



'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 27th February 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon,

This week saw our Community Leaders take centre stage again to lead an assembly about Dementia – what it is, how it can affect people's lives. We used the phrase 'Staying afloat in a boat' and the children went back into class to carry out some thoughtful discussion and create some beautiful work.

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March where this year children can come as their favourite character or in cosy pyjamas – we wanted to give children the option 😊 We will also be holding our popular WBD Breakfast in the hall on the Thursday morning from 7:45am where you can come into school with your child and enjoy sharing a book and chatting with friends. Please book in with the office no later than Monday.

We will also be holding competitions and taking part in whole school activities throughout the day including our book swap tombola. We would like every child to bring in a pre-loved book (one that has been read and loved – but still got lots of life in it! All it's pages and no scribbles!) The book will then go into a tombola for another child to pick out. Our aim is that every child on WBD will go home with a 'new-to-them' book to enjoy and will hopefully be the beginning of our book swap bookcase at school!

We are also very lucky that Year 2 are off to the library on World Book Day to take part in some activities and hopefully come away with a book that they have chosen. Year 3/4 are going on Thursday 12th March and Year 5/6 on Thursday 19th March.

World Book Day really is one of our favourite days in the school calendar as reading can be so magical, taking readers to a whole new world – and I know that the Reading Leaders are very excited to share their love for reading.

Next week we are looking forward to welcome some of our parents into school to talk about their children and the ways in which we are supporting their additional needs. This will be a lovely chance to talk specifically about targets, additional to the whole school parents evening in the last week of term.

We hope you have a lovely weekend

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

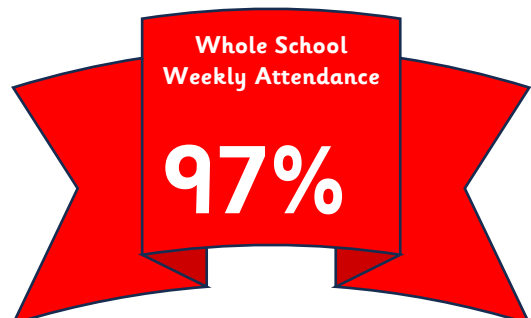
Children will come to school on a **Friday** in PE Kit



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	96.3
Year 2	98.3
Year 3/4	96.7
Year 5/6	96.7



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

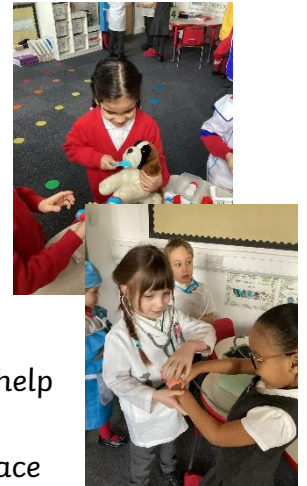
This term our target as a school is 96%. To help children to achieve this we will be inviting parents into school to speak with Miss Gaskell to look at ways in which we can support to raise the attendance of your child. We will be launching attendance awards and leading assemblies with the children so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





What a fantastic first week back we have had in Reception and Year 1. The children have returned to the classroom with such a positive attitude towards their learning.

In Year 1 this week, the children began a new writing journey on Vets. This writing journey is a new genre for them as they will be writing an information piece. We spent lots of time exploring non-fiction texts and understanding how these are different to stories. The children loved embodying the role of the people who help



us in some role-play activities. Reception have begun some more structured writing this week, practising writing simple phrases and ensuring a finger space is used in between each word. The children have made a brilliant start with this and applying their phonics and letter formation into this work also.



In Maths this week, Year 1 have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes. They have used concrete resources to help identify and name each shape as well as completing some sorting activities too. The children then moved their learning onto building patterns using both 2D and 3D shapes. Reception this week have explored length and height. They have used key vocabulary to explain finding long and short items in the classroom. They loved

comparing heights with each other and finding the tallest and shortest person in the class too!

In Geography, we continued our learning on our local area. The children were able to locate St Pauls on a map of Stafford; they then used the iPads to find the school on goggle maps! In Science this week, Year 1 learnt about how offsprings don't always look their adults. The children engaged in lots of discussions about different examples of this. In History, the children had an introduction to their new topic of People Who Changed the World. They began by looking at significant people they have learnt about this year including Pablo Fanque, Katherine Johnson and Galileo. They also discussed important people in their own lives and how this is individual for each child.



In Reception this week, we have introduced our new theme of Vets and Pets. The children have dived straight into this and loved role-playing in our Vets Surgery and using new vocabulary in their play as

well. We have learnt about the specific things Vets do to help animals, including checking their weight, their temperature and giving vaccinations to baby animals to keep the safe and protected. We have also discussed pancake day, the children shared what they had on their pancakes, and we learnt about how Shrove Tuesday represents the beginning of Lent. The children also had a go at drawing with more detail this week. They followed step-by-step instructions on how to draw a cat. The children really impressed me with how well they follow the instructions, and the end results were amazing.



The children have all be amazing this week and made such a positive start to the term. Well done everyone! *Miss Goddard*

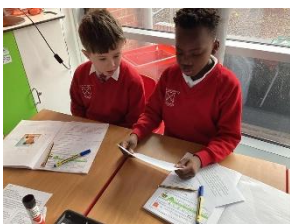


What a great week back! The children have returned ready to learn and have shown fantastic perseverance in all areas of their learning.

We began our new English Branches journey focusing on the book *The Proudest Blue*. The children started by exploring our main character, Faizah, through a look book activity. They had a brilliant lesson mapping her emotions and feelings across the story using a story map. We also explored the features of a diary, reading extracts linked to Katherine Johnson, Neil Armstrong and Mary Seacole. Towards the end of the week, our focus was



using the first person, including key words such as I, me, our and we.



In spelling, we focused on the pattern 'wr' making the r sound. The children wrote some fabulous sentences using their spelling words and confidently identified the correct phonemes and syllable breaks. In reading, as part of our VIPERS work, we focused on sequencing. The children worked hard to order statements correctly based on events from different chapters, showing great attention to detail.



In maths, we started our new unit on length. The children impressed me with how carefully they used metre sticks and rulers to measure and compare centimetres and metres. They showed good accuracy



and began applying rounding skills when measuring different objects around the classroom. In arithmetic, we focused on multiplying by 2, and the children are becoming increasingly confident with their knowledge of the two times table.

In geography, we began our new topic comparing Stafford with Tulum in Mexico. This week, we explored the equator and learned how countries closer to it experience warmer weather because of their position in relation to the sun.



In history, we introduced our new topic, People Who Have Changed the World. The children revisited important figures we have already learned about this year and re-enacted their achievements and emotions. We also took time to think about people in our own lives who are important and make a difference.



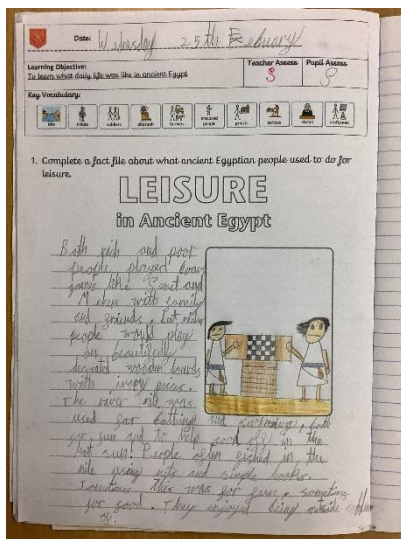
In science, we explored how offspring can sometimes look different from their parents. We discussed life cycles and carefully ordered and labelled the life cycle of a frog. The children enjoyed learning how animals grow and change as they develop.

Well done, Year 2, for another fantastic week of learning. I am very excited for us to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday! Miss Boulter.



We have had an incredible first week back!

In **Maths**, Year 3 have been learning all about mass and capacity, exploring scales and comparing equivalent masses. Year 4 have been working on multiplication and division, focusing on place value and how to multiply and divide by 10 and 100, including when crossing whole-number boundaries.



In **English**, we have begun our new writing journey inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's wonderful tale *The Princess and the Pea*. The children have been learning what a play and a playscript are, who they are written for, and how the writing style differs from narrative speech. This is all in preparation for writing their very own playscript based on this famous story.

In **Reading**, children have started to tackle multi-domain questions, combining the skills of inference and explanation.

In **History**, we have continued our learning about Ancient Egypt, focusing on what everyday life was like for ancient Egyptians and the important role the River Nile played in their civilisation.

In **Geography**, we carried on exploring Brazil, looking at its different regions and learning about urbanisation, including the push and pull factors that lead people to move.

In **Art**, we continued our work on Indian art. This week, the children used the 3D stamps they created to produce traditional Indian pattern prints.

In **PSHE**, we have been reflecting on the importance of teamwork and how to overcome challenges by focusing on what connects us.

In **Science**, we began our brand-new unit on the digestive system. In our first lesson, we explored what the digestive system is, the key organs involved, and the role each one plays in the digestion process.

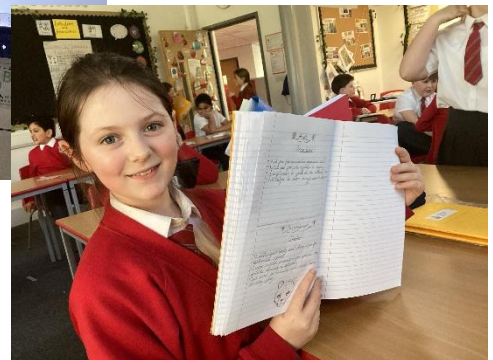


In **Computing**, we also started a new unit on data logging and interpreting data. I am sure the children will be telling you all about their exciting new learning.

Wishing you all a restful weekend, hopefully filled with sunshine.

Miss Campbell



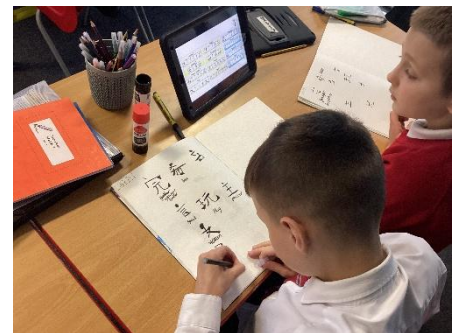


We've had a fantastic first week back after the February half term, with pupils showing great enthusiasm and quickly settling into our new Spring 2 learning.

In Reading, we explored Shaun Tan's *The Arrival*, using detailed inference to understand its visual storytelling and gradually uncover its themes around refugees and belonging. Pupils shared thoughtful ideas about the imagery and were incredibly reflective. In Writing, we began drafting the first segments of our Henry VIII podcast, focusing on using parenthesis and cohesive devices to add clarity and impact. In Maths, we continued our decimals unit by comparing and ordering numbers up to thousandths and linking these to fractions.



Our wider curriculum has been equally busy. In History, we launched our new topic on castles, exploring why they were built and why communities chose to settle around them.



Children were sent home with an optional Motte-and-Bailey model activity—completely voluntary, but we would love to see photos of any creations, and there will be prizes for particularly inventive ones. In Geography, we looked more closely at the River Nile Delta, explaining how deposition forms its triangle-shaped landscape and why the surrounding land is so fertile and vital for farming.

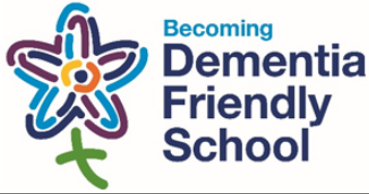


In Science, pupils presented and discussed different animal adaptations, comparing how species are specially suited to survive in their climate or biome. We also began our new RE unit on Salvation, thinking about why Christians believe humans needed saving and how Jesus is viewed as a rescuer. To finish the week, pupils enjoyed practising the correct brushstroke order for Chinese calligraphy in Art, and in PSHE we were inspired by a live interview with Britain's "Best Female Engineer," leading to thoughtful discussions about dreams, goals and future aspirations.



Our Class Worship

Becoming a Dementia Friendly School



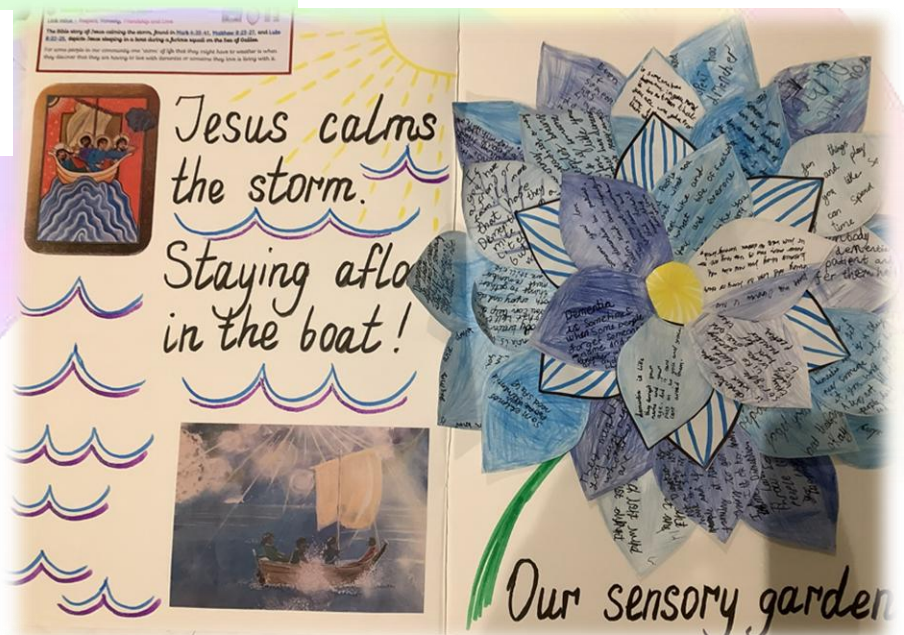
We want:

- ALL IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY (pupils, staff, and families) to be aware of dementia and to understand how to stay in step as patterns change through advancing dementia.
- ALL IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY (pupils, staff, and families) affected by dementia to be welcomed, understood, respected and supported.



This week in Collective Worship, the children were introduced to one of our new projects, led by Miss Wetton and the Community Leaders. The children thought back to a bible story we read last half term, where Jesus calms the storm, and how this story can help people in situations where they are facing storms in their lives.

<https://www.dementiauk.org/get-support/resources/children/>





Reception – Adelaide
 Year 1 – Hoorish
 Year 2 – Nevaeh
 Year 3 – Clemmie
 Year 4 – Rupert
 Year 5 – Eva
 Year 6 – Tyler

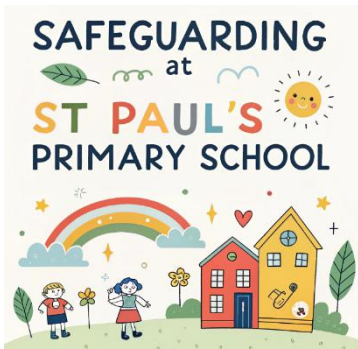


Reception – Albert
 Year 1 – Thomas
 Year 2 – Henry
 Year 3 – Amira
 Year 4 – Ryan
 Year 5 – Aous
 Year 6 – Logan





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

