



'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 - Spring Term – Friday 31st January 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon.

We welcomed Mrs Welton from St Bartholomew's Trust to lead Worship on Tuesday. What a beautiful and inspirational Worship it was. I have included the link to an inspirational video of Derek Redmond in the 1992 Olympics – showing true Perseverance, our Christian Value of the term. [DEREK REDMOND - You raise me up](#) The children were incredible, showing respect and active engagement, a moment of the week to be very proud of.

The newsletter this week is packed full of information – please read carefully and any questions at all just ask.

Spring term is a notoriously busy time of the year – with so many curriculum events. As always where we can, we like to open our doors and invite you in to share in the learning and show what amazing learning opportunities your children have. As well as the dates page – which I know some of you find useful to print out and have to hand - there is also information about each event. We will also be sending some separate flyers/invitations out and will detail everything on our notice board in the front entrance.

A reminder that our Safer Internet Day Poster Competition is running and we have spoken to the children about this to remind them. We really would love to see as many posters as possible around school.

Parents evening messages have also been sent out. I know that our teachers are really looking forward to meeting again to update on progress – dare I say now that we will be half-way through the school year! At this event we will also be asking for some feedback, asking if you would kindly complete a questionnaire.

Finally, it was so lovely to see a fully booked afternoon of SEND Drop-ins with Mrs Nevins-Stanford. We hope you are finding these time slots useful. Don't forget the SEND Newsletter is also available on line for all to read. Either find it on the website through the SEND page or on the Weekly Newsletter page.

Have a lovely weekend and please stay safe

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team

| Class | % |
|-----------|------|
| Reception | 97.3 |
| Year 1/2 | 97.3 |
| Year 3/4 | 96 |
| Year 5 | 100 |
| Year 6 | 93.7 |




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.




Design a poster competition



Safer Internet Day 2025 Tuesday 11 February
Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre
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!

Extended deadline to Monday 3rd February

- **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.**

PE Kit Reminder

Please can we remind everyone that PE Kits need to be worn for P.E and in Winter due to the colder temperatures outside, black joggers and a hoodie. This has always been part of the St Pauls PE Kit – information is always on our website.

[School Uniform | St Pauls CE \(C\) Primary School](#)

Year 1/2 PE is on a Monday. Forest School on a Friday

Year 3/4 PE is on a Wednesday and Thursday

Year 5/6 – continue to come to school in your kit on a Friday



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

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

Internet Safety is such an important part of our curriculum – and Safer Internet day highlights how children and adults need to keep safe on line.

Our short 30-minute workshops are open to you to come and sit with your child and complete a short task on the iPad.

All are welcome – please let the office know if you are available and would like to come in.

Year 1/2 1:15pm

Year 3/4 1:45pm

Year 5/6 2:15pm

Reception 2:45pm



Friday 14th February

Non-uniform Day

Come in your party clothes ready to dance and have some fun at the end of half term celebrating our Christian Value of Friendship and Love.

Non-uniform day/disco £1 donation.

There will be a tuck shop available on Friday if children would like to bring money to buy sweets and drinks – maximum £3.00 spend

Raffle tickets available at the office for some amazing Valentines gifts including a huge 'Pamper Hamper'

50p a ticket or 5 for £2

EVENTS



In Spring 2 we are hosting the first of our 'Class assembly – learn with your child' sessions.

These are a chance to watch your children perform in their class assembly and you are then invited to stay for the afternoon to learn a little more about the subjects with your child – a wonderful way of seeing what incredible things we do at St Pauls.

The assemblies will all start at 1:30pm and if you choose and are able to stay afterwards the session will finish at 3:00pm.

Please book in at the office if you'd like to come

We look forward to seeing you.



We absolutely love World Book Day at St Pauls – a chance to celebrate reading.

This year we would like everyone to dress up either in Pyjamas or as a word!

We will also be launching the first of our Reading Breakfasts – something we would like to do throughout the year.

There will be the chance to come into school at 8:00am to have some breakfast and read a favourite book with your child.

Throughout the day the children will be having a whole day of fun learning linked to reading. Keep a look out next week for more information



Diary Dates

SPRING 1

Tuesday 11th February

Safer Internet Day – parent workshop

Thursday 13th February

SEND Drop-in

Friday 14th February

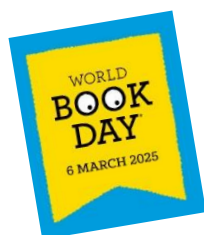
Valentine's Day Disco



SPRING 2

Monday 24th February and Tuesday 25th February

Parents Evening



Wednesday 26th February

Year 5 and Year 6 Class Assembly 1:30pm

Thursday 6th March

World Book Day - Reading Breakfast – 8:00am

Wednesday 12th March

Year 3 and Year 4 Class Assembly 1:30pm

Thursday 13th March

SEND Drop-in

Friday 14th March

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Wednesday 26th March

Year 1 and Year 2 Class Assembly 1:30pm

Thursday 27th March

SEND Drop-in

Tuesday 8th April

Easter Church Service 10:00am at St Pauls Church

Wednesday 9th April

Reception Class Assembly 1:30pm

Thursday 10th April

SEND Drop-in

Friday 11th April

Term ends





| Class | Winner! |
|-----------|-----------|
| Reception | Delilah |
| Year 1 | Lily |
| Year 2 | Francesca |
| Year 3 | Beth |
| Year 3 | Robyn |
| Year 5 | Sebby |
| Year 6 | Ruby |

Values Award

Congratulations

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

Respect of _____

Excellence of _____

Perseverance of _____

Belief and Courage of _____

Equality of _____

Honest of _____

Friendship and Love of _____

Swords of Success Award

Congratulations

Their excellence in building their knowledge and skills in _____

| Class | Winner! |
|-----------|----------|
| Reception | Courtney |
| Year 1 | Ollie |
| Year 2 | Scarlett |
| Year 3 | Arjun |
| Year 4 | Freddie |
| Year 5 | Marsie |
| Year 6 | Jessica |



LOOK what we're LEARNING!

Reception



What an exciting week it's been! We're so proud of the hard work and progress your children have made. Here are some highlights:

In phonics, the children explored the sounds 'air' and 'er.' They enjoyed the playful imagery of "chair in the air" and imagined a "bigger digger" to bring these sounds to life. They've also been practicing blending double letters in longer words like "rubb-er" and "rabb-it" – fantastic

progress!

Our 'Maths Marvels' focused on the numbers 6, 7, and 8, plus 1 more and 1 less. We've been singing '10 Green Bottles' to help reinforce these concepts, and the children love joining in during our corridor walks to and from the hall!

This week, our Reception superstars have been doing some fabulous writing. They've been using magnetic letters to build words with all the new GCPs they've learnt so far this term. It's wonderful to see their growing confidence as they explore writing and spelling.



We've also sent home new reading books: *Pat a Pan*, *Tap it Tad*, and *Jet and Jazz*. Please keep reading with your child and celebrate their progress in their reading diaries – your support makes a big difference.

On Thursday, the children participated in the RSPCA's Bird Watch 2025, counting bird species around the school (and the squirrels seemed to enjoy the bird food too!). They shared their results as part of the national survey.

This week, our fine motor skills focus has been on **cutting**. The children have been cutting out Arctic and Antarctic animals, number tiles, and snowmen. They've been building their muscle strength each day, and we'd love to continue this progress at home. If you're able to help by practising cutting with your child, it will really support the skills they've been developing.



In **RE**, the children have begun learning about the Hindu festival of **Holi**. They were so creative as they tore tissue paper and stuck it onto their artwork to create their own vibrant "explosions" of colour. What a wonderful way to celebrate this festival of colour!

We're gearing up for our **Superhero Day** on **Monday 10th February!**

Children are invited to come dressed as their favourite superhero or in their 'civilian' disguise. We'd also love for children to share a picture or story about a superhero who has made a difference in their life, whether it's someone they know personally or a real-life hero they admire. It's sure to be a day full of fun and inspiration!

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement at home, we couldn't be prouder of all their hard work and achievements this week.



Year 1 and Year 2



In English this week, we have continued our writing journey on Paddington. Last week the children wrote a character description of Paddington and this week they have been working really hard on generating vocabulary to write a setting description of Buckingham Palace! The children are continually working on their handwriting and ensuring their sentences are finished properly, with full stops and capital letters. Their ability to do this independently has progressed so much!



In Maths this week, Year 1 children have continued to deepen their knowledge on place value within 20 by applying this to new learning on addition and subtraction. They have been looking very closely at doubles and near doubles and how these facts can help them work out additions quickly! In Year 2, children have started a new topic on multiplication, this week they have participated in practical activities to consolidate their knowledge on equal groups and they have started to look at repeated addition and multiplication number sentences.

In History this week, we were looking at how technology has changed how we talk and communicate. The children had a go at some hands-on communication, in pairs they were given a scenario and using role-play they had to decide the best way to communicate their message to each other, they could choose from video-call, texting, sending letters, calling or emailing! The children loved this activity and they were intrigued to have a look at what mobile phones used to look like!

Developing our Science, this week the children explored the vocabulary: carnivore, herbivore and omnivore. They then worked in groups to read through Animal fact cards and classify what diet each animal ate. The children showed excellent team work throughout this task.

As part of our Art project this term, the children have been designing their own creativity medals. This week we focused on shape, the children experimented with what shapes they may want to use in their designs. They then practiced some cutting skills and created some medals only made out of shapes in their sketchbooks!



The children became very creative with this task.

A brilliant week








Year 3 and Year 4


We've had a wonderful and productive week in our Year 3 and 4 class! The children have been engaged in a range of exciting lessons, building on their knowledge and developing new skills. Here's what we've been up to:




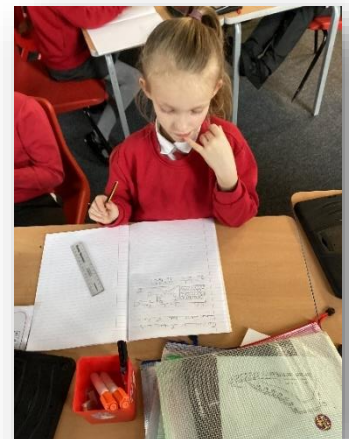
 **Science** – This week, we became published scientists! The children worked hard to compile their knowledge from previous lessons into an informative report on changes of state and the water cycle. They explained key concepts, including evaporation, condensation, and precipitation, demonstrating a fantastic understanding of how water moves through our environment.

 **History** – We stepped back in time to learn about the Roman army and what made it so powerful. The children explored the equipment used by Roman soldiers and the strategic tactics that helped them win battles. They even had the chance to line up in formations, mimicking Roman battle strategies, and discussed how these would have helped the soldiers stay protected and organised.

 **Geography** – Using iPads, we researched key features and landmarks of the West Midlands. The children enjoyed using technology to discover interesting facts about their local area, from famous buildings to natural landscapes. Their enthusiasm in sharing their findings was brilliant!

 **Music** – Our music lessons this week had a digital twist as we used virtual keyboards to play parts of the backing track for *Three Little Birds*. The children developed their musical skills while working on timing and rhythm, and it was great to see their confidence grow!

 **PSHE** – Continuing our work on families, we discussed different ways we show care and appreciation for one another. The children shared thoughtful ideas and reflected on the importance of kindness within families.



Well done to everyone for their fantastic efforts this week. Have a lovely weekend!



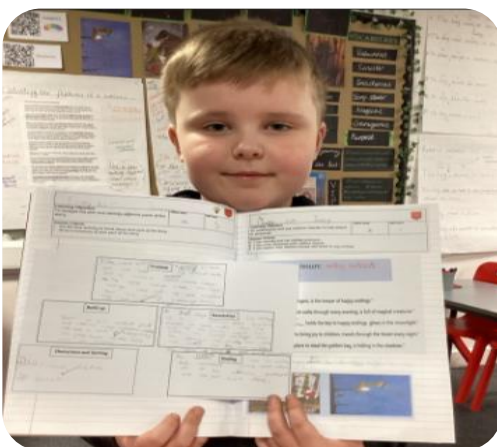
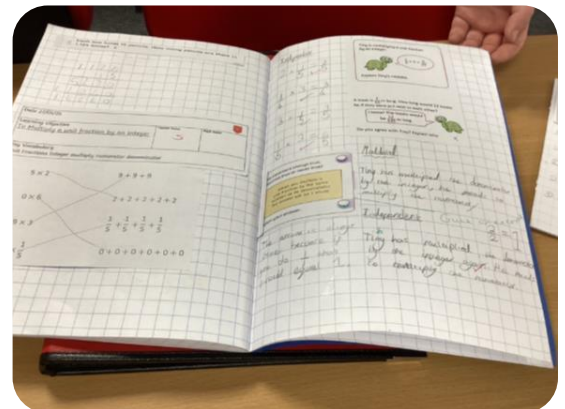


In Year 5, our students have been exploring the fascinating world of physical processes, including filtration, sieving, and evaporation. They have been investigating how these methods can be used to separate mixtures, learning about their real-life applications in everyday life. Through hands-on activities, the children have filtered water, sieved materials, and observed evaporation, gaining a deeper understanding of how each process works. This exciting learning journey has allowed them to see science in action, developing both their practical skills and scientific thinking. It's been a fantastic way to inspire curiosity and foster a love of science!



In English children have been learning how to use relative clauses

in their writing. They've been using *The Lost Happy Endings* to help them practice adding more detail to their sentences. By looking at characters and settings in the story, they've been learning how to join ideas together using relative clauses. This is helping them to write clearer and more interesting sentences. The children are gaining confidence in using these clauses to make their writing more descriptive and exciting. It's been a fun way to enhance their writing skills and creativity!



In Maths children have been learning how to multiply unit and non-unit fractions. They started by practicing with simple fractions and gradually moved on to harder ones. Next, they began working with mixed fractions, learning how to multiply them step by step. Through lots of practice and fun activities, the children are building their confidence with fractions and will soon be able to multiply mixed fractions easily.

Year 6



Year 6 have had a great week.

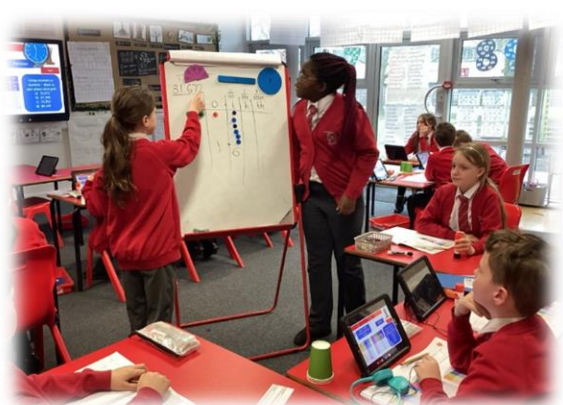
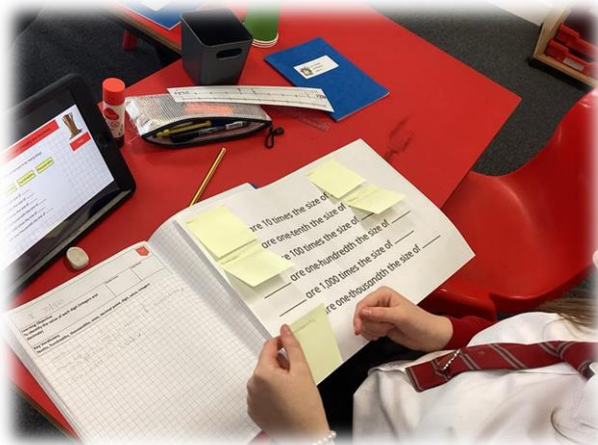
We have been working with decimals in their maths, using place value knowledge with up to three decimal places. In writing, we have been practising grammar skills as we are continuing our journey of writing a build up with the intent of creating tension. In reading, we loved retrieving and summarising facts about Chinese New Year from a report.

As scientists, we completed an experiment with a focus on predicting how we could separate different mixtures such as oil and water from what we know about their material properties.

In art, we made more visual notes on artists to further develop our own ideas around designing a setting for an animation, focussing on Roald Dahl's Esio Trot.



In History, we continued to learn about the Maya by discussing sources to debate why they were such a successful civilisation. As geographers, we continued recapping and practising our map-reading skills as we described different countries locations in relevance to one another. In music, we composed our own tunes to a new piece of Jazz music and in Computing we began to use HTML to begin developing our own websites!



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



What's on in the local area?

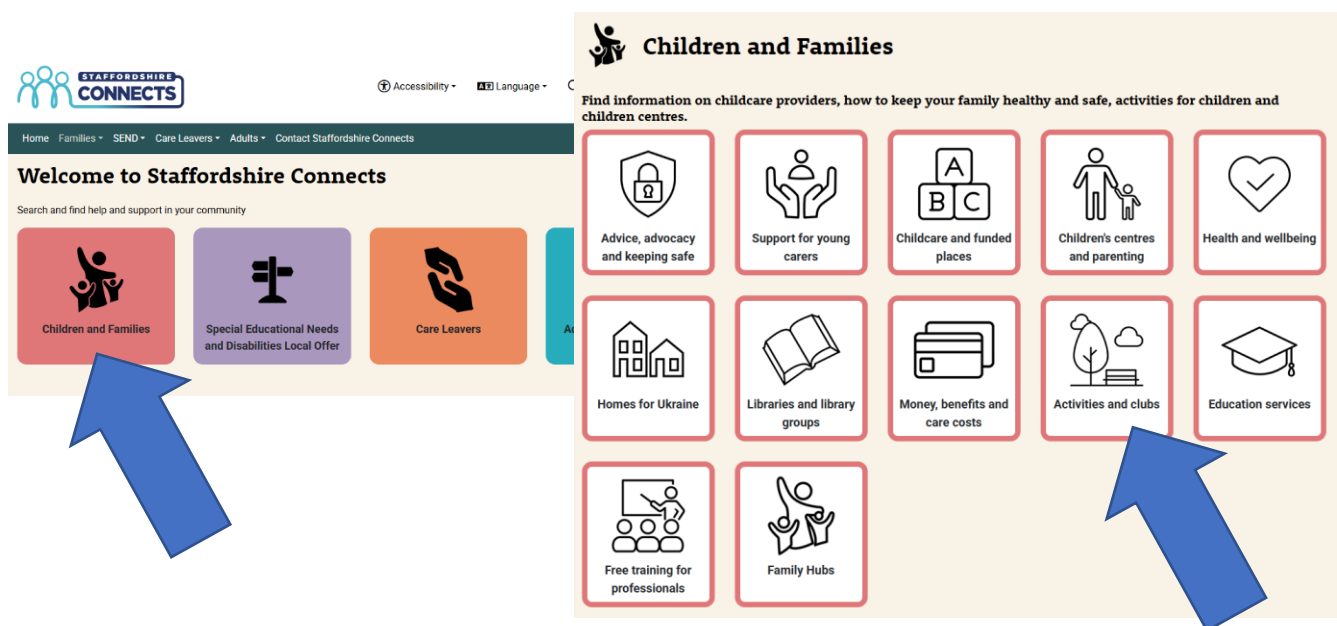
With the lighter nights coming, hopefully the better weather and half term nearly upon us, we thought we'd signpost you to where you can find out what's on in the local area. We've explained about Staffordshire connects previously as it is part of the Local Offer – but the website is full of useful information for both adults and children.

Follow the link

[Staffordshire Connects](#)

and then click

[children and families – activities and clubs](#) to take you to the 'Places to go, things to do' page.



[Home](#) / [Children and Families](#) / [Places to go, things to do](#)

Places to go, things to do

If you're looking for ideas for places to go, days out and things to do, either with the family or for children to do, try searching here on Staffordshire Connects. Just click on the menu below to find clubs, organisations and groups in your local area.



Holiday activities and food

Activities, clubs, groups

Play parks and open spaces

Libraries, arts and heritage

Children centres

Leisure centres, venues and gyms

Support groups and organisations

Community Centres

Faith based places and groups

Our eSafety Top Tips!



SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

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



Staffordshire
**Safeguarding
Children Partnership**

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