



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

Ephesians 4: 4-5

Spring Term Newsletter: Week Ending Friday 6th February 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon,

What a fabulous week we have had! Though I'm sure these Friday's keep coming round far too quickly



We began our week sharing one of our favourite Bible stories at St Pauls – Noah's Ark. Continuing our theme of Trust, we discussed how this story is full of people who not only have to put their trust in others but be trustworthy themselves. The children produced some brilliant work in their worship logs which we have included in this week's newsletter. Lots of thoughtful discussion, animals in the ark and prayers. Well done St Pauls!

Next week we have Safer Internet Day – beginning on Monday with our Digital Leaders leading assembly and stories and activities in computing and PSHE about staying safe online. This is such an important topic – and with children having access to chat rooms in the games they play online it is so important to teach them how to watch for the signs and what to do if something happens that they don't feel comfortable with. It is also really important that as parents we are also keeping daily checks on what is happening with our children and their devices.

Thankyou to those parents who signed up for a drop-in session with myself to discuss how we can best support their children and moving forward how we can work collaboratively together and with agencies, to provide what our children need. More of these afternoons will be available after half term. We will also be sending out on Monday time slots to book in with your class teacher for a SEND Parent's Evening after half-term – additional to the one at the end of next half term. This will be to go through targets on Learning Plans and gain your much important voice in the provision, interventions and next steps we would like to achieve for your child.

Our last day of term brings our Valentine's Disco. We are inviting children to be dressed in their best party clothes for an afternoon of activities, dancing and fun! We are asking for a donation of £3.00 – thankyou to those who have already paid their money into the office.

We have unfortunately ended the week with a lot of rain and indoor play – but I hope you all have a lovely weekend whatever the weather brings us.

Miss Gaskell and the St Paul's Team



Useful Information

St Bartholomew's CE
Multi Academy Trust



A reminder please that all absences need to be logged with the school office – not through dojo.

Please ring school to log an absence – leave a message if the office is not open at that time, or email in StPaulsOffice@stbartsmat.co.uk

It is really important that you log this absence by 9:30am. If we have not heard from you follow up calls will be made to yourself and other contacts on our list. Every day of absence must have a phone call until the children return to school.

Please ensure that all children are wearing black smart school shoes. We have allowed black smart trainers – as long as they are completely plain black with no logos. Full a full list of school uniform please click the link to our website.

<https://www.st-pauls-stafford.staffs.sch.uk/school-uniform/>



BLACK SCHOOL SHOES



During the colder months, our outdoor PE kit needs to be worn to ensure that children are warm and able to participate.

A reminder of our 'Winter' kit:

School PE coloured house T-Shirt

Plain black hoody – no logo or branding

Plain black jogging bottoms or leggings – no logo or branding

Black trainers and pumps – not shoes or boots

We would like to request that parents are not using mobile phones on the school playground – this is for safeguarding reasons.

Can we also please ask that parents whilst dropping off and picking up are not on phones to allow for staff to communicate if necessary but also to allow you the time to talk with your children. Drop-off and pick-up are such an important part of their day.





Useful Information

St Bartholomew's CE
Multi Academy Trust

PE Kit

All children should be wearing black hoodies and joggers in the colder weather – plain black please with suitable PE footwear.

[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 **Monday** and **Thursday**)

Year 3/4/5/6

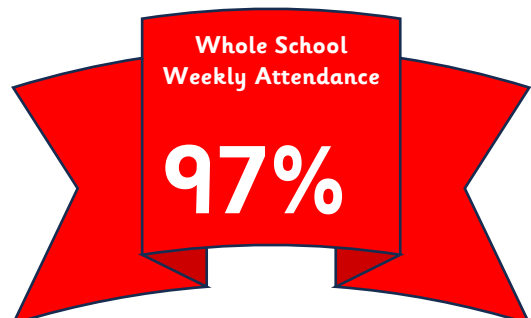
Children will come to school on a **Friday** in PE Kit



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	95.9
Year 2	98.4
Year 3/4	96.8
Year 5/6	96.6



Being in school every day is so important to ensure children have the best chance possible of achieving well and reaching their potential.

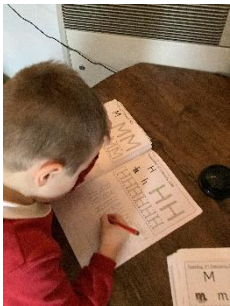
This term our target as a school is 96%. To help children to achieve this we will be inviting parents into school to speak with Miss Gaskell to look at ways in which we can support to raise the attendance of your child. We will be launching attendance awards and leading assemblies with the children so that they understand the importance of being in school every day and on time.





The children have had a brilliant week in Reception and Year 1, developing their learning and continuing to build skills in all areas of the curriculum.

In Year 1 this week, the children began a new writing journey on 'The Snail and the Whale', the children loved reading this story and finding a familiar message left by the Snail in our classroom. The children have been focussing on building their grammar skills which they will include in their narrative re-tell this week. In Reception, the children have continued to build their hand strength to support their letter formation. The children have also begun using their knowledge of letter formation to



complete some independent writing!

In Maths, Year 1 have continued their addition and subtraction topic. They have focussed on doubles and near doubles. They have completed practical activities to build their understanding as well as completing fluency style questions as well to improve their quick recall of these facts. Reception have also been introduced to doubles this week, as well as the concept of the odds and evens. They

understood this concept well and then applied this when creating Noah's Ark and lining the animals up to get on the ark!



In Science this week, we discussed the changes that happen from baby to adult and how things change as we grow. The children were very confident to discuss what they were like as babies and how they are different now. We also discussed the things they would like to achieve as adults too. They loved the thought that one day they would be able to drive a car and care for others! In Geography this week, we continued to look at the human features of Stafford. We first looked at these on a map and talked about the

children's experiences of visiting some of these places. We then moved on to complete a virtual tour of the landmarks; this gave the children the opportunity to explore inside the landmarks if they had not visited it before.



In Reception this week, the children have continued to love their learning on Superheroes! A favourite activity from the week was the Superhero obstacle course the children completed. The children used their gross motor skills to crawl, climb, balance and jump to avoid the obstacles. The children were so supportive of each other, a true representation of our Rainbow Values! They have also developed their learning on Chinese New Year.

They enjoyed re-telling the story of 'The Great Race' with the puppets as well as having a go at writing some Chinese numbers! In Worship this week, we have read and discussed the story of Noah's Ark, the children were very keen to make their own representation of this in the construction area. They worked together amazingly and created a very good representation of this!



What another fantastic week, well done everyone! Enjoy your weekend! *Miss Goddard*



Another fabulous week of learning completed in Year 2! The children have continued to work incredibly hard and show such enthusiasm across all areas of the curriculum.

We began the week by starting our new Branches journey in English, which is based on the book *The Last Wolf*. Over the next two weeks, the children will be working towards producing a set of instructions for Little Red. This week, we focused on exploring the book and developing our understanding of what instructions are. The children used imperative verbs to create command sentences, practised using commas in a list, and learned the difference between command and statement



sentences. I think the command sentences were definitely the favourite, especially when being a little bit bossy!



In reading, we focused on explain questions as part of our VIPERS work. The children used reasoning and their own opinions to explain their thoughts about the text *Ancient Greece*. They showed great focus and were confident in explaining their ideas.

In spelling, our focus was on words using 'kn' and 'gn' to make the 'n' sound. This can be tricky, but the children were extremely engaged and showed fantastic knowledge of phonemes and syllables.



In maths, we continued our multiplication and division topic, exploring the two times table. This included doubling and halving, and the children have grown in confidence using the two times table and the multiplication symbol. In arithmetic, we revisited adding two two-digit numbers, an area the children feel very confident in, especially when racing against the clock.



Science brought lots of giggles this week as we tried to match animal offspring to their adults. We successfully matched five out of sixteen, and the children loved comparing how animals grow and change, just like they do. We then learned about how some animals are born alive while others hatch from eggs.

In geography, we explored Luxor in Egypt, identifying human and physical features and learning more about the River Nile, which the children found particularly interesting. In history, we used a timeline to order events we have learned about so far, with many children agreeing that 1969 was the most important year when Apollo 11 landed on the moon.



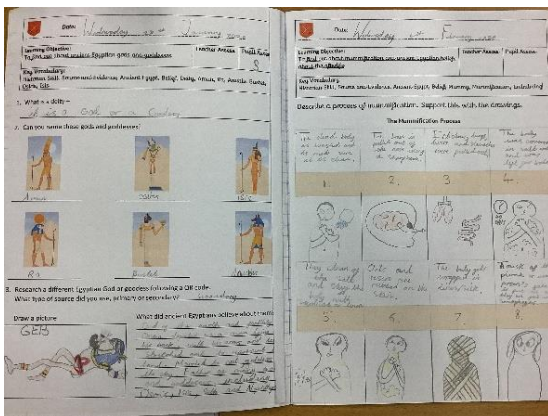
In art, the children began their Aboriginal artwork using the dot technique. This required patience and care, and they showed great skill and focus. During worship, the children have been learning about Noah's Ark. They have enjoyed creating our worship log and listening to the rap retelling the story. In computing, the children learned how to take photographs using the iPad, which resulted in lots of smiles and fun poses.

Have a lovely weekend, Year 2. There is just one more week until half term, and the children are continuing to work so hard. Well done to them all. Miss Boulter



It has been another busy and enjoyable week in Class 3-4.

In Maths, Year 4 learned how to divide one- and two-digit numbers by 10 and 100 using place value, while Year 3 continued exploring fractions by identifying the whole, recognising equal parts, and representing fractions on number lines and bar models.



In English, we began our new story-retell unit based on *The Lighthouse Keeper's Mystery*. The children identified key features of a good retell—such as sequencing and descriptive language—and practised short retells of key events. We will continue building on this next week.

In Science, we looked at different types of rocks and discussed how their properties determine their uses in everyday life.

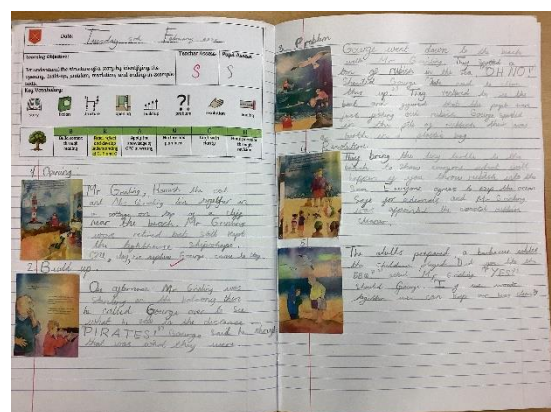
In History, we continued our work on Ancient Egypt by learning about the mummification process, which the children found especially fascinating.

In Art, we completed our 3-D Indian elephant models, decorating them in the colourful, detailed style inspired by the Elephant Festival.

In Geography, we continued learning about Brazil, focusing on the main physical features of the Amazon Rainforest and why it is such an important environment.

In RE, we explored how Muslims worship Allah, looking closely at the importance of a prayer mat and creating our own designs using meaningful colours and patterns.

In ICT, we began learning about how images can be retouched and edited using special effects. The children discussed why people may choose to retouch photos and considered both the positive and negative impacts of editing images. They were introduced to different retouching tools and had the opportunity to use them to enhance photos—thinking carefully about which tools were most appropriate for different types of improvements. Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Miss Campbell





This week in Year 5/6 has been filled with purposeful learning, thoughtful discussion and plenty of opportunities for pupils to demonstrate our St Paul's values of trust, respect, equality, friendship, love, honesty, perseverance, belief and courage. It has been wonderful to see these qualities shining through in both their work and their interactions with one another.

We brought our narrative unit to an end by completing our first-person stories based on *Treason* by Berlie Doherty. Pupils carefully selected their narrators and developed inner thoughts and emotions to give their writing real depth and authenticity.

In Reading, we focused on *Callum* by Matt Goodfellow, using our inference skills to explore the poem's meaning and emotional impact. Pupils showed growing confidence in interpreting more complex texts.

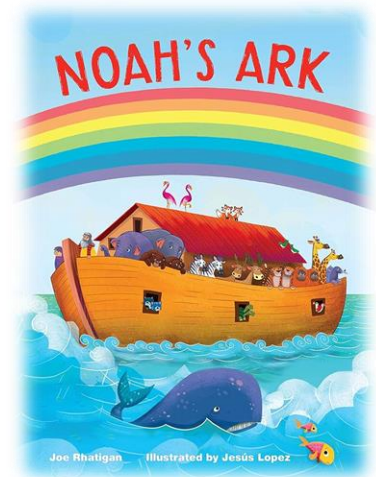
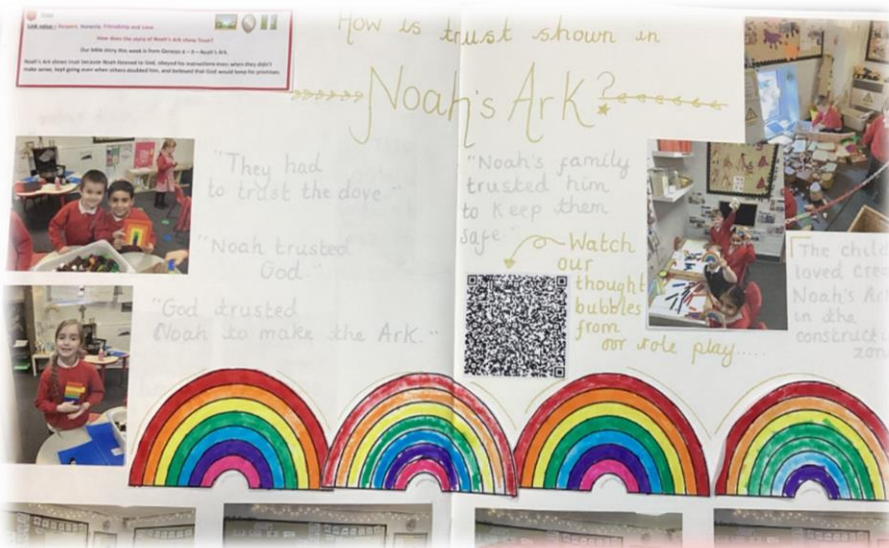
In Maths, we concluded our Fractions unit with an assessment and a follow-up 'lightbulb' lesson to address any remaining gaps, particularly multiplying mixed numbers by integers.

Our Geography lessons took us further along the journey of a river as we began learning about the River Nile and its global significance. In Science, we studied Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution, exploring how his observations transformed scientific thinking. In History, we examined the global impact of the end of World War II, including the creation of the United Nations and its role in promoting international cooperation. In RE, we learned about the pilgrimage to Makkah and reflected on its importance for Muslims.



To celebrate Lunar New Year in Art, pupils created beautiful Chinese lanterns inspired by their own "Four Gentlemen" watercolour paintings. In Computing, we continued developing our storyboards in preparation for filming. In PSHE, we discussed friendships and relationships and continued our Dreams and Goals unit by looking at the importance of different job roles in society.

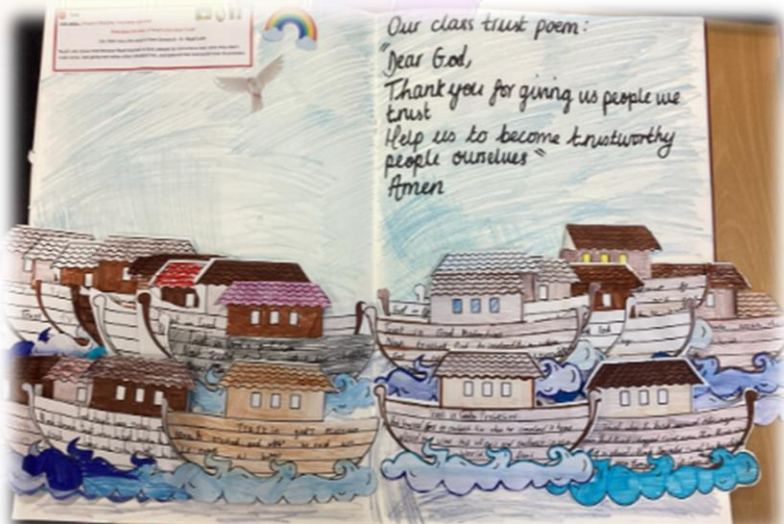
Our Class Worship Logs



How does the story of Noah's Ark show Trust?

Our bible story this week is from Genesis 6 – 9 – Noah's Ark.

Noah's Ark shows trust because Noah listened to God, obeyed his instructions even when they didn't make sense, kept going even when others doubted him, and believed that God would keep his promises.





Reception – Mahrukh
 Year 1 – Maelynn
 Year 2 – Lily
 Year 3 – Anthony
 Year 4 – Assma
 Year 5 – Maame
 Year 6 – Rami

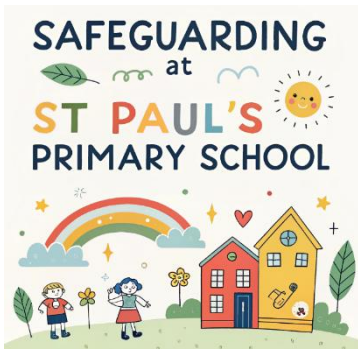


Reception – Rose
 Year 1 – Lumen
 Year 2 – Daniel
 Year 3 – Dimitar
 Year 4 – Arjun
 Year 5 – Phoebe
 Year 6 – Jaren





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

