children have begun to deepen their knowledge on place value within 20 by applying this to new learning on addition. The children have taken part in various practical activities to support their learning which they have thoroughly enjoyed. The Year 2 children have continued to consolidate their learning on Money and they enjoyed putting their knowledge into practise when they played Shopkeepers!



In History this week, the children compared different types of Technology to begin to understand how Technology has changed the way we write. There were 3 stations set up in the classroom: pen and paper, a typewriter and iPads. The children had to write a simple sentence at all 3 stations. We then came back together as a class and discussed what we liked and disliked about each piece of Technology. This sparked an interesting discussion about the 3 pieces of Technology we looked at.

We celebrated Martin Luther King Day this week in PSHE and as part of our Class Worship. The children learnt who Martin Luther King was and why he was important. Through class discussions the children were able to link Martin Luther King's work to our school values. They then got the chance to think about what their dream would be to change the world. This was a lovely discussion within the class and I could tell how much the children were thinking about how their actions affect others.

In Science, we have continued to compare different animals and their body parts. We also looked at some pictures of Animal skeletons which the children found fascinating! In RE, the children learnt about the 10 Sikh Gurus, as a class we wrote a fact file about Guru Nanak, Guru Arjan and Guru Har Krishan.

Another fantastic week in Year 1 and 2, well done!

Miss Goddard, Miss Tierney and Mr Farmer







# Year 3 and Year 4

It's been another busy and exciting week of learning! Here's what we've been up to:



This week, we continued our exploration of the Romans, focusing on the early conflict for the rule of Rome after the death of Julius Caesar. We learned about the struggles for power between his successors, such as Mark Antony, Octavian, and Brutus, and how this shaped the future of the Roman Empire. The students have shown great enthusiasm for learning about this fascinating period of history and have enjoyed discussing the key events and figures of the time.



In Art, we've been practicing continuous line drawings, where we sketch poses and objects without lifting our pencils off the page. This technique helped us focus on capturing shapes and movements, and students have been experimenting with drawing subjects from different angles. We've been working hard to observe the strong shapes within our subjects, developing our skills in representing objects in a more abstract and creative way.

In Geography, we compared the features of our local area with the Campania region in Italy, which includes the famous city of Naples. The students looked at physical features, such as mountains and coastlines, and explored how the geography of these two places influences the way people live. It was interesting to see the students making connections between their own surroundings and the landscapes of Italy.



In PSHE we continued our work on the family. We discussed how families bond through our shared experiences. We discussed our favourite memories and how they made us feel.

In Science, we've been working with thermometers to measure the temperature of different liquids and locations around the school. Students made estimates based on their prior knowledge and then used the thermometers to check their predictions. It was a hands-on activity that helped students develop their scientific thinking and learn more about temperature measurement.



We're excited for another great week of learning next week. Have a wonderful weekend!

Mr Connolly and Miss Boulter



# LOOK what we're LEARNING!

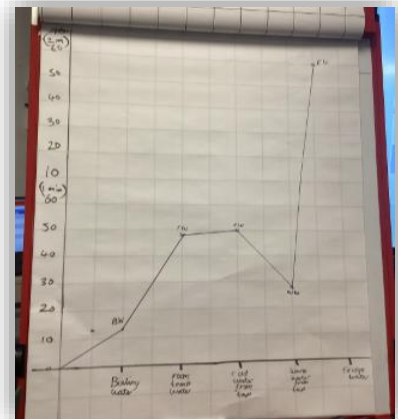
## Year 5



Last week in Science, Year 5 children began planning an exciting scientific investigation to test whether temperature affects the time it takes for a solute to dissolve in a solvent. They carefully considered their predictions and set up fair test conditions to ensure reliable results.

This week, the children

enthusiastically carried out their experiments, timing how long it took for the solute to dissolve at different temperatures. After gathering their data, they analysed it by creating a line graph to spot patterns and trends. Finally, they



wrote detailed conclusions, using their results to explain how temperature influences the dissolving process. Well done to all the young scientists for their hard work.



This week in Religious Education, the children explored the topic of daily life for a Sikh in today's world. They learned about the significance of the Khalsa, the 5 K's, and the importance of daily Sikh prayers. Through thoughtful discussions, they also discovered how Sikhs balance their traditions and values while living in the modern world. To consolidate their learning, the children created vibrant and informative posters showcasing everything they had learned, from the meaning of the 5 K's to the role of faith in daily life. It was wonderful to see their creativity and understanding shine through their work.



What another great week!

Mrs Gull





# Year 6



We have had a great week in Year 6.



We started the week as historians and artists, finding out where and when the Maya people lived and then doing an artist study using visual notes.

As geographers we found and located different counties within the UK.

In maths, we have begun our algebra topic, using function machines and beginning to use algebraic expressions.



We have read about the story of Robbie Burns during our reading lessons, as

Burns night on January 25<sup>th</sup> is a celebration to remember the life and poetic works on the great Scottish poet.

We are using our class novel 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold to practice our grammar and composition skills before writing a build-up in a narrative.



The children have loved learning about copy-right in computing, composing their own tunes in their music topic of Jazz and conducting well planned science experiments, where they have recorded their results on graphs!



What a busy week, well done Year 6! Miss Wetton and Miss Woodward



# What's on in the Spring Term?

## Extra-curricular enrichment clubs

### Monday

KS2 Drama Club – Mr Connolly

### Wednesday

KS1 Singing Club – Miss Goddard

KS2 Football Club – Mr Farmer

### Thursday

KS1 Science Club – Mrs Gull

KS1 Football Club – Mr Farmer





### Friday

KS2 Homework Club – Miss Gaskell

KS2 Art Club – Miss Wetton



# Our eSafety Top Tips!

<p><b>1</b> People you don't know are strangers. They're not always who they say they are.</p> 	<p><b>2</b> Be nice to people like you would on the playground.</p> 
<p><b>3</b> Keep your personal information private.</p> 	<p><b>4</b> If you ever get that 'uh oh' feeling, tell a grown-up you trust.</p> 



## SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

If you have any Safeguarding concerns, please contact Miss Gaskell (DSL) 01785 337436 Or Staffordshire Safeguarding Board 0300 1118007



**Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility**



For any information regarding children with Additional Needs for parents and carers, Staffordshire Connects is a website giving lots of different resources, web links and information regarding what our local area can offer.

This information is always on our school website but click below for the link to take you to the home page. From there you will find the Local Offer for parents and carers.



## Staffordshire Connects

### Local Offer for parents and carers



## SEND Questions

If you have any questions about your child regarding Special Educational Needs, please contact Mrs Nevins-Stanford (SENDCo) 01785 337436