



'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 7th February 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon.

This week saw the start of a busy Spring Term with Children's Mental Health Week.

This is a fantastic opportunity to support children in understanding their emotions, building resilience, and developing positive mental health habits. This year's theme aligns beautifully with the film *Inside Out 2*, which introduces new emotions and explores how children's feelings evolve as they grow. Just like in the film, we want to encourage children to recognise and express their emotions in a healthy way, understand their strengths, and develop self-confidence.

You can support your child at home by:

- ♥ Talking about emotions openly – Encourage your child to name their feelings and discuss ways to cope.
- ♥ Watching *Inside Out* together – Use the film as a starting point to talk about emotions and changes as they grow.
- ♥ Encouraging self-care – Help your child find activities that make them feel good, like reading, drawing, or outdoor play.

Let's work together to help our children "**Know Themselves and Grow Themselves**" into happy, confident individuals.

When we take notice of ourselves and how we feel, we are able to make better choices and be more connected with our feelings and behaviours.

Noticing these things can help us recognise when we need support.

God understands us, knows we will be anxious, and tells us to let him help us through prayer.

We need everyone to have compassion for others but also for yourselves! We may speak nicely to our friends and forget to use the same loving language for ourselves.

Remember also the second greatest commandment of Jesus: "love your neighbour as yourself" (Mark 12:31). What a lovely week the children have had.

We ended the week today with Number Day and our theme was 'maths through stories'. As you will know at St Pauls we are always trying to promote reading – either reading for pleasure, reading across the curriculum, or daily reading at school and at home. The children have completed some brilliant maths work and really enjoyed learning maths in a different way.

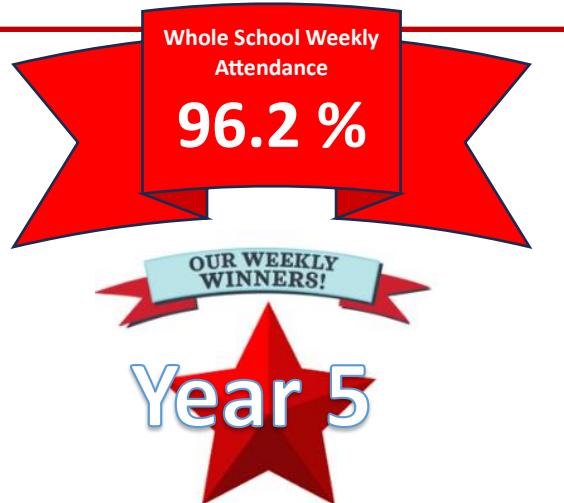
I cannot believe we have only one week left before half term.

A reminder we break up next Friday 14th February and school re-opens on Monday 24th February ready for Spring 2.

Have a lovely weekend – stay safe.

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team.

Class	%
Reception	98
Year 1/2	97
Year 3/4	97.9
Year 5	100
Year 6	98.9



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!

Closing Date – Tuesday 11th 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

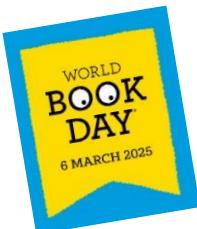
Valentine's Day Disco



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	Robyn
Year 1	Viktor
Year 2	Cameron
Year 3	Oliver
Year 4	Harley
Year 5	Sienna
Year 6	Veronika



Swords of Success Award

Congratulations

Their excellence in building their knowledge and skills in



Class	Winner!
Reception	Charlie
Year 1	Jaydon
Year 2	Eddie
Year 3	Rupert
Year 4	Tayla
Year 5	Alfie
Year 6	Chloe

Class	Winner!
Reception	Grayson
Year 1	Ava
Year 2	Everlyn
Year 3	Arjun
Year 4	Daisy
Year 5	Logan
Year 6	Mason



LOOK what we're LEARNING!

Reception



What a fantastic week we've had in class—full of learning, exploring, and a little bit of superhero magic! Here's a peek into what we've been up to:



This week, we've been tackling longer words by breaking them into chunks! The children have been using their 'stopping hand' to help them pause in the right place—either after three graphemes, at a double letter, or after 'special friends' in the middle of a word. This has really helped them read tricky words like lemon (lem-on), rabbit (rabb-it), and market (mar-ket). They're making amazing progress, and we're so proud of them!

We've been busy finding different ways to make 6, 7, and 8 this week. Using numicon, we discovered that six can be made from 5 and 1, 4 and 2, or even 3 and 3! The children then used part-whole models to show their findings before testing out their ideas with balancing scales—a great way to revisit our learning about mass from a few weeks ago. We've also started exploring odd and even numbers up to 8—exciting stuff!



As part of our ongoing PSED topic, 'Super Me!', we've been focusing on perseverance and never giving up on a challenge. The children put this to the test when they worked together to build an AMAZING castle—teamwork makes the dream work!

The mud kitchen has been a hub of creativity this week. Who knew two bunches of flowers could turn into so many things? They've been planted, used in delicious pretend cooking, and even turned into bouquets for a role-play

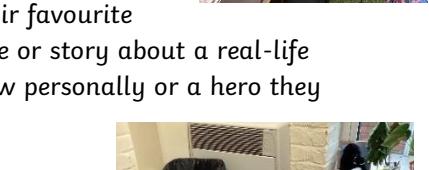
wedding—so sweet!



In RE, we've continued our learning about Holi, the Hindu festival of colour. The children were fascinated by the idea of throwing coloured powders during the celebrations and had so much fun making their own Holi-inspired blossom trees. Such a vibrant and joyful experience!



We've dived into a new book this week—Supertato! The children have loved retelling the story, dressing up, and role-playing in the supermarket and home corner. Let's hope no 'Esca-pea' is left unfound!



Don't forget, Monday is **Superhero Day!** Children are invited to come dressed as their favourite superhero or in their 'civilian' disguise. We'd also love for them to bring in a picture or story about a real-life superhero who has made a difference in their life—this could be someone they know personally or a hero they admire. We can't wait to hear all about them!



Year 1 and Year 2

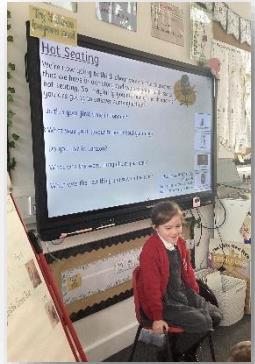


What a busy week we have had in Year 1/2!

In English, we have started reading a new Paddington tale, 'Paddington and the Grand Tour'. The children are working towards writing a recount of this story next week. The children practised their Oracy skills through activities including role-play and hot-seating. The children have also begun learning about time adverbials and how to use these in their writing.



In Maths this week, Year 1 children have continued to use practical equipment to consolidate their knowledge on addition and subtraction within 20. The children enjoyed learning Maths outside when we were looking at subtractions on a number line. In Year 2, the class have continued to work on Multiplication and Division, they started to explore arrays and used grouping and sharing to work out divisions.



Continuing on our topic of Animals in Science, this week the children got the opportunity to interview Mo about all of her different pets at home. The children asked lots of questions about each animal's diet and Mo also bought in some of the food she feeds the animals for the children to see. The children then had to decide what type of animal each of Mo's pet was: a carnivore, a herbivore or an omnivore. The children were fascinated about finding out about all of these different animals and their diets.



In Art, this week the children took some time to reflect on the designs they have sketched so far. They then took these reflections and planned 3 mini-designs about how they may want their creativity medal to look. The children showed so much focus and concentration throughout this task, it was fantastic to see the children taking so much pride in their art work.



In Computing, this week the children looked at editing a photo using different effects. They all got the opportunity to take a photograph and then edit the colours and lighting. The children thoroughly enjoyed this task and they created some amazing edits!





Year 3 and Year 4

We've had another fantastic week of learning in Year 3 and 4, filled with exciting discoveries and creativity!

The children became historians, studying a range of sources to gain insight into the power and organisation of the Roman army. They examined different types of evidence, from written accounts to archaeological finds, and discussed what made the Romans such a formidable force. Their ability to interpret sources and draw conclusions was impressive!



In Science, we wrapped up our unit on changes of state with an end-of-unit assessment, and the children truly shone! They demonstrated an excellent understanding of key concepts such as evaporation, condensation, melting, and freezing. Their hard work throughout the topic was evident, and they should all be very proud of their achievements.

Our RE lessons this week focused on Sikhism, where we explored various rituals and traditions. The children were particularly interested in the significance of these rituals and how they shape the lives of Sikh communities. Their thoughtful discussions showed great respect and curiosity about different beliefs and customs.



Creativity was in full swing as we designed and planned our upcoming clay sculptures. Taking inspiration from the illustrations of Quentin Blake and the characters in *Dirty Beasts*, the children sketched their ideas and carefully considered textures and shapes. We can't wait to see their ideas come to life in clay next week!

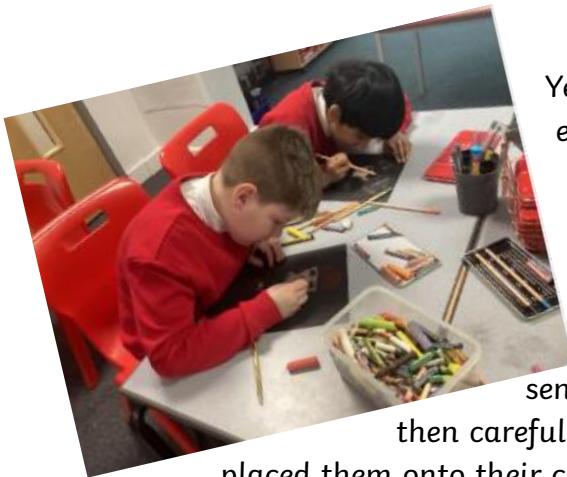


As always, thank you for your support at home. We look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead!



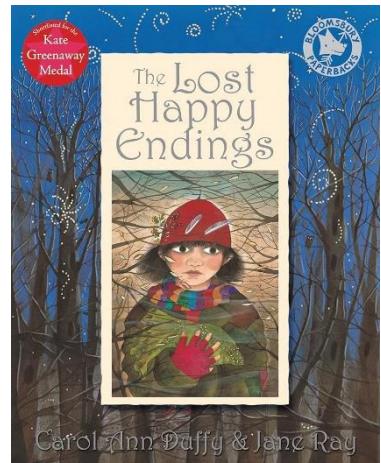
LOOK what we're LEARNING!

Year 5

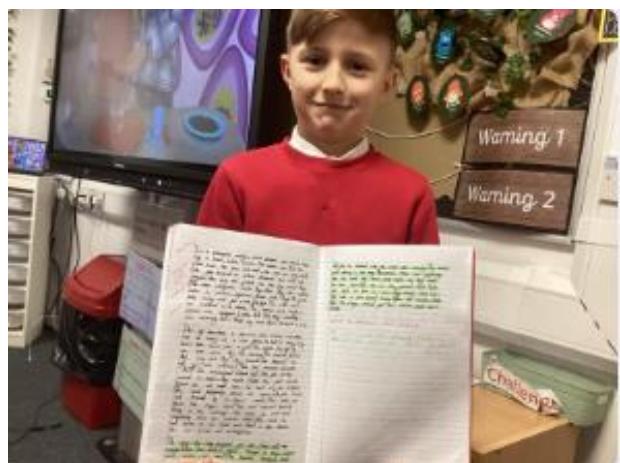
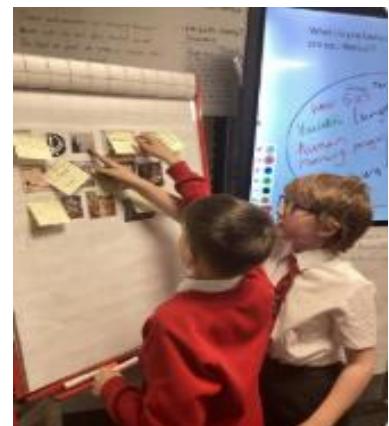


Year 5 children have been exploring their creativity by creating spooky, atmospheric backgrounds inspired by the forest setting in *The Lost Happy Endings*. Using vibrant colours to evoke a sense of fear and mystery, they then carefully cut out black trees and

placed them onto their colourful backdrops. This artwork has brought their understanding of the story's setting to life, blending both imagination and skill in their creations. The project has been a great way for children to connect visual art with their literary studies, deepening their engagement with the text.



In RE this term, the children have been learning about Sikhism and its core beliefs and practices. This week, they focused on comparing Sikhism to Christianity, examining the similarities and differences between the two faiths. Through discussions and activities, children explored key concepts such as the role of prayer, places of worship, and the importance of helping others, deepening their understanding of both religions and fostering respect for diverse beliefs.



In literacy, the children have been on an exciting journey to prepare for writing their own alternative endings to *The Lost Happy Endings*. Along the way, they have gathered a wealth of knowledge and developed important skills, such as using descriptive language and creating suspense. They have also been practicing editing and improving their sentences, learning how authors revise their work to make it even better. This process has not only enhanced their writing but also given them a deeper appreciation for the craft of storytelling.



Year 6



This week, year 6 continued their unit of decimals in maths, covering skills such as adding and subtracting up to three decimal places, multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 and celebrating NSPCC number day by planning a party!

In writing, we have finished our narrative write with a focus on building tension. We are so impressed with the beautiful, imaginative writes and the use of their new grammar skills! In reading, pupils have answered questions about the story of Pakal the scribe, using key vocabulary that they have learnt in history.



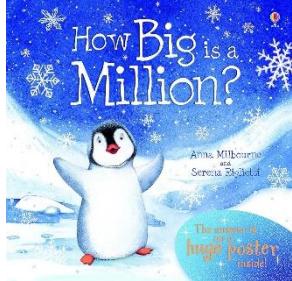
In science, we have completed our unit on materials with activities around irreversible and reversible changes before an end of unit test, ready for some more activities next week. In history, we looked at HOW we know what we know about the Mayan's, using key vocabulary such as **artefacts** and **excavation**. In art, we began planning our set designs based on 'the tale of the three brothers' and using our visual notes from other artist studies. In computing, we began building our websites using hyperlinks to add on webpages, taking into consideration how easy it is to navigate.

We've had an excellent week and everyone has worked incredibly hard! Well done year 6.

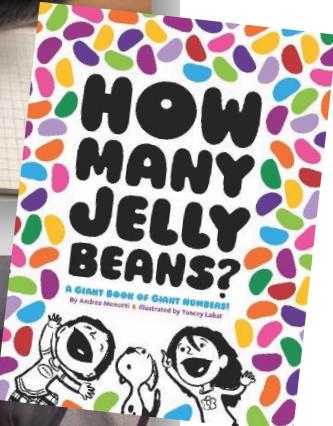
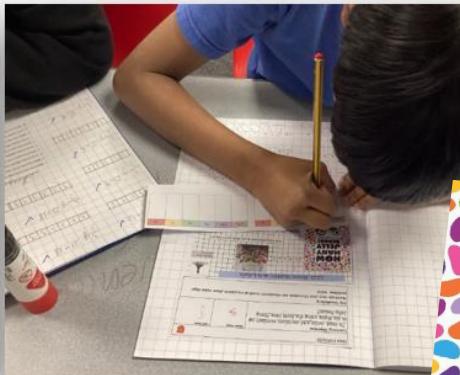


Number Day

CELEBRATING
25 YEARS



PICTURE: PIC.COLLAGE

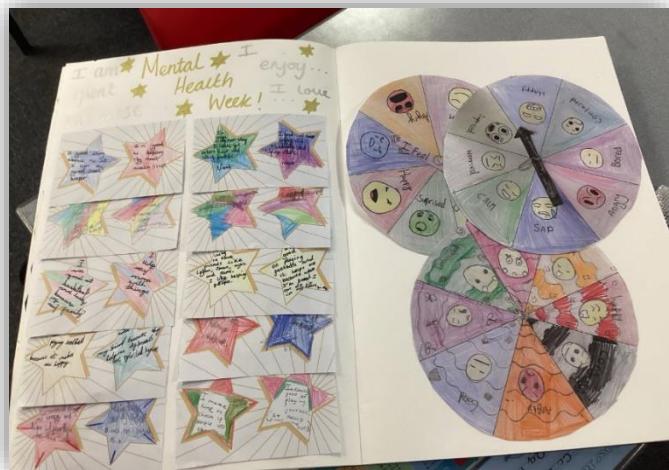




"What's your best discovery?" asked the mole.



"But I'm enough as I am," said the boy.



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.



The screenshot shows the Staffordshire Connects website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Accessibility, Language, Home, Families, SEND, Care Leavers, Adults, and Contact. The 'Children and Families' link is highlighted with a blue arrow. Below the navigation, there's a search bar and a 'Welcome to Staffordshire Connects' message. On the left, there are three main categories: 'Children and Families' (red), 'Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer' (purple), and 'Care Leavers' (orange). On the right, there's a grid of 12 icons under the heading 'Children and Families'. The icons represent: Advice, advocacy and keeping safe; Support for young carers; Childcare and funded places; Children's centres and parenting; Health and wellbeing; Homes for Ukraine; Libraries and library groups; Money, benefits and care costs; Activities and clubs; Education services; Free training for professionals; and Family Hubs. A second blue arrow points from the 'Activities and clubs' section in the grid to the 'Places to go, things to do' page below.

[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.



The grid contains the following categories:

- 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 CONCERN

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



Staffordshire
Safeguarding
Children Partnership



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



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE



Dear Parent or Guardian

Trespassing on the railway network is extremely dangerous and endangers not only the lives of those on the track, but also passengers, railway staff and the general public.

Many people - especially young people - fail to understand the danger they put themselves and others in, when they make the choice to stray onto the rail network. As summertime approaches, we are already seeing an increase in the number of incidents being reported in the local area of *{insert location}* and incidents we're seeing involve children and young people:

- Walking along the railway lines
- Throwing stones at trains
- Placing objects on the railway lines
- Using the railway as a playground

I am sure you agree that all of the above activities are extremely dangerous.

The British Transport Police and Network Rail are seeking the support of parents, guardians and the local community to highlight the danger and implications of these activities to help us reduce the number of young people putting themselves and others at significant risk.

To assist with the conversation there are a number of online videos available and range depending on the age group of your child:

www.switchedonralsafety.co.uk

www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/safety-education/

www.youstrain.co.uk

Key Messages

- ✓ Trains are **ALWAYS** running on the railway and can differ in times meaning that you can never predict when a train will pass
- ✓ The Electricity is **ALWAYS** switched on around the railway
- ✓ Always **Stop, Look and Listen** before using a Level Crossing
- ✓ **DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE?**

Trespassing on any part of the railway is also a **criminal offence** which can involve your child obtaining a criminal record and a fine of £1000.

If you wish to report any information to us, please call us on Freephone 0800 40 50 40 or text the information to 61016.