



'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 7th November 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, welcome back! We have come back to darker nights, colder weather and a lot of rain this week – however the children have brought lots of warmth, joy and laughter to brighten our week!

It was incredible to have such fantastic attendance from everyone this week – one of our highest yet! Well done and let's try our best to keep it up.

It has been a wonderful week of learning – beginning on Tuesday with our day of learning to celebrate the end of Black History month. Each class studied a significant figure who showed courage in the face of adversity – and had a clear impact on our country and the wider world. Reception and Year 1 had a wonderful time learning all about Pablo Fanque and the circus and Year 2 found out all about Mary Seacole and her nursing work during the Crimean War. Year 3/4 discovered that as much as they loved Marcus Rashford for his football playing, he is in fact an influential figure in this country for his work to tackle child food poverty. And finally, Martin Luther King Jr was the focus for some amazing speeches written by Year 5 and 6 – talking passionately about topics they felt strongly about.

The whole school have then spent the rest of the week in English focussing on Remembrance, something which we feel is so important to spend time in our curriculum each year. This year, the children have listened to some different stories and created some lovely work about the incredible animals that were also such important heroes during the war.

Tuesday is our Remembrance service in church – at the later time of 10:45am to coincide with our 2 minutes silence at 11:00am. The children will be singing some beautiful songs and our Year 5/6 will be reading some poems. It is a short service – but one of thoughtful reflection and peace.

Take care and have a lovely weekend. Please take care if you are continuing to enjoy the fireworks.

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

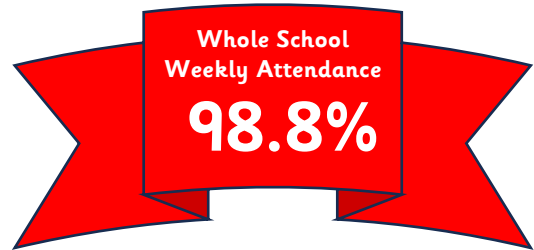
Children will come to school on a Wednesday in PE Kit

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 | 99.5 |
| Year 2 | 100 |
| Year 3/4 | 99.2 |
| Year 5/6 | 97 |



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!





What a busy and exciting start to Autumn 2 we've had in Reception and Year 1! It has been wonderful to welcome all the children back into the classroom.

We began our week on Tuesday with an immersive day learning about Pablo Fanque and the circus as part of Black History Month. The children discovered what made Pablo Fanque such a significant figure and why he is remembered. They

even had the chance to learn circus skills and a circus dance, becoming performers for the day – they absolutely loved it!



This week, we also started discussing Remembrance Day and why it is commemorated. This linked beautifully to Year 1's English learning, which has been based on the book *The Little Hen and the Great War*. I challenged the children to work collaboratively this week to explore the illustrations. They did fantastically with this task and were then able to use these discussions to support their independent writing of labels for each illustration.

In Maths, Reception reviewed their learning on *1 more and 1 less*, using practical equipment to consolidate understanding. A class favourite was the 'One Less Than' game they played in partners, where they had to roll and dice and find 1 less than that number on their board. Year 1 focused on number bonds within 10, using part-whole models and tens frames to show different combinations.

We've also introduced Bonfire Night this week. The children learned about its history and Guy Fawkes, and we'll continue exploring this in the coming weeks. They enjoyed getting creative with fireworks art – Year 1 produced stunning watercolour fireworks, while Reception focused on printing techniques using recycled materials.



Continuing on our learning of different Celebrations, in RE this week the class learned about Diwali. The children explored what the festival celebrates and how it is celebrated as well. We looked at different pictures from the festival and the children were fascinated by Mehndi art.

They even created their own Mehndi patterns and designs.



In between all of the celebration learning we have also had a special visit from the school nurses, who spoke to the children about the importance of healthy teeth. The children listened brilliantly and joined in with the activities confidently, learning when and how to brush their teeth and which foods help keep teeth strong. Ask your child what the magic ingredient in toothpaste is! It's been a truly busy first week back, but we wouldn't want it any other way! The children have been fantastic. Well done, everyone! *Miss Goddard*



What a fantastic start back to school for Year 2! We might have had one day less this week, but the amount of learning we've done has definitely made up for it!

We began the week celebrating Black History Month with a whole day dedicated to a significant figure — the inspirational Mary Seacole. From the very beginning, the children were curious and excited to learn more about her, especially after discovering medical equipment left on their desks!



We started the day by exploring who Mary Seacole was, what she did, and why she was such an important and influential figure. Inspired by what we learned, the children wrote beautiful poems about her, using their knowledge of verses, adjectives, and commas from Autumn 1. The ambitious vocabulary they used was amazing — words like adventurous, brave, and inquisitive really stood out!

Following this, we created some wonderful artwork inspired by Mary Seacole's kindness. Each child made a handprint in the shape of a love heart and wrote their favourite adjective to



describe her inside. There was also lots of lively role play throughout the day — we saw some very impressive acting, and it's safe to say all the soldiers were well cared for in Year 2!



We finished the day with a whole-school assembly, where some of our brave children confidently stood up to share what we had been learning.

In English, we took a three-day journey through *The Little Hen* and *The Great War* in honour of Remembrance Day. In Maths, we continued our work on subtraction, focusing on subtracting across ten using number lines and tens frames.



We began a new music unit called *Ho Ho Ho*, getting ready for Christmas time, the children explored the rhythm and the beat. We had some amazing dance improvisation, and the children were excited to hear that the new music has rapping in it.

To end the week, the children created some stunning Bonfire Night watercolour art — remember, remember!

Well done, Year 2, for a fabulous start back to school. Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Boulter





Welcome back! The children have settled in beautifully and are ready for another exciting half-term of learning.

On Tuesday, we marked Martin Luther King Day with a series of inspiring activities. Pupils wrote their own speeches about their dreams, and some bravely read them aloud to the whole school during assembly — what a fantastic start to the week!



In Maths, we began our fractions unit, building on our initial assessment days to ensure everyone is confident with the foundations before diving deeper.

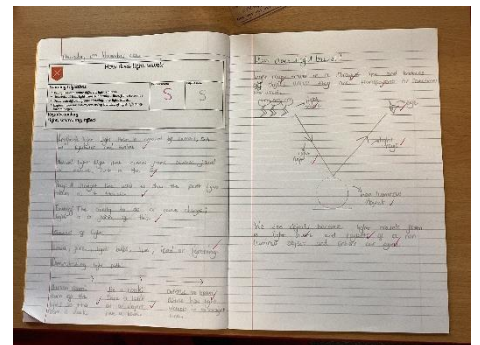


In Writing, we have embarked on a new journey, preparing to write a discursive argument based on *War Horse*. Pupils are exploring

the question: *Should animals be used in war?* and developing balanced arguments to support their viewpoints.

In Reading, we explored extracts from Martin Luther King's speeches, using evidence to make careful inferences about his words and their impact.

In History, pupils compared the four main leaders of World War II, analysing their leadership styles and considering how these influenced key events. In Science, we investigated how light travels and how we see things, conducting experiments and discussing the role of reflection and shadows.



In RE, we explored different ways people express their faith through art, recognising how creativity can communicate belief and value. In PSHE, we focused on Bonfire Night safety, reinforcing key safety messages and encouraging responsible choices. In Art, we linked pop art to the Civil Rights Movement, then created our own pop art style portraits of Martin Luther King — vibrant, thoughtful, and full of personality! In Music, we sang *This Little Light of Mine* while reflecting on how the song might have felt for those most affected by segregation, connecting music to history and emotion.

It has been a busy and inspiring first week back, and we are looking forward to continuing this momentum in the coming weeks! Miss Wetton



Reception – Idris
 Year 1 – Daniel
 Year 2 - Mohammed
 Year 3 – Cameron
 Year 4 – Piper
 Year 5 – Reuben
 Year 6 – Niamh



Reception – Oliver
 Year 1 – Albie
 Year 2 – Nevaeh
 Year 3 – Scarlett
 Year 4 – Beth
 Year 5 – Maame
 Year 6 – Sebby



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

November

Tuesday 4th November
School opens

Tuesday 4th November
9:00am New Reception 2026 Presentation

Tuesday 4th/Wednesday 5th November
Parent's Evening

Wednesday 5th November
1:30pm New Reception 2026 Presentation

Thursday 6th November
5:30pm New Reception 2026 Presentation

Tuesday 11th November
Remembrance Church Service
10:45am

December

Tuesday 9th December 1:30pm
Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Wednesday 10th December
Christmas Dinner

Thursday 11th December 9:30am
Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Friday 12th December (time to be confirmed)
Christmas Fayre/Carols round the tree

Monday 15th December
Year 3 and 4 Trip

Tuesday 16th December
Christmas Church Service

Wednesday 17th December
Year 5 and 6 Trip to the Pantomime

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

Friday 19th 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
Mrs Nevins-Stanford (SENDCo)
01785 337436

Local Offer for parents and carers

