



'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,

Today is the Spring Equinox marking the end of Winter and the beginning of Spring. I think we are all looking forward to some warmer days and lighter evenings.

We are hoping that we get some sunshine for our last week of term, as we are out and about and busy as always 😊

We have had a wonderfully busy and joy-filled week in school as we move towards the Easter break.

This week, Lottie led our Whole School Worship, helping the children explore the story of **Palm Sunday** and Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.

We reflected on *Matthew 21:8-9*, where crowds spread their cloaks and branches on the road and shouted "Hosanna in the highest!" The children thought about what it means to welcome Jesus with the same joy, peace, and kindness in our own lives.

Year 5 and 6 enjoyed another successful trip to **Stafford Library**, engaging brilliantly with the books, staff, and activities.

Now that **all classes have visited the library**, please can we kindly remind families that **borrowed books should be returned directly to Stafford Library**. Thank you for supporting this partnership and encouraging a love of reading.

Parents' Evening will take place next **Wednesday and Thursday**.

All appointment times have now been sent out, and we look forward to sharing assessment updates and celebrating the children's achievements with you.

We warmly invite all families to join us for our **Easter Service at St Paul's Church on Tuesday at 10:00am**. The children have been working hard on their readings and songs, and it promises to be a special celebration.

Our much-loved **Easter Bonnet Parade** will be held on **Thursday at 3:00pm**, weather permitting. The children will have had a chance to also parade in school where winners will be announced! We hope to hold the parade **outside**, and we are very excited to see the children's creations!

Year 1 and 2 are looking forward to their exciting trip to the farm next week. The children have been talking about it non-stop and it promises to be a memorable day of hands-on learning.

A reminder that our Easter Egg Hamper Raffle is now in full swing, and the hampers this year are **truly spectacular! Tickets: 50p each or 5 for £2.00**

Thank you for your support—every ticket helps raise funds for the school.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing many of you next week at Parents' Evening and our Easter events.

Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team

Raffle Tickets on Sale!

50p each or 5 for £2.

All proceeds will continue to raise funds for our school.



Reminder!



Year 5 and 6 children

For those children who have been given a form – please fill in and send back to the office.



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

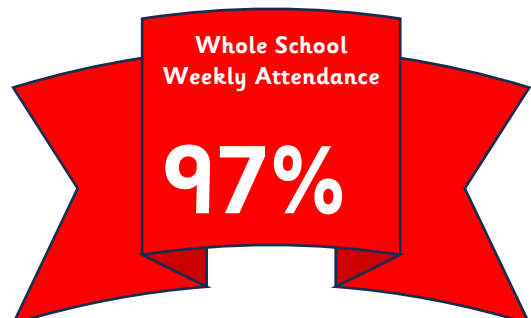
Children will come to school on a **Friday** in PE Kit



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 | 98.4 |
| Year 3/4 | 97 |
| Year 5/6 | 96.9 |



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.





We have had a fantastic week in Reception and Year 1!

This week the Year 1 children completed their writing journey on the Little Red Hen. The children worked extremely hard to write clear and sequenced instructions. Ensuring that each instruction included a verb and used 'and' to join words. The final instructions were then used for our Spring Picnic on Friday! The children worked collaboratively to listen and follow their friends' instructions before making their sandwich.

In Maths this week it has been a 'Lightbulb Week'. This means the children were revisiting previous learning based on their gaps from their assessments. We focused on missing number problems and missing symbol problems. The children completed



lots of fluency work on these skills and have shown huge improvements in completing these independently. In Reception, the children were building their knowledge and recall on number bonds and double facts to 10. The children used numicon, counters and part whole models to show these facts. We also introduced some 3D shapes and began learning their names and properties.



In Geography this week, the children used their prior knowledge of map skills to identify and name human features that surround our school. In Science, the children explored what a healthy and balanced diet looks like. They explored the different food groups and what food belongs in each. They then had to create their own balanced plate! In History, the children learnt about the significant figure Emily Pankhurst. They learnt about her story and how she changed the world. The children were very intrigued and curious about Emily's story and had lots of questions!



In Reception, the children have loved being able to get outdoors into the provision. It has been so

amazing to see their learning from the classroom be applied into different contexts. The children worked hard on completing patterns, following instructions and becoming superheroes! In RE, the children read The Last Supper and thought about what emotions Jesus and his friends would be feeling at this point in the Easter Story. The children have been using the vocabulary taller and shorter to compare



their creations in the construction area. Continuing on our theme of Vets, the role-play area has continued to be a popular area for all of the children to explore and apply their learning.

Another super week, filled with lots of new knowledge and experiences. Amazing work as always Reception and Year 1. Well done! *Miss Goddard*





Good afternoon, and what another busy and wonderful week it has been in Year 2!

In English this week, the children completed their Branches journey, writing a narrative based on *The Gigantic Turnip*. They worked hard to include time words, adverbs, expanded noun phrases, paragraphs and coordinating conjunctions. The children carefully planned their narratives using their work from their books, produced a draft and then edited their own writing. They have thoroughly enjoyed this story and it has been lovely to see their creativity shine.

Following assessment week, our grammar lessons focused on revisiting key skills. We explored noun phrases, changing words into past and present tense, and understanding the difference between exclamation and question sentences. The children showed great determination in applying these skills.



In reading, we explored the book *Talk to the Tail*. The children really enjoyed learning a range of interesting facts and were able to make inferences using the information in the text.

In maths, we had a lightbulb week where we revisited key concepts following assessments. The children worked on missing number problems, finding a quarter, making different amounts using money and solving two-step problems. In arithmetic, we focused on dividing by 2 to build on our strong understanding of multiplication, and the children approached this with confidence.



The children have continued to enjoy their geography topic on Mexico. This week, we compared the human features of Tulum and Stafford. We had some great discussions, and I had to remind the children that although Stafford does have hotels, it is not quite as popular as the sunny beaches of Tulum!

In history, the children learned about Emmeline Pankhurst and how she helped change the world. We discussed equality and how her actions link to our school values. The children showed a thoughtful understanding of why her work was so important.

In art, we had a calm and focused lesson where the children created Aboriginal-inspired pieces based on their journey to school. Their artwork told a story and showed great care and creativity.

In science, we explored healthy eating by discussing our favourite meals and identifying the different food groups on our plates. The children learned about the importance of having a balanced diet.



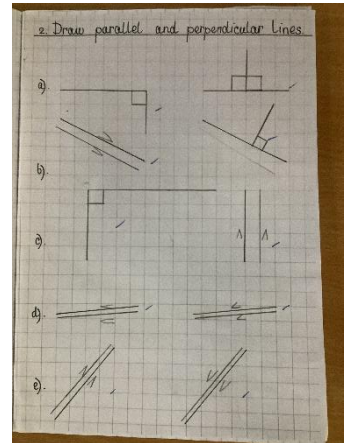
Well done, Year 2, on a fantastic week of learning. Have a lovely and hopefully sunny weekend. Miss Boulter.



This week, the children have shown great perseverance as they completed the remaining mathematics assessments. Following this, we enjoyed another week filled with fantastic learning across the curriculum.



In Math,
Year 3 continued exploring 2D shapes, learning how to recognise, describe and draw them accurately.
Year 4 made excellent progress with our time unit, practising how to read analogue and digital clocks and how to convert between the two.



In English, we have been planning our persuasive leaflet, "Join St Paul's". The children have developed strong persuasive arguments and selected wonderful photographs of our school facilities and activities. We are looking forward to completing the final write-up on Monday.

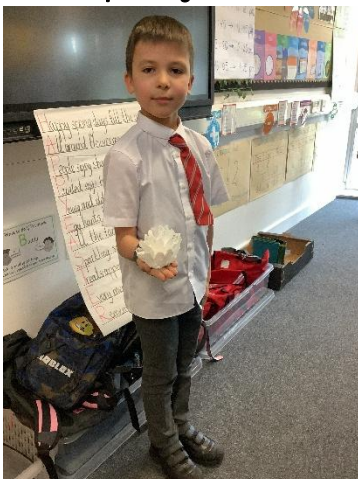
In Geography, we concluded our unit on rainforests by exploring a culture of Brazil.

In History, we completed our learning on Ancient Egypt.

In Science, the children took part in another exciting practical investigation, this time exploring how the digestive system works. They planned and carried out the experiment using fruit, biscuits, plastic bags, cups and stockings to model how food moves through the digestive system of animals, including humans.



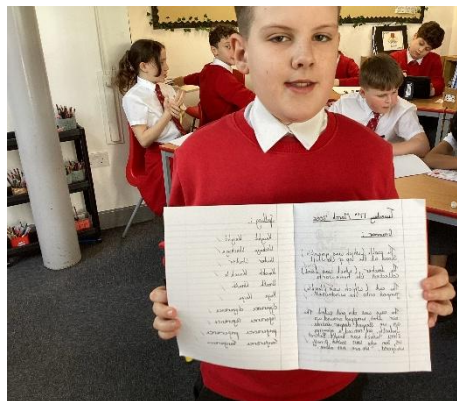
In Computing, we have been learning how to log data. The children practised collecting and recording changes over time in brightness and sound.



In Art, we began a new project creating Rangoli patterns as part of our Indian art unit, which we will complete next Monday.

Wishing you all a sunny and restful weekend.
Miss Campbell





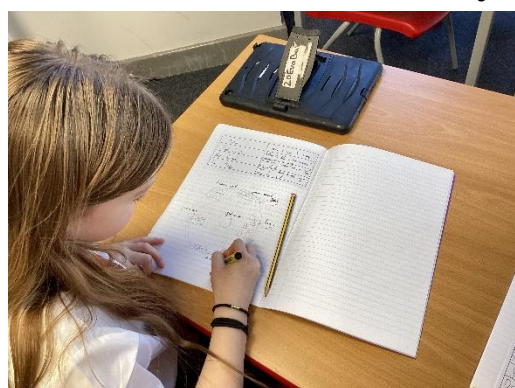
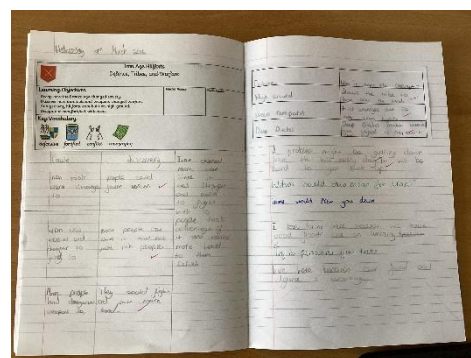
We've had another productive and engaging week in Year 5/6, with pupils showing excellent focus and enthusiasm in all their learning. In Writing, the children began a brand-new narrative journey still linked to *Treason* by Berlie Doherty, but this time writing from the perspective of one of Henry VIII's wives—chosen individually by each pupil. They have already begun to explore voice, emotions and historical context from this unique point of view. In Reading, we continued to strengthen key comprehension skills through a variety of short texts. In Maths, we started our new unit on perimeter and area, focusing first on polygons and rectilinear shapes and how to calculate their measurements accurately.



Across the wider curriculum, pupils have been busy deepening their understanding of our topic work. In Geography, we continued our case study of the River Nile, discussing the importance of the river and the many ways it is used by communities living along its banks. In History, we moved into the Iron Age and explored hillforts—thinking carefully about why they were built, what they were used for and what they reveal about life at the time. In Science, the

children identified a range of invertebrates, comparing their features and classifying them into groups using scientific vocabulary.

In RE, we examined different Christian viewpoints on salvation and discussed how beliefs about rescue, forgiveness and redemption vary within Christianity. Art lessons were especially exciting this week as pupils created their own terracotta soldiers out of clay—ready to form an impressive painted army next week. In



Computing, we began building our own data sets by entering information into spreadsheets, developing accuracy and understanding of digital organisation. In PSHE, we learned about the importance of our reactions during emergencies and how staying calm and clear-headed can help keep people safe. It's been a week full of creativity, curiosity and thoughtful discussion.



Reception – Rose
 Year 1 – Thomas
 Year 2 – Joseph
 Year 3 – Isaac
 Year 4 – Archie
 Year 5 – Maame
 Year 6 – Tyler

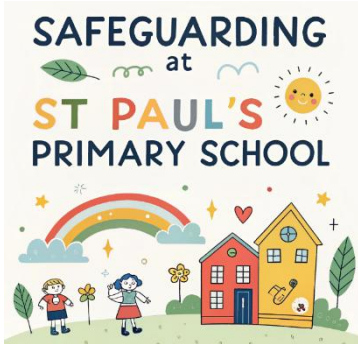


Reception – Oliver
 Year 1 – Charlie
 Year 2 – Eleanor
 Year 3 – Anthony
 Year 4 – Oliver
 Year 5 – Lukian
 Year 6 – Niamh





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

