



'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 13th March 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon,

We've had a wonderfully busy and inspiring week in school as we celebrated *Science Week* with the theme: "**Curiosity – What's your question?**" The children have been full of enthusiasm, investigating, exploring and asking fantastic questions throughout the week. A special well-done to our Science Leaders and Miss Campbell, who confidently launched the week by leading our whole-school assembly. They made us very proud!

Alongside our scientific explorations, we have also been practising hard for our **Easter Church Service**. A gentle reminder that you are warmly invited to join us on **Tuesday 24th March at 10:00am**. The children are very excited to share their songs, readings and reflections with you.

This week it was **Year 3 and 4's turn to visit Stafford Library**, and they absolutely loved their time exploring new books and enjoying stories. Please remember that the children have borrowed a *library book*, which needs to be returned **directly to Stafford Library** rather than school. **Year 5 and 6** will be enjoying their visit next week.

We also have **Parents' Evening** coming up in the **last week of this half term**. Appointment times have now been sent out, so please do check your messages. This will be a valuable opportunity to look through your child's latest assessment information and discuss their progress with the class teacher.

We finished the week on a truly lovely note by celebrating all the special women in our lives with our **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea**. It was such a joy to see so many families spending quality time together—and *enjoying plenty of cake!* Thank you so much for attending, and as always, an enormous thank you to Mo and our brilliant team for hosting afternoon tea for over **150 people**. What an achievement!

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and fingers crossed for some spring sunshine to brighten our days.

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

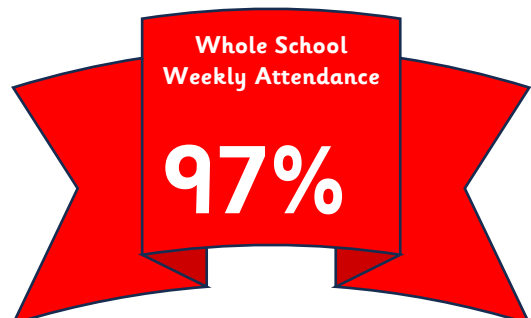
Children will come to school on a **Friday** in PE Kit



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	96.5
Year 2	98.4
Year 3/4	96.5
Year 5/6	96.8



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.





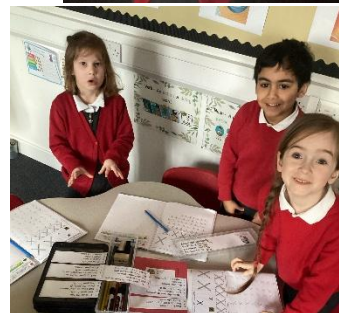
What a fantastic week we have had in Reception and Year 1!

The children have been working so hard on their assessments this week, it is amazing to see all of their hard work and effort come through in these moments. We have seen lots of perseverance this week as well, well done!

This week in English, Year 1 have begun a new writing journey based off the Little Red Hen. The children will be writing instructions on how to



make a jam sandwich to bring to a Spring Picnic (which the children are VERY excited for!). The children have loved building their understanding of instructions this week through different practical activities. They discovered how important clear and sequenced steps are when writing instructions. They also practised their oral rehearsal of giving instructions as well. In



Reception, the children have continued to work hard on their phrases, and they are now using finger spaces more consistently and without prompt which is super progress!

In Reception this week, the children have been looking at their number bonds to 10, exploring two numbers that go together to make 10. The children are becoming more confident at recalling these facts now and have enjoyed using the Numicon and part-whole models to show their bonds.

As part of British Science Week, the children completed a few different experiments based off this year's theme 'Curiosity'. Year 1 children completed a balloon rocket experiment as well as an exploration around ecosystems. In Reception, the children made a time capsule. They thought about what they would look like in a year, what their favourite food could be and how much taller they may be in a years' time. The children were very curious about all of these things.



In Reception, the children have been immersed in learning within provision.



They have loved constructing volcanoes and machines in the construction area. They have also been practising their cutting skills and applying these skills to create their own Mother's Day bouquets. They have been so focused on completing each step of this independently! In RE this week, the children have read and discussed the Easter Story to build an understanding of the story and why we



celebrate this time of year.

Well done on another fantastic week Reception and Year 1. Have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Goddard



Well done Year 2! We have had a very busy week.

The children have been working hard completing their assessments and have tried their best in all of them. I am very proud of the effort they have shown and the progress they are making. Keep going Year 2!



Alongside our assessments, we began our new Branches journey. Over the next two weeks we will be focusing on the story *The Gigantic Turnip*. The children will be working towards writing their own narrative retell next Friday. In our first lesson the class enjoyed exploring



the book and meeting all of the characters. It has the most characters we have had in a story so far. Many of the children were also fans of the turnip mash we tried on Tuesday.



In English, the children have been learning about adverbs, focusing on words ending in *ly* to describe how actions are done in our story. We then moved on to using commas in lists to organise groups such as animals, vegetables and days of the week. To finish the week, we explored time words such as *next* and *finally* to help begin sentences in our narrative writing.

The children have also been learning about apostrophes for possession, which can be quite tricky.



We compared these with apostrophes for contraction to help understand the difference between them.

In Geography, we explored Tulum and compared its physical features with where we live, discussing both similarities and differences. Unfortunately, we do not have the same beautiful beaches as Tulum.

It was also British Science Week. The children loved taking part in the balloon rocket experiment. We first completed it together as a class and then the children worked in groups. They asked lots of questions, showing great curiosity, and were very excited when the rockets travelled across the classroom.



In History, we role played being Julius Caesar and the Roman army. Some of the children were soldiers while others took on the role of Julius, helping us to imagine what it might have been like to rule the Romans.

Finally, we spent time carefully creating our Mother's Day cards in preparation for our Mother's Day afternoon.

Well done Year 2 for working so hard this week. I am very proud of you all. Miss Boulter



This week, the children worked incredibly hard as they began their termly assessment fortnight.

In between completing their assessments, we continued with our exciting learning across the curriculum. Here is what we've been up to...



Maths - Year 3 learned what an angle is and practised identifying and comparing acute, obtuse, and right angles. They also explored how to measure and draw accurately using a ruler, working in both centimetres and millimetres.

Year 4 focused on units of time, converting between seconds, minutes, hours, and days.

They also worked on converting between analogue clocks and 12-hour digital times.



English - We have started a new learning journey on persuasive writing. This week, the children looked at examples of persuasive leaflets and learned to identify and name their key features.



Geography - We explored Brazil as a tourist destination, discovering some of its most famous landmarks, including Christ the Redeemer and the Carioca Aqueduct.

RE - Our learning centred on how Christians remember the Last Supper during Communion and in Maundy Thursday services.



Science - As part of Science Week, we completed two exciting experiments:

1. Balloon Rockets – where children investigated forces and explored Newton's Third Law of Motion: For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.
2. How Birds Build Nests – children had the chance to construct their own nests and test their strength against simulated strong wind and rain.

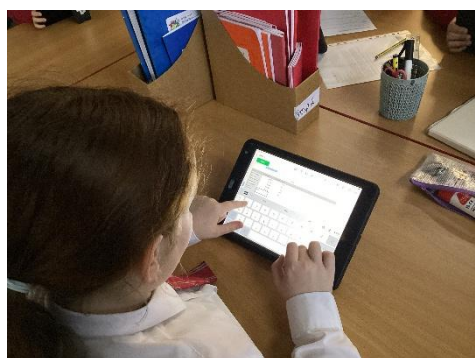
Of course, we also enjoyed our trip to Stafford Town Library. The children loved exploring the books and even left their expert opinions and recommendations for future visitors!

Wishing you all a restful weekend and a very **Happy Mother's Day!**
Miss Campbell





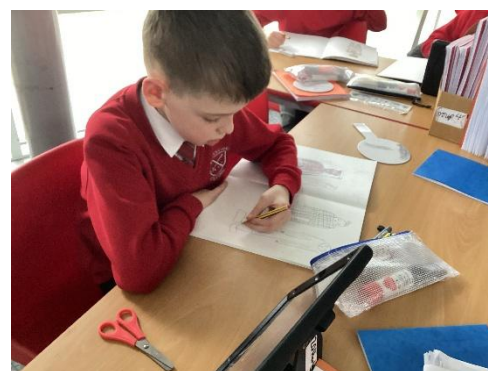
It's been a packed but fantastic week in Year 5/6, and we're so proud of how hard the children have worked—especially during their assessments. They showed brilliant resilience and gave everything their best effort.



Alongside assessments, we've kept learning exciting across all subjects. In writing, the children have been creating their own podcast scripts, and in reading they've been practising key skills like vocabulary work, summarising, sequencing and explaining. In geography, we explored how hydroelectric power on the River Nile is produced and why it matters to the people who live nearby. In history, the children compared Stone Age

and Bronze Age tools and discussed how technology changed over time.

In RE, the class created comic strips showing the resurrection from the disciples' point of view, showing great empathy and creativity. We also began new units in PSHE—looking at how we stay healthy—and in computing, where we started exploring spreadsheets.



Science has been especially exciting this week! We learned about the Linnaean system of classification and used Venn and Carroll diagrams to sort vertebrates and invertebrates. As part of Science Week, the children also took part in a brilliant investigation: "How do scientists know how old sharks are?" They created comparison graphs and explored how shark age can be

estimated using growth bands.

The children have been enthusiastic, focused and full of curiosity—well done Year 5/6! Wishing you all a lovely weekend





Reception – Finley
 Year 1 – Robyn
 Year 2 – Victor
 Year 3 – Lana
 Year 4 – Sam
 Year 5 – Phoebe
 Year 6 – Jaren



Reception – Albert
 Year 1 – Kason
 Year 2 – Zeenat
 Year 3 – Ewan
 Year 4 – Orla
 Year 5 – Reuben
 Year 6 – Sebby





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

