



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 7th March 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon,

What a brilliant week we have had!

The beautiful sunshine has most definitely helped this week. We have had such a lovely time on the playground at lunchtime this week getting the equipment out and playing a range of ball games. The children's behaviour has been wonderful.

This week our main event has been World Book Day and our first Reading Breakfast for St Pauls. A huge thankyou to everyone who came to school on Thursday morning to have the chance to sit and read with your child, the chance to sit and talk with other parents and just have a chance to sit and enjoy the quality time. To every parent who supported with making sure your child had the right pyjamas, onesie, creative word costume, favourite book and cuddly toy...thankyou – I know you have created another special memory for your children.

Next week is Science week with this year's theme being Change and Adaption, which is all around us and effects all areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The children will be taking part in various science activities over the week and learning about a famous scientist who had an impact on today's world.

Next week we have our Year 3/4 assembly at 1:30pm where all parents of the children in Mr Connolly's class are invited to come and watch. If you are able, there we are also extending our invitation to come and join your children in the classroom for an afternoon of learning. This session will finish at 3:00pm.

Please note the change of date to our 'Mother's and Others' Afternoon Tea. This has been changed on the events list on the next page. This is now Friday 28th March starting from 1:30pm. Mo has sent out times individually – please ask at the office for more information.

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team.



Class	%
Reception	96.7
Year 1/2	96.3
Year 3/4	96.6
Year 5	99.2
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.



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



Diary Dates

SPRING 2

Monday 24th February and Tuesday 25th February

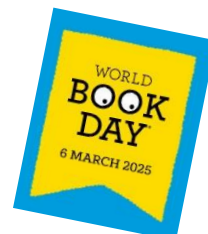
Parents Evening

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

Wednesday 26th March

Year 1 and Year 2 Class Assembly 1:30pm



Thursday 27th March

SEND Drop-in

Friday 28th March

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea



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

Easter Bonnet Parade

Easter Raffle Drawn

Term ends



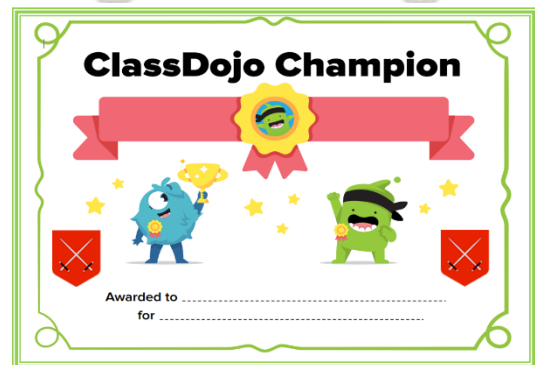


Class	Winner!
Reception	Albie
Year 1	Daniel
Year 2	Teddy
Year 3	Robyn
Year 4	Elliot
Year 5	April
Year 6	Jessica



Class	Winner!
Reception	Carter
Year 1	Eleanor
Year 2	Lana
Year 3	Celine
Year 4	Phoebe
Year 5	Jaren
Year 6	Asia

Class	Winner!
Reception	Primrose
Year 1	Joseph
Year 2	Eddie
Year 3	Sam
Year 4	Daisy
Year 5	Rami
Year 6	Jessy





Reception

Wow, Reception are enjoying the start of spring! We've had a wonderfully busy and exciting week with our little learners, and we're thrilled to share all the fun we've been having.



In phonics this week, the children have been working hard on reading longer words using our special 1, 2, 3 stop rule. They were absolute superstars, and by Thursday, they could read the word 'fantastic' by breaking it into syllables. We couldn't be prouder of their amazing progress! We've also taken our writing activities outside to enjoy the sunshine, using magnetic tiles to build words before recording them in our books. Our young writers are focusing on forming their letters correctly, particularly c, a, d, g, and o, going anticlockwise, which is our target this term.



The children have been practising their independent reading skills by using buttons and matchsticks to spot special friends before they segment and blend words. We sent home new reading books on Thursday, and we'll be ordering more reading diaries soon, as they've been doing such a wonderful job reading at home.



In preparation for Easter, we had a blast topping pancakes for Shrove Tuesday. The children loved squeezing, cutting, and spreading their chosen toppings before enjoying their creations. We also took the opportunity to remind them about food hygiene, and it was delightful to hear them singing 'happy birthday' as they washed their hands!



In maths, our focus on measures continues. We've planted broad bean seeds to watch and record their growth over the next few weeks. The children have enjoyed comparing the height of different objects using cubes and finding, comparing, and measuring the lengths of the 'yucky worms' we discovered in the soil.



Signs of spring are everywhere, and the children have been busy creating beautiful daffodil art. They've been drawing and combining lines, triangles, and circles, as well as mixing various shades of yellow. Maths outdoors has been exciting too, as we've been doubling numbers using mirrors and recording our number sentences. We also learnt how white paint can make a colour lighter, while red can deepen it effectively.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. The children are thriving, and it's wonderful to see their enthusiasm for learning grow every day! Wishing you all a lovely weekend!



Year 1 and Year 2



What an excellent week in Year 1 and 2!

This week in English, the children continued working on their writing journey on Rosie Revere Engineer. They have been practising using past-tense verbs in their writing. The class also wrote their diary entries as Rosie this week. It is amazing to see the progress of their writing in this piece of work.

In Maths this week, Year 2 began a new unit on Measure. They, first of all, reviewed their learning of Year 1 measure and consolidated their knowledge on using the correct vocabulary. The children used concrete resources to explore this concept. In Year 1 Maths, the children have been developing their knowledge on 1 more and 1 less. The children showed great confidence with this and enjoyed using the iPads to consolidate their knowledge further.



In Art this week, the children chose their fabrics for their medals and they used their skills from the previous lesson to make the start of their medal. Children showed so much focus throughout this and they are excited to add to their designs next week!



As part of our Science unit, we learnt about the senses this week, focussing on taste and smell. The whole class took part in a taste and smell test, in which they were blindfolded and had to trust their taste buds and smell to guess what each flavour was! The children thoroughly enjoyed this experiment and we had some very accurate guesses about what each flavour was!

In PSHE this term, we are learning about Money. In the first lesson, children explored why we use Money and the different types of Money. The class took part in a game where they had to decide what type of payment method to use for each item. They understood well that you probably wouldn't use a bank card to pay for 1 apple, you would try and use coins for that and you wouldn't buy a car using coins!



To celebrate World Book Day, the children participated in lots of different activities including performing poetry and reading books from around the world!



Year 3 and Year 4

What a fantastic week of learning we've had in Year 3 and 4! The children have been busy exploring history, geography, science, and more, with a very exciting celebration for World Book Day on Thursday.

In **History**, we compared Roman and Celtic settlements, discovering how their homes, defences, and ways of life were different. The children were fascinated to learn how the Romans built straight roads and organised cities, while the Celts lived in roundhouses within hill forts.

In **Geography**, we looked at **tectonic plates** and how they shape the Earth's surface. The children explored how these plates move, causing earthquakes and forming mountains. They were particularly intrigued to learn about famous fault lines around the world!

In **Science**, we carried out an investigation into how the bones in our body affect our movement. Using different activities, we tested how joints and muscles work together, and the children had great fun discovering just how important their skeletons are!



Thursday was an exciting day as we celebrated **World Book Day**! The children came dressed as their favourite book characters and took part in a range of activities, including a book swap and a storytelling session. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm for reading!

In **Computing**, we used sorting diagrams to group objects based on different properties. The children worked together to classify items and explain their choices, using logical thinking to organise their findings.

It's been a fantastic week of learning, and we can't wait to see what next week brings





What a great week it's been! It was so nice to see parents joining us for breakfast on Book Day. Such a lovely way to celebrate reading together! This week Year 5 children have been working so hard with their learning and they should be proud of themselves.



For World Book Day, we had a fun maths lesson all about percentages! We used The Twizzlers book to inspire the children, getting hands-on with some tasty learning. The children cut up Twizzlers and worked out their own percentages, then challenged each other with different calculations.



It was a great way to make maths exciting and bring learning to life!

In Geography, the children continued learning about Central America! This week, they explored the geographical features of different countries in the region and worked with the Year 6 children to create a research project. They looked at mountains, rivers, climates, and landscapes, then presented their findings to the rest of the class. It was great to see their teamwork and enthusiasm for discovering new places. Everyone did a fantastic job showcasing their research!



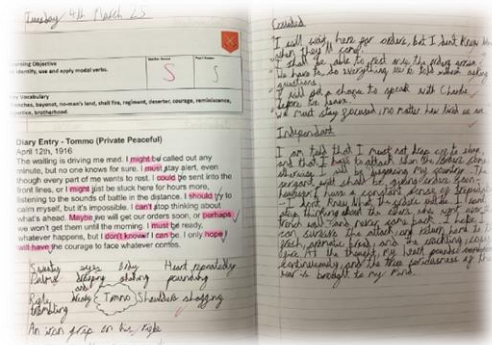
In English, the children have been recapping their understanding of present and past tense. They started by sorting sentences into past and present tense to build their confidence. Then, they wrote their own sentences in both tenses based on our class text this term, *Private Peaceful*. It was great to see them applying their learning to their writing!



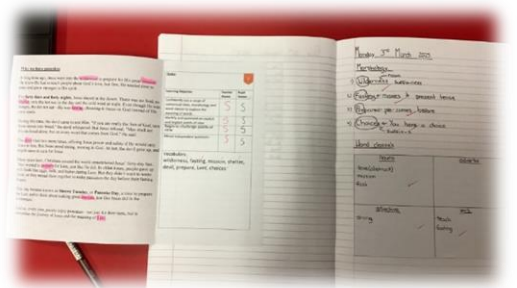
Year 6



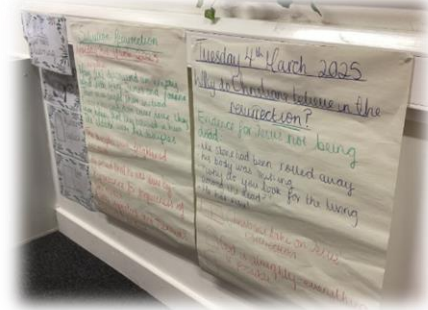
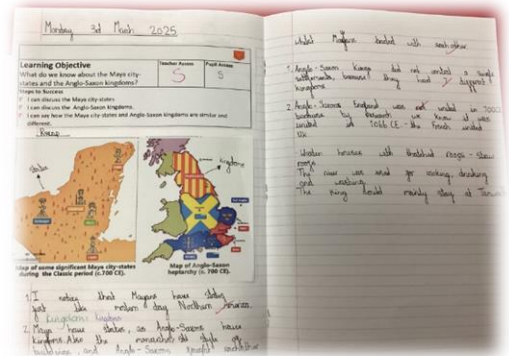
What a busy week! Year 6 have been completing some assessments this week and have worked hard to concentrate and show their skills and knowledge!



Alongside this, they have continued their writing journey with a focus on grammar skills such as modal verbs and verb tenses as they begin writing their diary entry from the trenches. In reading, we have looked at why we celebrate pancake day by analysing the story from the bible.



In history, the children compared the kingdoms of the Maya states and of the Anglo-Saxon heptarchy by researching the borders and taking into consideration the nature of the kingdoms and hierarchies. In geography, year 5 and 6 came together to research the physical geography of their Central American country, presenting their findings to the rest of UKS2 including coral reefs, forests, mountains and volcanoes.



In RE, we have been using our 'windows, mirrors and doors' approach when reading and discussing the story of Jesus' resurrection with the theme of salvation. We have discussed and answered, using our own opinions, big questions such as 'Who were the angels and why were they there?' and 'Why was Jesus brought back to life? Who could have done this?'

Towards the end of the week, we have had an amazing world book day and it has been lovely to see the love for reading that is so evident in our classroom. I saw and heard about stories I have never heard of before and the children showed such passion in their favourites!

We are looking forward to science week next week, where the children will be focusing on Charles Darwin in reading. Mrs Gull and I have an exciting experiment up our sleeves for the science lesson and can't wait to see the children show their scientific thinking!



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 features 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 part of a larger section titled 'Find information on childcare providers, how to keep your family healthy and safe, activities for children and children centres.' The grid 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', 'Activities and clubs', '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>1 People you don't know are strangers. They're not always who they say they are.</p> 	<p>2 Be nice to people like you would on the playground.</p> 
<p>3 Keep your personal information private.</p> 	<p>4 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

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Leigh Ingham MP

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