



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

Autumn Term Newsletter: Week Ending Friday 11th September 2026

Message from the Headteacher

I cannot believe we are at the end of our first full week!

A few reminders:

Clubs

Our clubs start on Monday and we are very much looking forward to starting some exciting new choices. PALS dance continues on Tuesday. A reminder that all clubs finish at 4:00pm and Dance at 4:30pm

Mobile phones – please can you not be on your mobile phone on the playground at drop-off and pick-up. This is due to safeguarding reasons – please be 'present' and aware especially for when your children are handed back over to at home time.

School uniform and PE kits

Thank you to everyone for the children looking so smart in their uniform and PE kits. A reminder that school shoes, PE trainers/pumps and hoodies and joggers should all be black. If you are struggling to find the correct uniform, please come and ask at the office and we will be happy to support.

PALS Dance

Tickets go on sale for the Blessed William Howard High School Christmas Show on 1st October.

Forest School

We had a very successful Forest School session today – the first one for Pre-school and Reception! They had such a lovely time with a welcome back campfire and marshmallows. A reminder that Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 should bring a waterproof and wellies every Friday. If the wellies are able to stay at school that may be much easier for you and us! But we are more than understanding if you would like them to go home each week – it is not a problem.

We have had such a lovely week of learning with children finding out what their new topics are as well as focussing on Respect, our value of the term.

There will be more information over the coming weeks with calendar dates sent out and asking for your parent voice to support us with some school wide initiatives.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team



Pre-school and Reception – What a Wonderful Start!

What a busy and exciting start to school we have had! Our Reception children have settled in brilliantly and are already becoming more confident and independent in their new classroom. Monday was extra special as our Pre-school opened its doors and our Pre-school children joined us, becoming part of our classroom family. It has been lovely watching the children get to know one another, play together, make new friendships and learn alongside each other.

Our learning so far has focused on "I am me and I belong here." Through our core story *What Makes Me a Me?*, we have talked about what makes each of us special and unique, our favourite things, our feelings and the special people in our lives. We have learned that we can be the same in some ways and different in others, but we all belong. We have also become Respect Detectives, spotting respectful and disrespectful behaviour, and have begun learning about our special Rainbow Values and what they look like in our everyday lives at St Paul's.

We have certainly been busy! In PE, we travelled all the way to the jungle, exploring how animals such as snakes, monkeys and parrots move and thinking about all the different ways we can move our own bodies safely. We slithered, stretched, jumped, balanced and climbed – and had lots of fun doing it! We have also been strengthening our hands and fingers ready for writing and practising our pre-writing shapes, including straight lines, crosses and circles, while learning to use our nip, flip and grip when holding our pens.

Our early maths has been full of songs and practical experiences, joining in with favourites such as *Five Little Ducks*, *Five Little Speckled Frogs* and *Five Currant Buns* as we develop our confidence with counting. We have begun exploring Bible stories and Worship, talked about how we can help somebody new feel welcome, practised our Reception Ready routines and learned how to choose it, use it and put it away as we become increasingly independent.

Of course, there has also been lots and lots of dancing! We have danced, sung, moved and laughed together throughout our days – alongside plenty of time to build, paint, create, role play, explore outdoors and, most importantly, learn through play.

We are incredibly proud of how well the children have embraced their first week at St Paul's. They are learning, laughing, making friendships, growing in confidence and beginning to understand that every single one of them has a very special place in our Preschool and Reception family.





Wow, Hedgehogs! Our first week back is complete — well done!

The children have been working extremely hard this week to understand their new routines and expectations as a Year 1 and Year 2 class. They have tried their very best across all subjects and shown so much respect to myself and Miss Dryden, which links perfectly with our Rainbow Value this week: Respect. We are so proud of how well they have settled back into school and how brilliantly they have adapted to their new routines.



In English, we started our front-loaded grammar work and began looking at a new animation called *The Present*. The children have been revisiting previous skills to see what they could remember from last year. Year 2 have been focusing on identifying the subject and the verb, while Year 1 have been working hard on recognising initial sounds to help them create words.



In Maths, we began our Place Value topic. Year 1 have been counting and organising different groups and have also been working really hard to show their number bonds to 5. Year 2 have been introduced to the place value chart and have been looking at tens and ones using Base 10. It has been lovely to see the children getting stuck into their new learning and developing their mathematical understanding.

In Art, we had a brilliant lesson looking at different types of lines. The children experimented with control and pressure and began looking at our



artist, Bridget Riley. We had some lovely giggles when discussing how her artwork can make our eyes feel funny!

In Geography, I was amazed by the children's creativity as they made their very own messy maps. They had to use different objects to create a map that represented our classroom while working in pairs. The teamwork was brilliant, and it was fantastic to see the children sharing ideas and working together.



In History, we learnt about the toy stories *Cinderella* and *The Elves and the Shoemaker*, linking these to our new History topic all about the Lotus Shoe Factory, which used to be in Stafford. We will be exploring this topic through a local lens and finding out more about the history on our doorstep.

Well done, Hedgehogs! You have shown a wonderful start to the new school year, and we are incredibly proud of you all. You have worked hard, shown respect and settled into your new routines brilliantly. Enjoy your weekend, Hedgehogs, and see you all on Monday! Miss Boulter





It has been wonderful to welcome the children back and see how well they have settled into their first week together as a larger Year 3/4 class. They have adapted brilliantly to their new classroom environment, embraced new routines and, most importantly, made lots of new friendships. We have been particularly pleased to see our school value of respect shining through in the way children have listened to one another, worked cooperatively and shown kindness throughout the week.

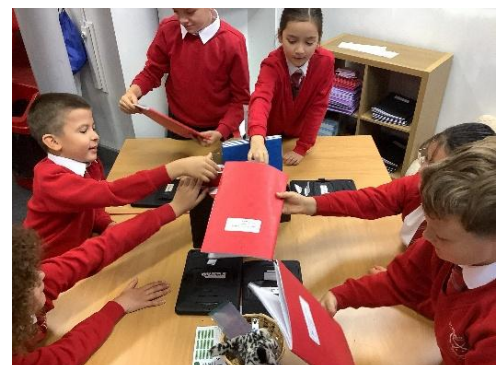


In English, we have been practising some of the Year 3/4 statutory spelling words and learning how to write clear sentences using a subject, verb and object. In Maths, the children have begun their work on place value, exploring the value of digits in different numbers, and have also been sharpening their arithmetic skills through addition practice. The children have approached all of their learning with enthusiasm and determination.

Across the wider curriculum, we have mapped the nations of the United Kingdom in Geography and explored how the length of the Stone Age compares with the much shorter Bronze Age and Iron Age in History. In Science, we categorised appliances according to whether they use portable power or mains electricity, while in RE we explored



ideas about Creation through a range of images and Bible passages.



We are incredibly proud of how positively the children have started the year and look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead.



What a fantastic first week back we have had in Fox Class! We have spent the week settling into our new routines and expectations, helping everyone feel confident and ready for learning. The children have worked incredibly hard to establish positive habits, and we will continue to revisit and embed these over the coming weeks. It has been wonderful to see everyone returning with such enthusiasm and determination.

This week, we were excited to introduce our new class text, *Spellstone* by Ross Montgomery. The book was chosen by the pupils, who voted for the story they were most eager to explore together. *Spellstone* is a magical adventure filled with



mystery, friendship and bravery, following characters who find themselves caught up in an extraordinary quest. The children have already been making predictions, discussing characters and sharing their first impressions of the story, and there is a real sense of excitement about what will happen next.

Our Lego Lottery has also returned for the new school year. Children earn tickets by demonstrating the St Paul's values in their daily actions, whether that is showing kindness, perseverance, respect or responsibility. At the end of the week, lucky winners are



selected to enjoy some special Lego time. The children have embraced this enthusiastically and have been excellent role models for one another.

In Geography, we have been revisiting our knowledge of the United Kingdom. The children have been recalling the names and locations of the four countries, their capital cities and surrounding seas. They have enjoyed using maps and atlases to refresh their understanding and strengthen the geographical knowledge they developed in previous year groups.



In Science, we have begun our exciting new unit on electricity. To help us understand how electrical energy travels through a circuit, the children took part in a role-play activity where they became electrons! Working together, they acted out the journey of electrons as they moved around a circuit, helping them to understand how electricity flows and powers everyday devices.

We are incredibly proud of how the children have started the new term and look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead! All the best, Miss Parry

This week's winners

 St Paul's Primary School
Learning Together in God's Love

Values 		Swords of Success 	
Living our values, letting our light shine		Learning with courage, achieving with pride	
Year 1	Adelaide	Year 1	Arlan
Year 2	Delilah	Year 2	Albie
Year 3	Lottie	Year 3	Mohammed
Year 4	Charlotte	Year 4	Ellie
Year 5	Arjun	Year 5	Beth
Year 6	Elliott	Year 6	Tayla



Together we achieve more 





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

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



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

St Paul's Primary School
PE DAYS
FOR ALL CLASSES

Butterflies, Hedgehogs, Badgers and Foxes will come to school in their PE kit on **Thursdays and Fridays.**

PE KIT

- Black hoody
- Black joggers
- Plain black pumps or trainers
- Coloured St Paul's T-shirt for the house team they are in

Same kit both days (Thursday and Friday)

Active today ... brighter tomorrows

Healthy Children Happier Learners

Be Active
Be Healthy
Be Confident
Be Your Best

Learn Grow Belong Together

Play Learn Achieve Together

After-School Clubs

Be Curious
Be Creative
Be You

Learn ★ Try ★ Make ★ Play ★ Belong

New Skills
New Friends
Brighter Futures

History Club
EXPLORE
DISCOVER
LEARN
Monday
Years 1-6
Step into the past and explore the world!

Stop Motion Animation Club
IDEAS
CREATE
ANIMATE
SHARE
Monday
Years 3-6
Bring your ideas to life one frame at a time!

Football Club
TEAM PLAY
RESPECT
ENJOY
Wednesday
Years 1-3
Thursday
Years 4-6
Play - Improve - Have Fun!

Spanish Club
¡Hola!
Learn a new language
Discover a new culture!
Have fun!
Wednesday
Years 3-6
¡Vamos!

Geography Club
EXPLORE
DISCOVER
LEARN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Thursday
Years 1-2
Our World, Our Future!

Important Information

- Clubs start on the week beginning Monday 14th September.
- All clubs finish at 4:00pm.
- Open to all children in the stated year groups (unless stated otherwise).
- Places are limited, so look out for further information on how to sign up.

Be the best version of you!

FOREST SCHOOL

Join us for outdoor fun and learning!
Every Friday!

Explore • Build • Discover

We are really pleased to be working with Wilderness Wanderers again this year – please follow their Facebook posts. Each week our Forest School sessions are put on their page and shared by school so please keep a look-out for all the fun.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be starting their sessions on Friday 11th September.

Children will come into school in their outdoor PE kits – making sure they have a black hoodie and joggers and wearing trainers. They will need to bring with them wellies to get changed into for Forest School.

Forest School happens whatever the weather – so please be mindful children cannot wear their school coat or shoes as they are likely to get muddy!

If anyone can donate any 'pre-loved' wellies we would be grateful – especially the bigger sizes for KS2

Forest School Kit List
Fridays

To help your child enjoy Forest School in all weather, please make sure they bring:

- ✓ **A suitable coat for the weather**
(This may get muddy – please do not send their school coat.)
- ✓ **Wellington boots (wellies)**
(These will be needed even in light rain or damp conditions.)

Forest School happens outdoors in all seasons, so children need to be warm, dry and ready to explore!



A restock for our Mud Kitchen is needed – if anyone has any donations, we would be extremely grateful.

Any kitchen utensils, buckets and spades, cups plates and bowls etc. that are plastic, wood or metal would be wonderful.





Safeguarding at St Paul's

Keeping our children safe, happy and supported

Working together for brighter tomorrows

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact
Miss Gaskell (DSL)
Miss Parry is DDSL
01785 337436
or
Staffordshire Safeguarding Board
0300 1118007

Our children's safety is everyone's responsibility

SAFE
SUPPORTED
THRIVING

Listen
We listen to children and take concerns seriously.

Protect
We work together to keep children safe.

Support
We help children and families get the right support.

Work Together
We work with parents, carers and outside agencies.

Safe for All
We want every child to feel safe, happy and able to achieve.

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

A safer school. A brighter future.

SEND Support at St Paul's

Working together so every child can flourish

ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
A safe, happy place to learn and grow

Inclusion
Support
Understanding
Belonging
Brighter Futures

Different needs, brighter together

Information and support for parents and carers

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.

STAFFORDSHIRE CONNECTS SEND LOCAL OFFER

Click below to visit Staffordshire Connects

<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info>

This information is always on our school website, but you can click the link above to take you to the home page. From there you will find the Local Offer for parents and carers.

If you have any concerns or questions about children with additional needs, our SENDCo is Miss Gaskell. She can be contacted through the school office email:
StPaulsOffice@stbartsmat.co.uk

Inclusion today ... brighter tomorrows