



'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 24th April 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon,

What a busy week we have had in school, and I cannot believe where the time has gone.

As mentioned last week we are in the middle of recruitment at St Pauls. This involved lots of lesson observations on Wednesday and Thursday from candidates and the children were incredible. Our values shone through and their attitudes to learning were simply amazing. With the added heat and the change to their normal routines we were beyond proud of their efforts and achievements. A huge well done to the whole school! Next week we continue with some more tasks from candidates as we work towards finding the new staff team.

It was lovely as always to welcome Lottie in to lead Whole School Collective Worship continuing our theme on Service. Lottie and the children demonstrated examples of how we can serve – through showing the children how helping without being asked, or without seeking reward is something we can do in our lives to swerve others.

On Friday Years 2-5 had the chance to go to Victoria Park and work with the Local Group 'Friends of Victoria Park' who had organised lots of events, tents and tasks for our children to take part in. We really are so lucky in Stafford to have so much history and so many wonderful places to visit to help us learn about where we live and the history we have – as well as also thinking about the future of our local area and how we can look after our planet. As always the children were so well behaved – the sunshine also added to such a wonderful day with lots of fun, ice lollies and smiles. We hope you all liked your plants that came home and we look forward to seeing the progress of how well they have grown. We started clubs this week, and with one of them being Gardening – I am hoping that the children use their new skills of planting for helping us to make our grounds look beautiful in the coming weeks.

Thankyou for baring with us last week as we have a few technological changes in school – new broadband has meant some issues, but hopefully they are all resolved now! Over the next few weeks we are also looking at our apps for communication, and will be introducing new ways in which we can contact you about school life.

Have a lovely weekend

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls 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

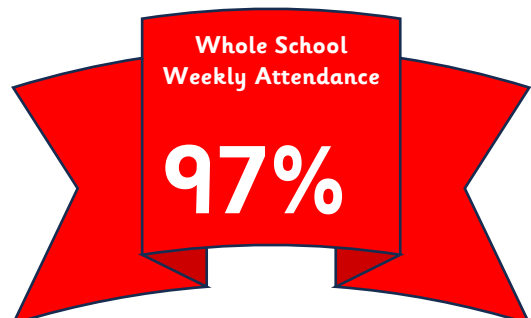
Children will come to school on a **Friday** in PE Kit



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	97
Year 5/6	97.1



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.

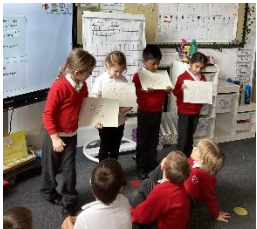




At the beginning of the week, we had some very special visitors come in to show the children how to make fruit pizza. The children began by naming each of the fruits they would be using and finding out some interesting facts about them. The children listened to the instructions beautifully on how to cut the fruit safely before decorating their pizza. The children loved getting creative in placing their fruit in different patterns and faces. They then got to enjoy this simple and healthy snack in the sunshine!



In English, the Year 1 children began a new writing journey. On this writing journey the children will be writing a personal recount of their trip to Napley Farm. The children started their learning this week by recapping all the different activities they completed on the trip and then moved on to sequencing them in the correct order. They then moved on to look at specific grammar skills including, time adverbials, past-tense verbs and the adjectives. I cannot wait to see the final outcome of their writing next week! In Reception this week, the children have been introduced to colourful semantics sentences. This is an approach used to teach the children that a sentence needs to include a subject (who) and a verb (doing what) to make sense. They have linked this to the learning on Goldilocks and the Three Bears and I have been so impressed with the sentences they have been building and writing this week.



In Maths this week, Year 1 have continued looking at place value within 50. They have been able to confidently use and estimate on a number line. The children got involved in building their own number lines. They then moved their learning on to find 1 more and 1 less within 50. In Reception this week, the children have

been learning about adding more and taking away. They are beginning to understand this concept well and have linked their learning to their knowledge on number bonds which is fantastic.



In the wider curriculum this week, Year 1 learnt about to differences between coastal and inland weather. They began by identifying inland and coastal areas on a map and then they created a pictogram to show that it is sunnier on the coast and wetter inland. In Science, they continued learning about Marie Curie, the children have been very intrigued about Marie Curie's work and how she worked towards her achievements.



In Reception this week, the children have been working really hard on their number recognition and formation up to 20. They have enjoyed re-telling the Easter Story in our small world area using the puppets to go through the key events. We have made the most of the sunshine and got outdoors into provision as much as possible. The children were very keen to create Three Bears' Cottage using the outdoor construction equipment.

Well done on another amazing week of working super hard and showing our Rainbow Values! I hope everyone has a lovely weekend. *Miss Goddard*



Another busy week for Year 2.

We started this week exploring our new BRANCHES journey in English, which is all about our trip to Napley Farm. The children loved coming into pictures of themselves and exploring the photos. To begin, we rejogged our memory on the trip and what were the different stages of the day for our plot points. We then explored what a personal recount is and its features as this is what the



children will be producing at the end of the two weeks. The rest of the week we focused in on our grammar skills needed, including adverbs and the coordinating conjunction so. The children are



starting to grow the depths and lengths of their writing, always looking to improve and chose the best word. In reading we focused on inference exploring how the different characters were feeling and the reasons why. In grammar our focus was apostrophes for possession, focusing on editing sentences to show the right possession.



In maths we continued our new topic of fractions, this week our focus has been finding $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ within numbers and objects. We then explored the correlation between a $\frac{1}{2}$ and a $\frac{1}{4}$. In arithmetic we revisited adding two two-digit numbers but trying to use our mental maths, the children worked really hard each day to beat the clock.



In geography this week we compared the difference between costal weather and inland. The children represented the different weathers using a pictogram we concluded the coast is sunnier and winder but inland is rainier.



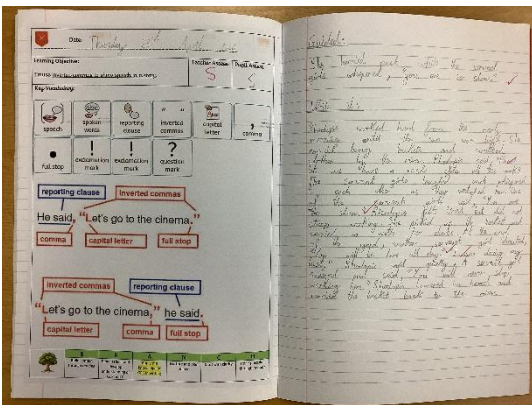
In music we began our new theme of friendship, we explored chanting and repeating. In history we explored the importance of Marie Curie's discovery of radioactivity and how this has helped doctors to be able to use x-rays. In computing the children really enjoyed using beebots, giving them directions around the classroom. At the end of the week, we were very excited to be able to go to the park. Have a brilliant weekend Year 2, see you on Monday. From Miss Boulter.



We have all been enjoying the sunshine this week in Class 3-4, which has allowed us to spend plenty of time outside enjoying our reading sessions and observing science experiments.

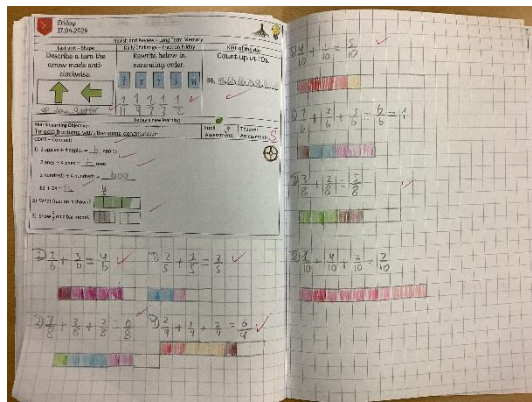


In Maths, Year 3 have started a new unit on Fractions, learning how to partition fractions and add and subtract fractions with the same denominator. Year 4 have continued their work on Statistics, learning how to interpret and represent data using a range of graphs, charts and tables.



In English, we have begun a new writing journey focusing on a narrative retell. We are exploring an alternative version of the traditional tale *Cinderella* — *The Egyptian Cinderella*. The children have been learning about the key features of traditional tales and have practised writing and punctuating direct speech correctly through dialogue between characters.

In Science, we have continued our learning about forces and magnets, investigating how different surfaces affect friction between objects. In Geography, we have been learning about rivers and their main features, looking closely at river speed and the other bodies of water rivers join along their journey.



In History, we practised reading a timeline and located the Ancient Greek civilisation, identifying its key stages.

In RE, we explored the difference between a Gospel, which tells the life and teachings of Jesus, and a Letter.

In ICT, we continued developing our coding skills using a range of commands on the Scratch platform.



We are all very much looking forward to our visit to Stafford Park today — photos from the visit will be shared with you next week.

Wishing you a restful weekend, and we hope you continue to enjoy the sunshine.

Miss Campbell



We have continued our positive start to the Summer term in Year 5/6, with pupils building confidently on the strong foundations established in the first week back. Classrooms have remained calm, focused and purposeful, and it has been lovely to see children growing in confidence as they settle further into routines and embrace new learning challenges.

In Reading, pupils began reading an engaging extract from *Wild Boy*, which immediately captured their interest. They showed great curiosity as they explored the characters and setting, asking thoughtful questions and making predictions about the story. In Writing, pupils launched an exciting new writing journey based on a scene set during the Blitz. They focused carefully on sequencing the events of the story and setting the scene using rich, descriptive language. We have been impressed by their ability to create atmosphere and convey tension and emotion through their word choices.

In Maths, pupils have been learning to measure angles accurately using protractors. They worked with increasing confidence and precision, applying their understanding to a range of problems and challenges.

Across the wider curriculum, several new topics have been introduced. In History, pupils discussed why people in Britain adopted the Roman way of life, exploring key Roman technologies such as hypocaust systems used to heat baths. These discussions demonstrated strong reasoning skills and curiosity about how Roman innovations changed daily life. In Geography, pupils explored how water reaches the River Sow from the Irish Sea through the water cycle, helping to build their understanding of physical processes and local geography.

In Science, pupils began researching different types of microbes, learning about bacteria, viruses and fungi and starting to consider their roles in the world around us. In PSHE, pupils started their Relationships unit by creating mind maps of themselves, reflecting on their thoughts, feelings and personal strengths. This provided an important opportunity for pupils to explore the idea that understanding ourselves is a vital first step in building positive relationships with others.

It has been another calm, productive and enjoyable week, and we are very proud of how well pupils have applied themselves as they continue their Summer term learning journey.





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

