



# St Paul's Primary School



**'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 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

## **Message from the Headteacher**

Good afternoon,

Well we have made it to the end of January! It seems to have been the longest month and as we enter February, we cannot believe we only have 2 weeks to go until half term!

February is thought of as a month of love and positivity as we begin to see lighter nights and hopefully some brighter days.

We have a couple of events for February in the next 2 weeks including Safer Internet Day and our Valentine's Disco on the last day of term.

We've had a lovely week in school, starting with sharing a story from the bible in Worship, linked to our theme of Trust. We heard about the Storm on the lake from Mark 4:35-41, a story showing a time when Jesus showed his faith and trust in God and the disciples learned that they can put their trust in Jesus.

On Thursday it was RNLI day – where the Community Leaders took centre stage in leading whole school assembly, teaching the children about the dangers at the beach and how we can keep ourselves safe. The children went back to class to create videos of scenarios to show what they had learned – and we definitely have some budding actors in the making!

Our Digital Leaders and Reading leaders also met this week to discuss their up-coming events – Safer Internet Day on February 10<sup>th</sup> and World Book Day on March 5<sup>th</sup>, and they have had some great ideas! This week you have had Library Visit letters for Y2-6 as trips have been planned for after half-term.

We have also got some exciting news that our Forest School will be starting again in a few weeks' time. We will give more information closer to the time as to which classes this will involve, but we will be sending an information leaflet where we would very much appreciate your help!

There are definitely lots of things to look forward to as we head towards Spring.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Gaskell and the St Paul's Team



# Useful Information



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](mailto: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



## 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

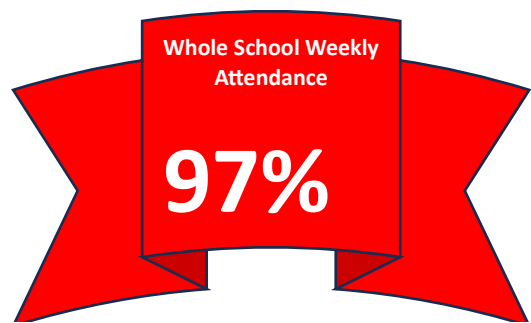
Children will come to school on a **Friday** in PE Kit



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	95.8%
Year 2	98.4%
Year 3/4	96.9%
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.



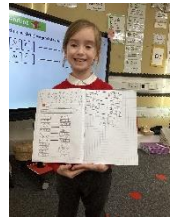


What another fantastic week we have had in Reception and Year 1!

This week in English, Year 1 have continued their Stick Man writing journey. The children carefully spent time looking back in their books and carefully chose what snippets of writing they wanted to include in their plan for their re-tell. They worked extremely hard when it came to our big writing day to ensure that they included all the grammar skills needed. The end results were fantastic! In Reception, the children have continued to work hard to develop their accuracy of forming capital letters. They have been *WOW-ing* us this week with their spelling also. Their recall of tricky words in Phonics is progressing so much,

and I can see that the extra practise at home is certainly paying off!

In Maths this week, Year 1 have been comparing and ordering numbers within 20. They then moved on to begin to look at their new addition and subtraction topic. They started by using a number line to show the addition and then moved on to practising some fluency style questions in their books. Reception have had the opportunity to continue exploring mass and using the balance scales in the provision this week. They have also reviewed their learning of 1 more and 1 less than 6, 7 and 8. The children were confident recalling these through songs and rhymes.



In Science this week, Year 1 focussed on what offspring are. The children were able to match each animal offspring to their correct adult. We had a class discussion about how offspring change as they grow into adults and if they look similar or different, this sparked a few interesting discussion points! In Geography, we focused on identifying the human features of Stafford. The children worked in groups to find these on maps of Stafford. We also looked at these on Google Earth; the children were very excited about finding these human features and seeing familiar places in Stafford too! In History, the children learnt about Katherine Johnson and what she was famous for. They loved learning that she had a very important role in the Apollo 11 Moon Landing, which we learnt about last week.



In Reception this week, the children have continued learning how to read a map. They went into the outdoor area this week as they were set the challenge to draw a map of the space. They carefully went around and talked about all the key things they would need on their maps. We also continued learning about Chinese New Year, the children learnt about some traditions that happen during the celebrations, and they also made their own Chinese lanterns as well. The children practised their colour mixing this week to create and paint their own superhero capes. The children are beginning to remember the colour combinations well!



Well done on another positive week filled with lots of determination! *Miss Goddard*



What a fabulous week in Year 2! We have had so much fun and completed lots of learning in just five days.

We began the week with our amazing Australia Day, and the children really came dressed the part. Thank you to everyone who brought something in; it was wonderful to see the range of Australian-themed items we all had at home. The day started with an English lesson focusing on apostrophes for contractions, followed by a maths lesson exploring equal groups with Australian links. In the afternoon, we learned about what Australia Day is and why it is celebrated.



The children took part in a carousel of activities which included a bush tucker trial with Marmite tasting, using an atlas to decorate and label a map of Australia, role play of an Aussie barbeque, and capybara colouring, which was very popular. We finished the day with kangaroo jumping, dancing to The Loco-Motion by Kylie Minogue, and some fun tattoos. The children showed fantastic enthusiasm and a real love of learning.



In English, we have continued working towards producing our narrative. The children have worked incredibly hard to include all the writing devices we have learned, and it has been lovely to see their progress. In maths, we introduced the multiplication symbol, and the children are learning that the multiplication sign shows lots of or groups of.



In history, we had a great lesson all about Katherine Johnson and her important impact on space history. The children appreciated how brave and courageous she was. In science, we learned about adults and their offspring, and the children impressed us with their excellent knowledge of animal young and their adult names.



In music the children have loved exploring the band Queen in relation to rock music. We have looked at the different instruments used, practised getting the beat and brought in some instruments ourselves.



In art we continued our Australian Aboriginal art, using the cross-hatching technique and we listened to the dreamtime stories they used to help us create our fish.



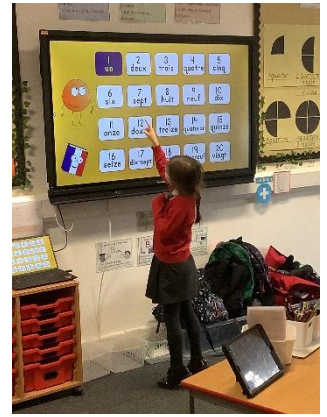
Well, done, Year 2. I am so proud of all your hard work and positive attitudes this week. Have a lovely weekend, ready for another brilliant week of learning.

*Miss Boulter.*



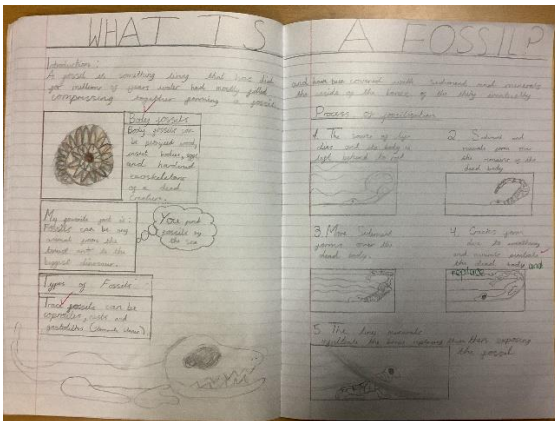
Let us share what we have been learning this week.

**In Maths**, Year 4 have been working hard to complete their Fractions unit, learning how to add and subtract to and from mixed numbers. Meanwhile, Year 3 have begun their Fractions unit and have enjoyed learning how to understand, order, and compare unit fractions.



**In English**, we have been learning how to write a diary entry. Today, the children produced their first drafts, which looked fantastic. Tomorrow, they will be learning how to edit their work using technology, with a focus on improving spellings.

**In Science**, we continued our unit on rocks and learned about fossils, including what they are and the process of fossilisation. At the end of the topic, the children applied their learning by writing a non-chronological report about fossils.



**In ICT**, the children continued to develop their image-editing skills. They explored how to make changes to images by adjusting effects, colours, saturation, and other visual features.

**In RE**, we have been learning about mosques, with a particular focus on the features of mosque gardens. The children explored why these gardens are important to Muslims and how they help prepare for prayer.

**In Geography**, we continued our learning about the rainforest and began exploring Brazil, identifying its location within the continent of South America.



**In History**, we are continuing our unit on Ancient Egypt. This week, we learned about Egyptian beliefs and explored some of their gods and goddesses, including what they represented.

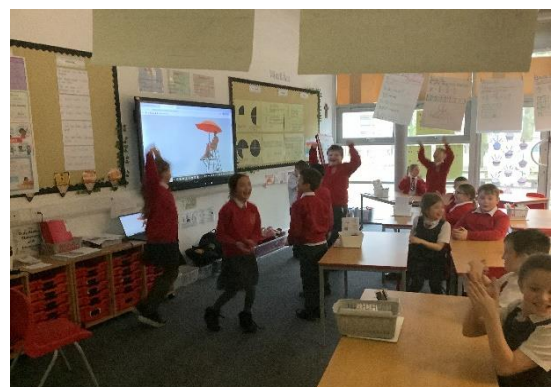
**In PE**, the children took part in a fantastic lesson with Mr Farmer, where they worked on gymnastics and created alphabet letters using their bodies.



**In PSHE**, we started a project focused on designing a garden. The children worked in teams, sharing different roles and responsibilities.

Finally, as part of our Global Neighbours work, we learned about the RNLI. The children acted out a seaside scene where they had to get a lifeguard's attention.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.  
*Miss Campbell*





The fourth week of the Spring term has been another purposeful and engaging one for our Year 5/6 class, with pupils continuing to show curiosity, focus and a real enthusiasm for their learning.

In Writing, the children built on their work linked to *Treason* by Berlie Doherty by practising key grammar skills that will strengthen their upcoming first-person narratives. They explored the use of passive voice, experimented with hyphenated words and refined their use of semi-colons, all of which will help them write with greater precision and control.



In Reading, our focus shifted to non-fiction texts about the RNLI and SOS Day. Pupils learned about the vital work carried out by the RNLI, discussed the importance of water safety and reflected on the bravery of volunteers who risk their lives to help others. They practised retrieving key information and explaining their ideas clearly using evidence from the texts.



In Maths, pupils worked hard to deepen their understanding of fractions by multiplying unit and non-unit fractions, as well as mixed numbers, by integers. They showed determination as they applied different strategies and explained their reasoning.



In Science, we continued exploring inheritance, this time looking closely at why siblings are not identical. Pupils learned about dominant and recessive genes and discussed how different combinations can lead to variation within families.

In Geography, we continued to develop our understanding of rivers, revisiting the upper, middle and lower course and examining the processes and features found at each stage. Pupils used geographical vocabulary confidently to describe how rivers change as they travel from source to mouth.



In History, we moved forward in time to explore life in post-war Britain. Pupils learned about the challenges faced by the country after World War II and discovered how the NHS came into existence, discussing why it became such an important part of British society.

In PSHE, we began our Dreams and Goals unit. Pupils created their own "dream clouds," thinking about their aspirations and the steps they might take to achieve them.

In Computing, pupils began planning their storyboards in preparation for filming their videos next week, considering how to sequence scenes and communicate ideas effectively.

In RE, we explored the third pillar of Islam, Zakat, and reflected on the importance of giving to charity and supporting those in need.

It has been another thoughtful and productive week, and we are incredibly proud of the children's continued effort, curiosity and growing independence as learners.

Miss Wetton



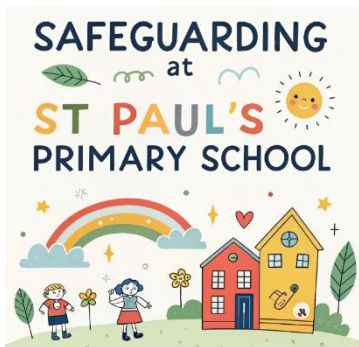


Reception – Finn  
 Year 1 – Albie  
 Year 2 – Nevaeh  
 Year 3 – Ewan  
 Year 4 – Joseph  
 Year 5 – Daisy  
 Year 6 – Kayson



Reception – Bobby  
 Year 1 – Sushanth  
 Year 2 – Mohammad  
 Year 3 – Elli  
 Year 4 – Beth  
 Year 5 – Aaron  
 Year 6 – Logan





**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

