



**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 - Spring Term – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

### **Message from the Headteacher**

Good afternoon.

Happy Spring 2 Term! We hope you have all had a lovely week last week – either having the chance to get away, spending some time with family and friends or hopefully having a few days to be able to relax and enjoy some time at home.

What a first week back we have had! I cannot believe what we have fit in to the first 5 days. I said to the children in worship on Monday morning that Spring 2 is always a busy time with World Book Day, Mother's Day, Comic Relief and Science Week to name a few, and not forgetting celebrating the important Christian Festival of Easter to end our term!

We started the week with 2 wonderful evenings of welcoming parents into school. The teachers have said it was such a positive experience with some lovely positive comments from parents about what we are achieving at St Pauls. If you do have any comments to give, please pop it in an email or dojo. We really do appreciate the comments and the amount of positivity was lovely for our teachers to hear. The teachers spoke about how you can support at home – any questions you have please just dojo or email and we will get back to you. The curriculum newsletters will be on our website for you to see what your children will be learning in Spring 2.

Wednesday saw the first of our curriculum assemblies and parent sessions for Year 5 and 6. Thankyou so much to those who came – we appreciate you are very busy and therefore really do appreciate your support at events. I was so proud of the children to stand up and speak in assembly – showing belief and courage, especially as some children said how nervous they were! We look forward to hosting our Year 3/4 assembly and workshop on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 1:30pm. All other class dates are on the Calendar in the newsletter.

Our Christian value of the term is Forgiveness. We began the term with the children writing teaspoon prayers – saying **Thank you**, **Sorry** and **Please**. These will be shared each week during Worship. Our Words of wisdom from the bible for this term are "Just as the lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others." Colossians 3:13. A really important message we will be sharing with the children over the next few weeks.

Next week is World Book Day – more information is given in the letter. Any questions as always please just ask!

Have a lovely weekend – stay safe.

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team.

| Class     | %    |
|-----------|------|
| Reception | 91.3 |
| Year 1/2  | 92.7 |
| Year 3/4  | 92.4 |
| Year 5    | 96.7 |
| Year 6    | 90.5 |



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 Friday**

**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**

6 MARCH 2025







## Diary Dates

### SPRING 1

**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**

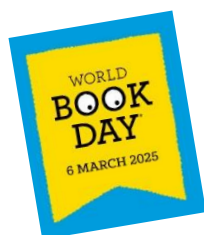
Valentine's Day Disco



### SPRING 2

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

Parents Evening



**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 5 and Year 6 Class Assembly 1:30pm

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

World Book Day - Reading Breakfast – 8:00am

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 3 and Year 4 Class Assembly 1:30pm

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

SEND Drop-in

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 1 and Year 2 Class Assembly 1:30pm

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

SEND Drop-in

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

Easter Church Service 10:00am at St Pauls Church

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

Reception Class Assembly 1:30pm

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

SEND Drop-in

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

Term ends



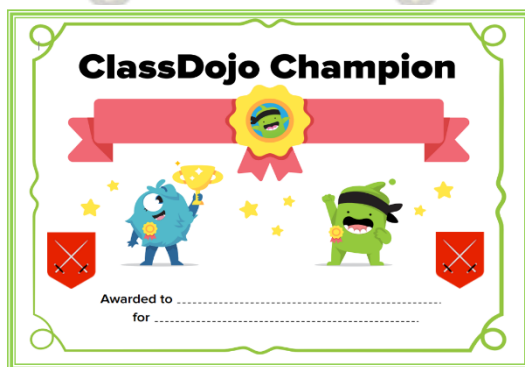


| Class     | Winner!  |
|-----------|----------|
| Reception | Primrose |
| Year 1    | Nevaeh   |
| Year 2    | Ewan     |
| Year 3    | Piper    |
| Year 4    | Aous     |
| Year 5    | Logan    |
| Year 6    | Winnie   |



| Class     | Winner! |
|-----------|---------|
| Reception | Albie   |
| Year 1    | Joseph  |
| Year 2    | Anthony |
| Year 3    | Orla    |
| Year 4    | Pierre  |
| Year 5    | Niamh   |
| Year 6    | Hope    |

| Class     | Winner! |
|-----------|---------|
| Reception | Arthur  |
| Year 1    | Lily    |
| Year 2    | Clemmie |
| Year 3    | Joseph  |
| Year 4    | Aaron   |
| Year 5    | April   |
| Year 6    | Jethro  |







# Reception



Welcome back! The children have settled back into school beautifully, and we have had a fantastic week filled with learning, creativity, and exploration.

In Personal, Social, and Emotional Development (PSED), we have been thinking about how others feel and how we can tell by their faces and actions. This has led to the children becoming more aware of each other as they continue playing and learning together, creating some beautiful caring moments.

In phonics, we have been continuing to secure the new sounds taught last half-term, including 'ai' (tail in the rain), 'ee' (sheep in a jeep), 'ow' (wow owl), and 'or' (born with a horn). The children are becoming much more confident in spotting the special friends before segmenting and blending to read words. It has been wonderful to see their growing enthusiasm and confidence in their reading skills.

This week in maths, we have been learning about the difference between length and height. The children enjoyed comparing the lengths of worms they made using playdough and measuring the height of beanstalks built with construction resources. Through these fun, hands-on activities, they developed their understanding of measurement and comparison.

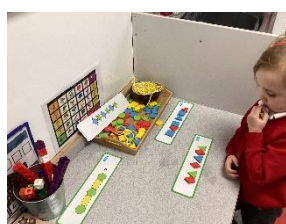


The children have been busy creating their own weaving rainbows. They worked hard to mix different shades of blue for their sky before creating a 'frame' of white wool. They then carefully scrunched and twisted strands of coloured tissue paper before weaving them onto their frames. The results were beautiful and full of vibrant colours!

Additionally, the children have been strengthening their pincer grip by threading shapes and creating patterns on the peg boards, enhancing their fine motor skills in a fun and engaging way.

With the warmer, sunny weather, we have taken every opportunity to enjoy our outdoor space. The mud kitchen remains a firm favourite, with children mixing up their own potions while exploring capacity. Superheroes have been busy saving the school, and the children have also been creating beautiful representations of the numbers 6, 7, and 8 using natural materials in their outdoor art masterpieces.

It has been a fantastic start to the half-term, and we are looking forward to another exciting week of learning ahead!





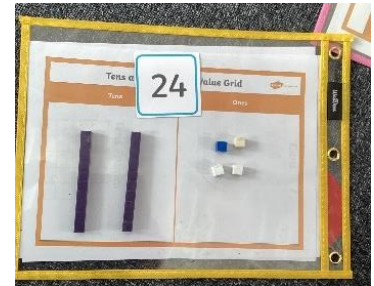
# Year 1 and Year 2



What a brilliant start to the term this week has been!

This week in English, the children began their new writing journey on Rosie Revere Engineer. The children have read the story and completed various activities to ensure they know and are able to re-tell the story, in preparation for when they write a diary recount next week. We have been focussing on Oracy in some lessons as this is a key for children to be able to write successfully.

In Maths this week, Year 2 have continued to work on Multiplication and Division. They have been consolidating their knowledge on their multiplication and division facts for the 2s, 5s and 10s. In Year 1, the children have continued learning about Place Value to 50, the children were able to confidently partition numbers into Tens and Ones using both concrete resources and also written methods.



Continuing on our Creativity Medals project in Art, this week the children chose their medal templates and had the opportunity to practise cutting and gluing their fabrics to match their templates. This activity was quite challenging but the children showed excellent perseverance throughout and I am excited for them to begin making their medals next week.



In Science this week, the children learnt about the main parts of the human body. The children were very confident with this knowledge already and this was shown throughout their group book work and individual learning as well!



As part of History unit, the children learnt about Sir Tim Berners-Lee, the inventor of the internet. We had a class discussion about the internet and it quickly became apparent just how many things we use in our daily lives at school and at home require the internet! The children then went on a treasure hunt around the classroom to find images of different types of communication methods. They then worked together to sort these images into before and after the internet.

After locating the human features of Stafford before half term, in Geography this week, the children located and learnt about the physical features of Stafford. We explored Doxey Marshes and learnt about the wildlife that can be found there as well as the River Sow. There is a History Day in Stafford Town Centre on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March, where you are able to visit the Ancient High House as well as take part in our family activities!

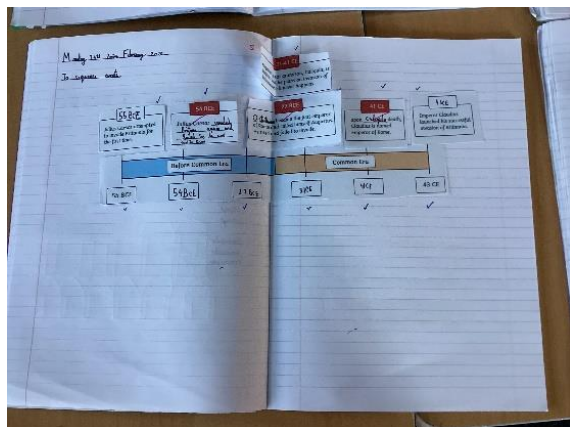
A fantastic first week back, well done everyone!





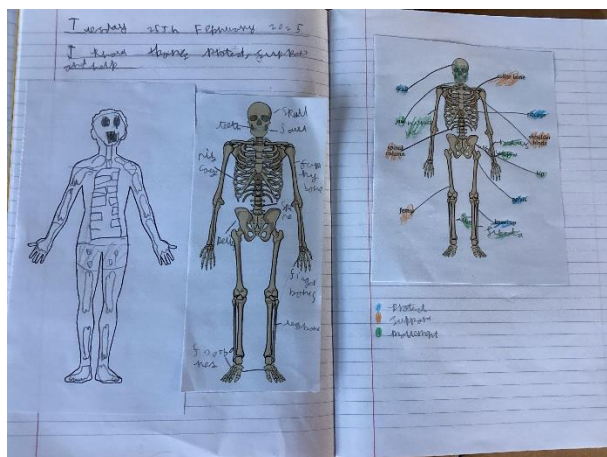
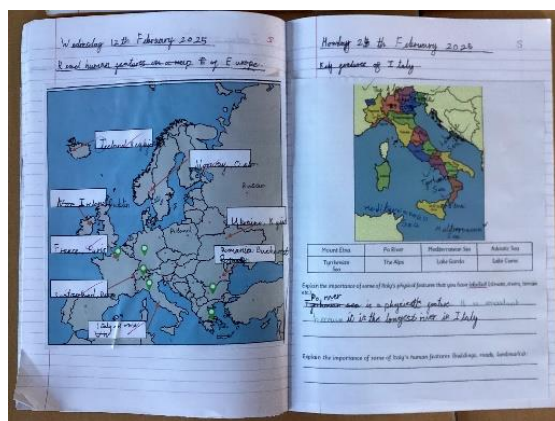
# Year 3 and Year 4

We hope you all had a wonderful half-term break! The children have returned full of enthusiasm and have had a fantastic first week back, diving straight into new topics and exciting learning opportunities.



This week in history, we explored the Roman invasion of Britain, learning about Julius Caesar's first attempts and how Augustus later strengthened Roman control. The children enjoyed ordering key events on a timeline to deepen their understanding of chronology.

In geography, we looked at Italy, the heart of the Roman Empire. We identified key physical features such as the Alps, the Apennine Mountains, and the Tiber River, mapping them out and discussing their importance.



In PSHE, we explored the meaning of community, thinking about the different communities we belong to and why they are important to us. The children shared some thoughtful reflections on what makes a strong and supportive community.

In science, we began our topic on the human skeleton, identifying key bones and classifying them based on their functions in support, protection, and movement. The children were fascinated to learn how their bones help them in everyday life.



In English, we started our new writing journey with *Our Tower* by Joseph Coelho. The children are preparing to write letters to the Wise Oak tree, imagining themselves as the children from the story. We have explored letter features and thought about what we might say to this magical tree.

It has been a brilliant start to the half-term, and we can't wait to see what the next few weeks bring.

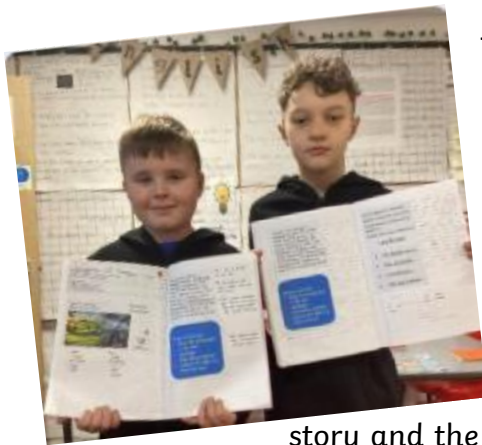




## Year 5

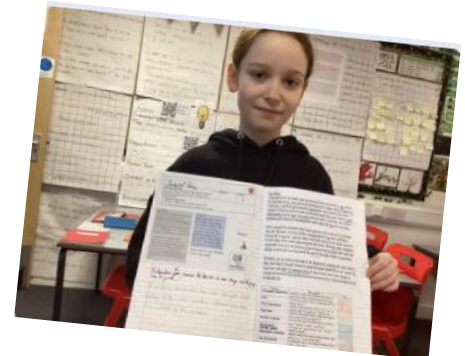


In Geography this week, the children began their exciting journey into the region of Central America! For their first lesson, they explored a detailed map of the area, learning to identify and label key countries and cities. The class worked hard to locate well-known places such as Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Panama, as well as cities like San José, Panama City, and Guatemala City. This hands-on activity helped them gain a deeper understanding of Central America's geography and the relationships between its countries and cities.



This week in English, the children embarked on an exciting new journey with the book *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo. They've been diving deep into the story, exploring the thoughts and emotions of the main character, Tommo. As part of their lessons, the children have been engaging in discussions and activities based around the first two chapters of the text. They have gained lots of knowledge about the

story and the historical context, preparing them for their writing task. The children are enjoying connecting with the characters and are excited to bring Tommo's perspective to life in their own creative diary entries!



In Maths this week, the children have started an exciting new unit on decimals and percentages. They've been learning how to recognise tenths, hundredths, and thousandths as decimals and are exploring the relationship between these decimal values and percentages. To help deepen their understanding, the children have been using place value grids to visually represent and organise decimals, making it easier to see the value of each digit. Through practical tasks and plenty of fluency questions, they have learnt how to convert decimals into percentages and vice versa.

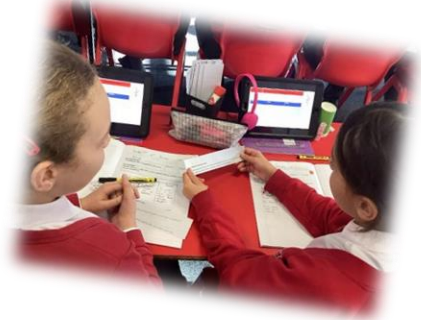


# Year 6



What a brilliant and busy first week back! It has been great seeing everybody at parents evening and our class assemblies.

This week, year 6 began their maths topics of fractions, decimals and percentages by finding equivalents by learning how to divide the numerator by the denominator and exploring percentages. In writing, the children have immersed themselves into the trenches and the story of Tommo Peaceful whilst using adverbs and adverbials to enhance their diary entries. In Reading, the children have done brilliant jobs in discussing and debating the meanings behind elements of the animation 'The Piano' by Adrian Gibbons.



In science, we joined with year 5 to begin looking at different natural scientists and answered the questions – what is a natural scientist?

In art, we continued getting a plan together for our set designs and deciding which materials would work best when making them. In history, we continued our Maya topic by comparing what life was like in England during the same classical period. In geography, located central America and its countries in preparation for our upcoming unit.



Thank you for an excellent first week back, full of learning and laughter as always!

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



# 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 is the logo and navigation links like 'Home', 'Families', 'SEND', 'Care Leavers', 'Adults', and 'Contact Staffordshire Connects'. Below the navigation bar, there's a 'Welcome to Staffordshire Connects' message and a search bar. The main section is titled 'Children and Families' and contains a grid of tiles. A blue arrow points to the 'Children and Families' tile on the left. Another blue arrow points to the 'Activities and clubs' tile in the grid, which is located in the second row, fourth column. The grid also includes tiles for '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', 'Education services', 'Free training for professionals', and 'Family Hubs'.

[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.



A grid of buttons for finding places to go and things to do. The buttons are arranged in two rows. The first row contains: 'Holiday activities and food', 'Activities, clubs, groups', 'Play parks and open spaces', 'Libraries, arts and heritage', and 'Children centres'. The second row contains: 'Leisure centres, venues and gyms', 'Support groups and organisations', 'Community Centres', and 'Faith based places and groups'.



# 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



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

# MP COFFEE MORNING

SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON LOCAL SEND PROVISION

**10AM 22ND MARCH**



Stafford, venue confirmed upon RSVP

**Do you have experiences of local SEND services?**

If you want to share your thoughts with me,  
Please RSVP by QR code, email, or phone.

*Scan me*



**Alternatively, RSVP by:**

[leigh.ingham.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:leigh.ingham.mp@parliament.uk)

01785 594949



**Leigh Ingham MP**

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