



'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 11th April 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon,

And just like that...Spring Term 2025 is complete!

What a wonderful end to a fantastic term.

The sun has been shining all week and the children have been delightful at playtimes and lunchtimes, playing happily in the sunshine. The sun really does make everyone smile.

This week we ended our term with a trip the church which was beautiful. Thankyou as always to Lottie for leading the services and allowing us the time to come together with parents to join in Worship and Prayer. Easter really is such a special time.

Reception class were the last of our classes to perform their class assembly and we welcomed all of our reception parents into class. What an incredible afternoon and how proud we were of the courage Reception class showed when reading their lines and singing their songs.

Thankyou to all parents who have been into school this term to support with events. Your support is very much appreciated. Not only do the children enjoy it, but it is such a core memory for you as a family to cherish. It's such a wonderful way to see first hand the learning of your child in class.

There will more events in the Summer Term – dates will be sent out after Easter.

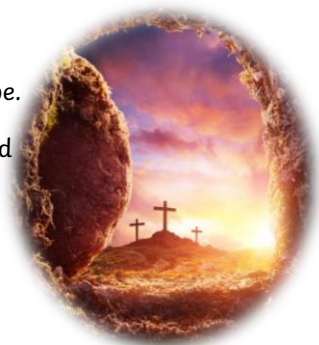
This term we cannot forget that we also welcomed our Ofsted Inspectors into school for our Inspection on March 18th 2025. We apologise it seems we have all gone quiet, but we are still waiting for our report to be published. We anticipate this will be the first week back after the holidays.

What I can say is that the Inspection showed the commitment and teamwork of our amazing staff and children, one of the reasons I am so proud to be the Headteacher at St Pauls and why we continue to strive to be the best we can be.

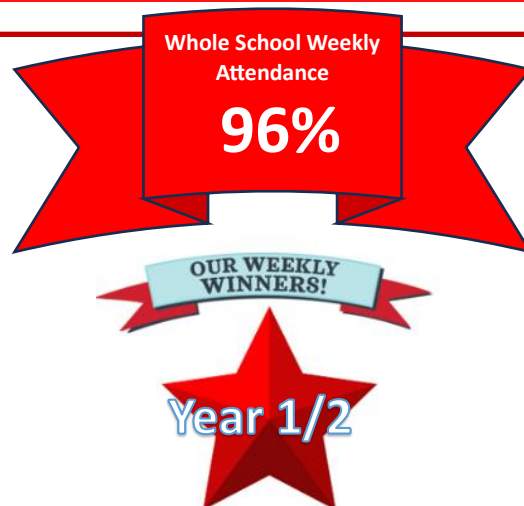
I hope you have the most wonderful time over the holidays – a chance to spend time with loved ones and enjoy some special memory-making.

We will see you all on Tuesday 29th April ready to start Summer Term.

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team.



Class	%
Reception	91.4
Year 1/2	98.3
Year 3/4	95.2
Year 5	96.7
Year 6	96.8



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.



HOMEWORK REMINDER –

HOMEWORK

It was lovely for our teachers to get to speak to so many of you this week about your child's learning – and in particular how you can support at home with homework.

Children should be reading every day – little and often is going to have the best results. Spellings are sent home weekly and Y3-6 children have a spelling shed log in to practice ready for their test on a Friday.

In maths, numbers bonds and counting for Reception and Year 1/2 and daily times table practice for Y2-6. We also have our half-termly KIRFS which have been sent home today and are on our website.

- **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 and Thursday

Year 3/4 PE is on a Wednesday and Thursday

Year 5/6 – come to school in your outdoor PE kit on a Friday – black hoodie and joggers with your coloured PE t-shirt







Class	Winner!
Reception	Kason
Year 1	Joseph
Year 2	Vincent
Year 3	Piper
Year 4	Tayla
Year 5	Alfie
Year 6	Jethro

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	Grayson
Year 1	Victor
Year 2	Mila
Year 3	Archie
Year 4	Lukian
Year 5	Tyler
Year 6	Jessy

Class	Winner!
Reception	Delilah
Year 1	Emilie
Year 2	Cameron
Year 3	Ryan
Year 4	William
Year 5	Sebby
Year 6	Rosella

ClassDojo Champion

Awarded to _____

for _____





Reception

What a wonderfully busy week it has been in Reception! We've had a truly special time filled with excitement and celebration. From joyful church services and colourful bonnet parades to the pride of welcoming you all in for our class assembly – it has certainly been a memorable end to the term. A huge thank you to every family who came along to support the children. It was such a fantastic opportunity to share their learning journey with you, and the children were absolutely thrilled to perform and showcase their hard work. Your presence meant so much to them (and to us!).



In phonics this week, the children have been building on their reading skills. They have begun reading CVCC words with short vowels, such as *belt*, *help*, and *went*. We are now encouraging them to read a wider range of CVC words automatically, including *rain*, *cheep*, and *thank*. It's been wonderful to see their growing confidence and enthusiasm during our sessions.

Our maths focus has been on recognising, copying and continuing more complex patterns. The children have really enjoyed exploring patterns through clapping, tapping, and waving – turning maths into a full-body experience! They've also been using a variety of manipulatives to represent their learning in creative ways. Great thinking, Reception!



In RE, we've continued learning about the Easter story. The children have been exploring the Christian belief in the resurrection and learning to order the full Easter story, starting from Palm Sunday. It's been heart-warming to see their thoughtful engagement and growing understanding of these special traditions.

Outdoors, the children have been busy applying their growing physical skills in throwing, catching, and kicking. They've taken on a range of exciting challenges, working in pairs to build marble runs out of drainpipes and playing 'shoot it' into large buckets. Their aim and accuracy have improved

impressively over the week! These are brilliant skills to keep practising over the Easter holidays – perhaps with a family game in the garden or at the park. We've also been lucky to have the sun shining down on us all week – just like the children, who have continued to shine with their curiosity, kindness, and joy.

We wish all our families a very happy and restful Easter break. Thank you once again for your continued support – we can't wait to welcome the children back for a fun and exciting Summer term!



Year 1 and Year 2



Our last week of the Spring Term has been amazing, once again!

This week in English, the class have been focussing on their comprehension and specifically their retrieval skills. We have been exploring our text Chicken Little in more depth to ensure that we are all understanding and remembering what we are reading. The children have been working really hard on answering questions based on this text, which is a skill we will continue to develop into the Summer Term.

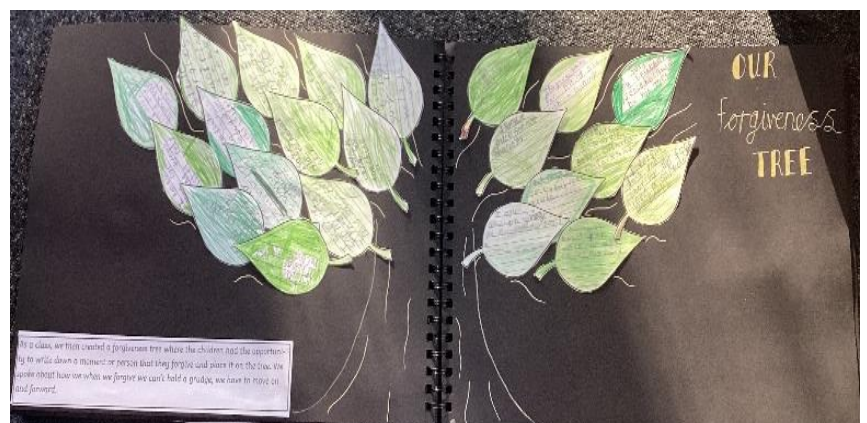


In Maths this week all children have been completing some 'Lightbulb' lessons, these are certain topics and skills that we revisit to fully consolidate the knowledge for the children. Year 1 children have enjoyed looking at both 2D and 3D shapes, they have loved playing 'What's the shape?' and also solving some shape riddles as well! Year 2 have also revisited 3D shapes, as well as, Money and missing number problems. All children have shown great determination in these lessons!



In Art, we have continued exploring watercolours and visual notes. The children each created a page in their sketchbooks all about themselves, however they did not use words, instead they used drawings, shapes and colours to tell us about themselves. Each child created such an individual page which really expressed who they are!

As part of our Salvation unit in RE, this week our focus was on forgiveness. The children listened to a story about forgiveness and then they role-played a few scenarios where they would perhaps need to show forgiveness. Giving the children some real-life scenarios to reflect on proved very effective. As a class, we then created a forgiveness tree, this was an opportunity for the children to write down something they forgive someone for and then let it go and move on.



All the children have grown so much this term and each of them has worked so hard and as a result of their determination made progress with their learning. I am so proud of every single one of them, well done Year 1 and 2!



Year 3 and Year 4

It's been another creative and thought-provoking week in Year 3/4, with lots of exciting learning taking place across the curriculum.



In **Art**, we've continued working on our project *Paint, Cloth and Thread*. The children enjoyed painting their canvases, focusing on background colour and shape. They also began planning where to add their textured elements using thread and fabric, thinking carefully about how different materials can add depth and interest to their final pieces.

Our **RE** lessons this week have explored the emotions of Easter and how artists represent them through imagery and colour. We looked at how colours can convey sadness, hope and joy in the Easter story. The children were inspired to create their own *triptych* – a three-panel artwork – to show the journey from Good Friday to Easter Sunday, capturing the transformation from sorrow to celebration.



In **Computing**, we finished our unit on branching databases. The children worked brilliantly to interpret and use these tools to identify and classify different animals. They've become confident in spotting patterns and asking yes/no questions to find and sort information effectively.

Elsewhere, we've been busy with reading, writing and arithmetic, but we're particularly proud of how the children have been engaging in thoughtful discussions and working collaboratively in group tasks.





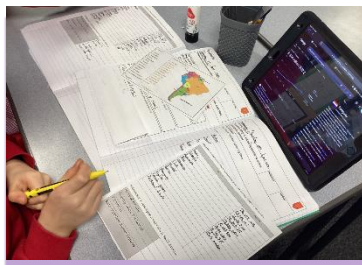
Year 5



We've had a lovely week enjoying the sunshine – it's definitely starting to feel like summer! With the end of term in sight, Year 5 have continued to work hard and make the most of every moment.



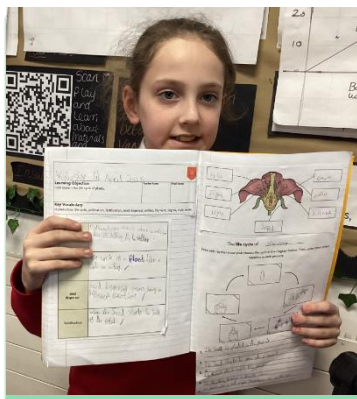
In Art, the children have reached the exciting end of their project! They've been working hard to create a setting from the story *The Lost Happy Endings*. Inspired by artists like Gabby Savage-Dickson, who uses a mix of materials to build sets for her animations, the children designed and built Jub's tree house in the forest. They explored textures, colours, and a variety of materials to bring this magical setting to life – and the results are fantastic!



In Geography, the children have been recapping their learning on the continents. This week, they've been busy researching fascinating facts about South America. They looked closely at some of the cities in different countries, exploring their

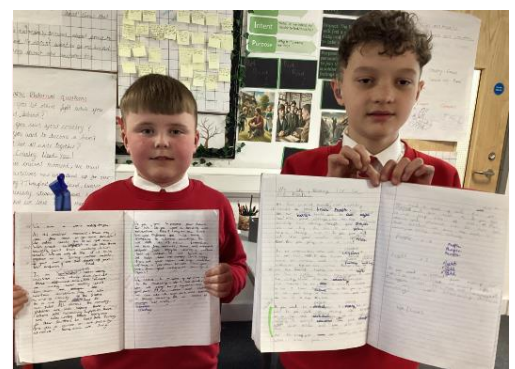


human geographical features – like buildings, transport, and landmarks as well as their populations. The children have really enjoyed discovering how different each place is!



In Science, the children have been learning all about life cycles. Last week, they explored the life cycles of different animals, including insects, amphibians, and mammals, comparing how they grow and change. This week, they turned their attention to plants, learning how they reproduce and develop from seed to mature plant. They have also explored key processes such as seed dispersal, germination, pollination, and the different ways plants reproduce. The children have shown great curiosity and have enjoyed making links between the life cycles of plants and animals.

In English, the children have come to the end of their writing journey this week. They have planned, written, and edited powerful speeches inspired by World War I propaganda. The children worked hard to use a range of persuasive techniques, including rhetorical questions, emotive language, exaggeration, repetition, and brackets to add extra information. Their speeches were written to encourage men to join the army, and they did a brilliant job of creating a strong and convincing message.

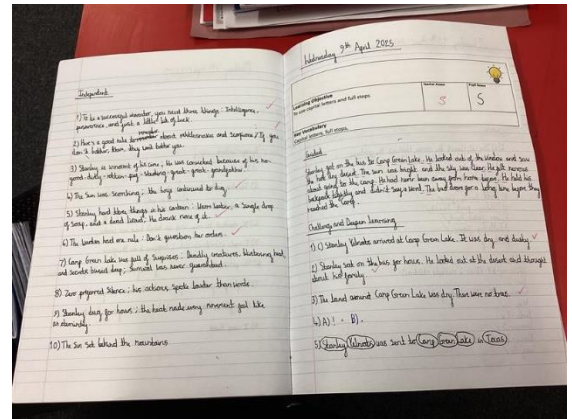


Year 6



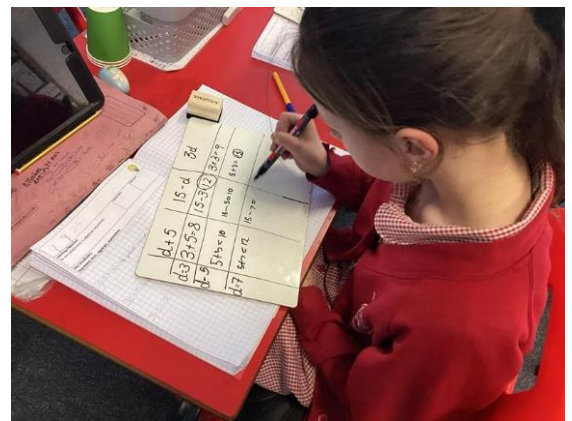
As we wrap up the final week of Spring 2, I've been looking forward to sharing everything the children have been up to before we head into a well-earned break. It's been a busy and exciting end to the term, filled with fantastic learning across all subjects!

We've started reading the opening chapters of *Holes* by Louis Sachar, which will be our class text going into Summer 1. The children have really enjoyed getting to know the intriguing setting and characters, and we've already had some brilliant discussions and predictions. We've been using the text to sharpen our grammar skills too—focusing on the correct use of capital letters and full stops, using colons and semi-colons effectively, and revisiting sentence types, apostrophes, and prepositional phrases. These grammar tools are being put to great use in our writing!



In maths, we have tackled a range of challenging word problems involving comparing and ordering fractions, decimals, and percentages. They've also revisited ratio and scale factors, and have been learning how to form and use algebraic formulas through substitution. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow in these areas.

We concluded our topic by comparing the Maya civilisation to the Anglo-Saxons. The children thought critically about the similarities and differences in culture, beliefs, and daily life—showing great curiosity and understanding. In geography, we explored the human features of various South American countries. Everyone has developed a deeper appreciation for the diversity of cultures, cities, and populations across the continent. Our science lessons have focused on the life cycles of different types of plants. Year six investigated how plants reproduce and how their life cycles vary, with lots of hands-on learning and excellent questioning throughout. In PE, the children have continued to develop their dance routines. Their creativity and teamwork have really shone through as they work on timing, rhythm, and movement.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We're so proud of all the effort and enthusiasm the children have shown this half term. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for the summer term!

A colorful illustration of a smiling ice cream cone. The cone has a light blue top, a pink middle section, and a yellow bottom section. It is wearing large, round sunglasses with orange frames and black lenses. On top of the cone is a green grass hat with two blades of grass. The cone is on a brown stick.

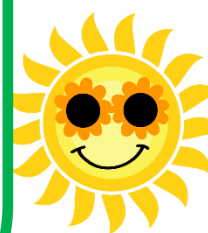
Y1/2/3 – Wellbeing with Miss Goddard

Y4/5/6 – Garage band with Miss Wetton

Reception Class – Dance with Miss Evie

Y1/2/3 – Art with Mrs Gull

Y4/5/6 – Chess and draughts with Mr Connolly



What's on in the local area?

With the Easter Holidays fast approaching we thought we would give you some information about what Seasonal events are happening in and around Staffordshire. Click on the link below to find a full calendar.

CLICK HERE



[Seasonal Events](#)



12 Apr 2025 - 24 May 2025



Easter Egg-venture!

PENKRIDGE



12 Apr 2025 - 26 Apr 2025



Book Trail

STAFFORD



17 Apr 2025



The Wizard of Oz

STAFFORDSHIRE

→ Learn More

👁 Quick View

→ Learn More

👁 Quick View

→ Learn More

👁 Quick View



19 Apr 2025 - 20 Apr 2025



Workshop - Easter Craft and Trail

STAFFORD



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



BURGER KING

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

BILLS

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult, Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

ZIZZI

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

CAFE EIGHTY NINE @ THE RANGE

Kids eat free Sat 5th April - Mon 21st April 2025

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

TRAVELodge & PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

PREZZO

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

COCONUT TREE

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April 2025

PIZZA HUT

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, until 3pm daily with a £10 spend

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

SAINSBURY'S CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SEARCH ENGINES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Search engines are an integral part of everyday life – with Google alone processing around 100,000 searches every second. Search engines use algorithms to predict which results will be useful to us, though this can expose children to inappropriate content, misinformation and even scams. This guide explains the risks associated with search engines and offers practical advice to help safeguard young users online.

MANIPULATED SEARCH RESULTS

Although search engines take site reputation into account, trustworthiness isn't the main factor. Instead, they use algorithms that can be gamed via tactics like search engine optimisation (SEO), which is big business. As a result, users may encounter misleading content and low-quality commercial products that appear more credible than they actually are.

MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION

Search engines index billions of web pages – and not all of them are factual or safe. Children might stumble across false information or even deliberate disinformation, especially when searching for trending topics or controversial issues.

ENGINES BEYOND GOOGLE

Even if Google's SafeSearch is enabled, children may use lesser-known search engines that don't have similar protections. Some of these alternatives are less effective at blocking unsavoury content – sometimes by design – making it easier for children to encounter harmful or explicit material. Parental controls may also struggle to detect and block these sites.

FUNNY JOKES

ILLEGAL CONTENT CAN SURFACE

Search engines are designed to retrieve content based on keywords – not to judge whether that content is lawful. As a result, even illegal or harmful material can appear in search results. Children might assume that anything found through search engines must be safe, just because they're so widely used. This misunderstanding can lead to accidental exposure to seriously inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT EXPOSURE

Although parental controls like Google's SafeSearch exist, they aren't foolproof, and search engines may bypass them. Young users may still see inappropriate images or content, especially in image searches, even though they may not be able to click on the results. Some niche search engines lack even basic filtering, posing further risks.

UNRELIABLE AI SUMMARIES

Some search engines now offer AI-generated answers at the top of results. While these can be helpful as webpage summaries, they're not always accurate. There have been instances where AI summaries have presented false or even dangerous information, reinforcing the need for critical thinking.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

While no parental controls tool is perfect, this software can help reduce the likelihood of inappropriate content appearing in search results. Use tools like Google Family Link to set search restrictions and monitor your child's browsing activity.

QUESTION AI-GENERATED CONTENT

While AI content is generated quickly and often appears legitimate, teach children that, just because an AI summary is well presented, it doesn't mean it's accurate. Encourage them to review the sources behind AI summaries and check the information with reputable sites or fact-checkers.

IDENTIFY AND AVOID ADVERTS

One of the ways search engines generate revenue is by showing adverts to their users. Sponsored search results are labelled, but they're not always easy to spot and can sometimes be malicious. Show your child how to distinguish between paid ads and organic search results – explain why some ads might be misleading or unsafe.

PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Encourage children to question the motivation behind online content and develop critical thinking, as not all sites can be trusted. Some deliberately misinform users in order to sell products or promote misinformation. Developing a critical mindset is one of the best defences against these tactics.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tam's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



The National College

Changes to mental health and emotional wellbeing services for children and young people.



From 1 April 2025, a new service called 'Stay Well' will support children and young people with mild to moderate mental health and emotional wellbeing needs. Jointly commissioned by Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Integrated Care Board the new service will be delivered by Changes Health and Wellbeing working with North Staffordshire Mind and The Dove Service.

STAY WELL



From 1 April 2025, the new 'Stay Well' service will provide early intervention and prevention support.

Stay Well recognises that everyone is different. They understand that young people have different mental health needs and, therefore, require different kinds of services in order to THRIVE.

Visit the website to find out more, including how to make a self-referral.

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