



*'There is one body, and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you.'*

*Ephesians 4: 4-5*

**Autumn Term Newsletter: Week Ending Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

## **Message from the Headteacher**

Good afternoon,

What another busy week at St Pauls – and we wouldn't have it any other way!

Well the elves had been busy and decorated the classroom doors ready for Monday morning! We began the week on 1<sup>st</sup> December – the start of Advent. It was a beautiful way to start our week with whole school Worship about Advent, talking about the meaning of the first candle lit, learning how other countries celebrate and excited for our countdown to begin.

I also presented each class with a book Advent calendar for their class – counting down the days together whilst also enjoying a new book.

This year we were invited to open the Christmas Tree festival at St Mary's – and what a proud moment that was! The children sang beautifully and we have had so many lovely comments about how wonderful the children performed but also about how well-behaved they were. The 2 trees we decorated looked amazing – a big thankyou to PALS, Miss Woodward and Mo as always for organising and giving our children these special memories. If you are local and haven't been – I would definitely recommend for your Christmas Calendar next year – it really is magical and a wonderful start to the festive season!

This week we have also had another visit from the Fire Service – this time for the children to learning about fire safety – and have a look around the fire engine! The children loved it.

With only 2 weeks to go – it really is starting to feel like we are definitely in the countdown to Christmas!

Next week we have our Nativity for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as well as an art Workshop for Y1-6.

Don't forget we have our Christmas Fair on Friday – everyone is welcome at 2:30pm. Don't forget raffle tickets are on sale at the office.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Gaskell and the St Paul's Team



# Useful Information

St Bartholomew's CE  
Multi Academy Trust

## Playground Behaviour

A reminder please that children should not be using the equipment before and after school due to no risk assessment in place at those times as they are not supervised.

Can dogs please be on leads, and if you need to come onto the playground, dogs must stay at the gate or be carried on.

Can adults also please stay with children to supervise them, ensuring behaviour is respectful. We are having quite a few before-school issues before we open the doors which we are needing to deal with during registration, causing some dysregulation to behaviours and disruption to our calm, morning learning time.



### PE Kit

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 are also needed. This is part of the St Pauls PE Kit – information is always on our website.

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

**Reception/Year 1/Year 2**

**Your Kits need to be brought into school to be kept in the classroom (Year 1 and 2 PE is Tuesday/Thursday)**

**Year 3/4/5/6**

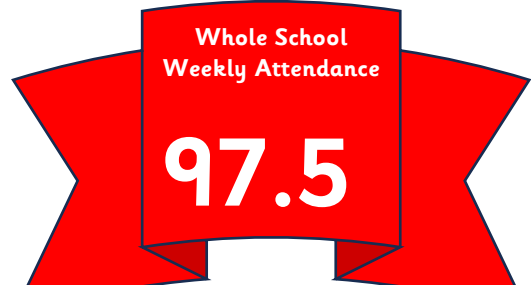
**Children will come to school on a Wednesday in PE Kit**

The school gate opens at **8:40am**.  
Gates close at **8:45am** – this is so that we are open for our statutory time of **32.5 hours**.

Children have focussed learning time between 8:45 and 9:00 so it is really important that they are ready to learn.



Class	%
Reception/Year 1	97.7
Year 2	100
Year 3/4	94
Year 5/6	98.4



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.



At school, we are passionate about fostering a love of reading in every child. Reading every day—even for just a short time—can make a huge difference to a child's vocabulary, imagination, and confidence. It opens doors to new worlds, ideas, and possibilities, and supports learning across all subjects.

We're thrilled to see so many families engaging with our online reading library on Big Cat Collins, which is proving to be a fantastic resource. Thank you for encouraging your children to explore the wide range of books available.

Next week, we'll be appointing our Year 5/6 librarians, who will help run our school library and support book borrowing across the school. This is a wonderful opportunity for our older pupils to take on responsibility and share their enthusiasm for reading with others.

Let's keep turning those pages—every book read is a step forward in your child's learning journey!





We've had a wonderfully festive week in Reception and Year 1! Nativity rehearsals are in full swing, and the children have been working incredibly hard. They are so excited to share their performance with you next week!



The children were very excited on Monday morning when they saw our decorated classroom door! The children loved finding their baubles on the tree!



This week, we also visited St Mary's Church to help open their Christmas Tree Festival. The children were absolute superstars, singing beautifully and even adding Makaton signing to *We Wish You a Merry Christmas!* After the performance, we explored the church and admired over 100 decorated Christmas trees. The children were fascinated by the decorations and showed great

respect as they walked around—such a credit to both our school and to you.



Alongside these festive activities, the children have been reviewing their learning from the year so far this week. Their determination and enthusiasm to share their knowledge has been fantastic! Continuing our theme of Celebrations, we explored the birth of Jesus and the Christmas story. The children confidently retold the story through role play and they wowed me by including key vocabulary they heard and learnt in the story.



We also embraced the Winter season by learning how to make paper snowflakes. The children listened carefully to instructions and used their scissor skills brilliantly to create beautiful designs independently.

Throughout the week, the children have applied their phonics and writing skills to create a list of items found in Santa's sack. In our construction area, the children were challenged to build Santa's sleigh. In the Christmas home corner, the children have loved wearing the elf hats and

getting in the festive spirit by working collaboratively to complete Christmas jigsaws and play some board games as well.

It has truly been a magical and busy week, and Miss Tierney and I are so proud of the children for their hard work and wonderful behaviour.

Well done on another fantastic week Reception and Year 1! I hope you have a wonderful weekend, Miss Goddard.





These weeks are flying by! This week was assessment week and the children showed fantastic determination and motivation throughout. They worked incredibly hard across all their papers, covering maths, arithmetic, reading and grammar.



In arithmetic, the children solved addition and subtraction problems with two-digit numbers. Their maths paper tested a wide range of skills including shapes, clocks and even adding three numbers together.

Reading comprehension was a real strength this week—the children were able to identify key information and clearly understand what they had read. All that reading at home makes such a big difference, thank you! In grammar, the children confidently explored different types of sentences: commands, questions, statements and exclamations.



In English, we completed our Branches journey by finishing our non-chronological reports about owls. These were amazing! The children included lots of interesting facts to inform the reader, used clear subheadings and showed brilliant understanding of the conjunction \*because\*—we especially enjoyed learning how to spell it using “big elephants can’t always use small exits!”

In RE, we continued to explore Advent and learned why it is important to Christians. To celebrate, we created our own Christmas wreaths and the children did a beautiful job.



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Nativity rehearsals have also been in full swing. The children have worked so hard practising their lines, acting and singing—you are certainly in for a real treat next week!



Last Friday, we were very lucky to have a visit from the fire service. We even got to explore the fire engine! The children learned about keeping safe around fire, how to escape safely at home and how to prevent problems. They showed amazing respect throughout, and I was very proud of them.



Well done, Year 2, for a wonderful week of success. We have another exciting week ahead with our nativity performances on Tuesday and Thursday, followed by our Christmas Fayre on Friday. There will be lots of great prizes to be won—we hope to see you there!

Miss Boulter.



First of all, I would like to say how proud I am of all the children in Class 3-4. Children have worked incredibly hard this week and shown one of our most important school values – perseverance. It has been assessment week at St Paul's, and the children have completed tests in Mathematics, Reading, Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation. They approached these challenges with determination and a positive attitude, which was wonderful to see.

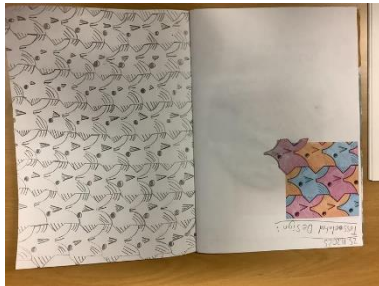
In the afternoons, we continued

with our usual curriculum and enjoyed some exciting learning opportunities.

In RE, we explored the significance of light in the Diwali Festival of Light and discussed why it is such an important celebration for many people. The children then created their own beautiful Rangoli patterns, using vibrant colours and creative designs.

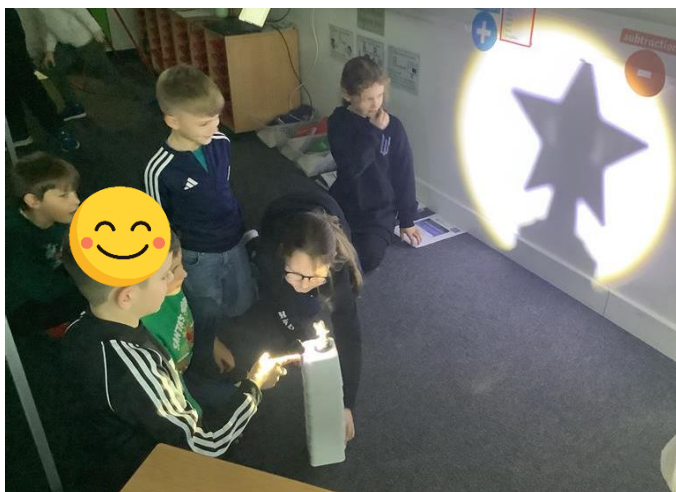


In Science, we investigated what influences the size of a shadow. The children worked in groups to carry out experiments, making predictions and recording their observations carefully.



In Art, we continued developing our tessellated designs, experimenting with shapes and patterns to create eye-catching pieces.

We have also been busy making Christmas crafts, which we are keeping as a surprise for now – but we can't wait for you to see them soon! It has been a productive and enjoyable week, and I am so pleased with the effort and enthusiasm the children have shown.



I would also like to add that many children have been doing brilliantly with their Times Tables, Reading, and Spelling homework. Please keep it up – we can really see the difference.

Wishing everyone a restful weekend.  
Miss Campbell





Reception – Arlan  
 Year 1 – Primrose  
 Year 2 – Evan  
 Year 3 – Teddy  
 Year 4 – Sama  
 Year 5 – Aous  
 Year 6 – Rami



Reception – Oliver  
 Year 1 – Sushanth  
 Year 2 – Ava  
 Year 3 – Issac  
 Year 4 – Arjun  
 Year 5 – Daisy  
 Year 6 – Alfie





## Autumn Term Clubs

### Tuesday



Y1/2/3 Football with Mr Farmer

Y3/4/5/6 Art with Miss Wetton

Y1-6 Dance with PALS



### Wednesday

Y4/5/6 Football with Mr Farmer

Y1/2 Well-being with Miss Goddard



### Thursday

Y3/4/5/6 Science with Miss Campbell

Y1/2 Geography with Miss Boulter



### Friday

Y3/4/5/6 Chess with Mr Farmer





## Autumn Term Calendar Dates

### December

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 1:30pm  
Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Dinner

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 9:30am  
Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm  
Christmas Fayre/Carols round the tree

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Year 3 and 4 Trip

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Church Service

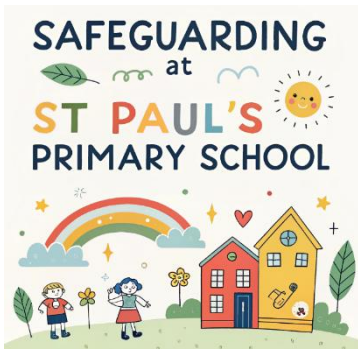
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
Year 5 and 6 Trip to the Pantomime

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
Reception/Year 1 and Year 2 to Amerton Farm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
School closes for the Christmas Holidays



**IMPORTANT**



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



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.



**SEND Questions**  
If you have any questions about your child regarding Special Educational Needs, please contact  
**Miss Gaskell**  
**01785 337436**

**Local Offer for parents and carers**

