



'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 18th September 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Another lovely week at St Paul's!

This week, we have continued to explore our school value of Respect during Whole School Worship, thinking particularly about how we show care, kindness and respect for the people around us.

We were delighted to welcome Lottie into school to lead our Worship and introduce the children to the Five Finger Prayer. This simple way of praying helps us to remember different people in our lives and encourages us to think beyond ourselves and pray for others.

We reflected together on the idea that one of the most important ways we can help and support those who are important to us is to pray for them. When St Paul was writing to his friends in Ephesus, he reminded them:

"Always keep on praying for all God's people."

Ephesians 6:18

It was a lovely opportunity for the children to think about the people who are important to them, those who help and guide them, and those who might need a little extra love, strength or support at the moment.

This week was also a very special one for our wider church family, with the service at St Thomas' & St Andrew's Church, Doxey, for the Collation of our new vicar, Revd Martin Heath. After being without a vicar in our parish for some time, it was wonderful to be part of such an important and joyful occasion.

We are really looking forward to welcoming Martin into our St Paul's family and to strengthening the relationship between our school and church. Our church connection is such an important part of who we are as a school, and we are excited about the opportunities ahead for Martin to become part of school life and for us to continue growing together as one family.

As always, it has been wonderful to see our Rainbow Values coming to life throughout school, with our children showing Respect through their words, actions and the way they care for one another.

I hope all of our St Paul's families have a lovely weekend.

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team



Another brilliant week in Reception and Preschool!

What a busy week we have had! The children are continuing to settle beautifully into school life and are becoming increasingly confident with our classroom routines and behaviour expectations. We have been practising listening carefully, responding to our stop signals, moving safely around school and remembering to "choose it, use it, put it away!" The children are really beginning to understand how to access the different areas of our indoor and outdoor provision independently, select resources and look after our classroom.

This week was also an exciting milestone as we started our phonics and maths learning! In phonics, Reception have begun learning about sounds and the letters that represent them, while Preschool have been developing their listening and sound awareness through our phonics foundations activities. We are already seeing some fantastic progress!

In maths, Reception have been busy matching, sorting and identifying sets, thinking carefully about what makes objects the same or different. Preschool have been making and comparing collections, exploring the language of more and fewer through practical activities, songs, stories and lots of hands-on learning.

We have also continued developing our early writing skills. The children have been practising their pre-writing shapes, pencil control and our "nip, flick and grip" pencil grip, helping to strengthen the fine-motor skills they need for writing.

Our All About Me learning has continued too. We have talked about our families and special people, explored what makes each of us unique and special, talked about our feelings and learned more about our friends. The children have been encouraged to listen to one another, ask and answer questions and talk about their own experiences.

PE was certainly a highlight! We returned to the jungle and became monkeys, developing different ways of moving as we practised climbing, jumping and travelling safely around equipment. The children had great fun while developing their balance, coordination, strength and confidence in moving their bodies.

Junk modelling is already proving to be a very popular area in our classroom! If you have any clean boxes, cardboard tubes, small cartons or other suitable junk-modelling materials at home, we would be very grateful for any donations to help keep our little creators busy!

It has been wonderful to see how much more confident the children are becoming already. They are exploring, talking, playing, learning and beginning to take real ownership of their classroom. We are incredibly proud of how well they are settling in and of the progress they are already making.

Mrs Gibson, Miss Tierney and Miss Evie.

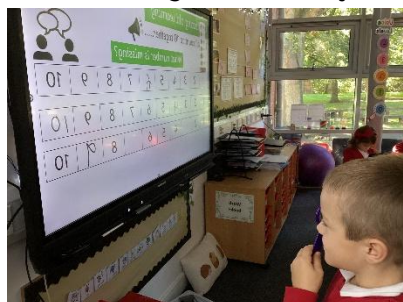




What a busy and brilliant week it has been for our Hedgehogs! The children have worked incredibly hard across all areas of their learning, and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and curiosity throughout the week.

In English this week, we continued our work on the present animation, focusing on nouns. The children were able to stop the animation to identify people, places and things before using these nouns to create their own sentences. We have seen some fantastic ideas and thoughtful sentences from the children!

In maths, we continued our work on place value. Year 1 have been practising finding one more and one less, counting backwards from ten, counting forwards and recognising



numbers when they are written as words. Year 2 have worked really hard on using the part-whole model to flexibly partition numbers into tens and ones. They have also been practising writing numbers to 100 and representing numbers in expanded form. Their perseverance has been fantastic!



In history this week, we had a brilliant lesson exploring different shoes as primary sources. The children looked carefully at the shoes and thought about the deductions and clues we could make from them. We linked this learning to the Lotus Shoe Factory as we explored our local area through a historical lens. The children had some brilliant observations and questions!



In geography, we explored human and physical features. Focusing on Stafford, we looked at the High Street, the River Sow and Riverside, identifying and discussing the differences between human and physical features in our local environment.



The children had some brilliant conversations in RE this week as we thought about our favourite books and discussed what makes them special and important to us. This has helped us get ready to explore the

Creation story in the Bible and begin thinking about its importance to Christians.

Finally, in art, we explored watercolours in the style of Bridget Riley. The children experimented with different types of lines and explored how changing the pressure of their brush could create lighter and darker tones. They produced some wonderful, creative work and enjoyed experimenting with different techniques.

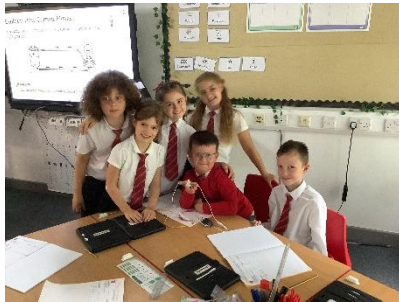
A huge well done to all of our Hedgehogs for another fantastic week! We are so proud of their hard work, enthusiasm and positive attitudes towards their learning. Have a lovely weekend! Miss Boulter.





We've had another fantastic week in class and continue to exceed expectations every day! It has been a real pleasure getting to know the children better, building positive relationships, and hearing all about their interests, experiences, and lives outside of school. They have settled brilliantly into the new term and are showing a wonderful enthusiasm for learning.

In Maths, we have been developing our place value knowledge by partitioning numbers using Base 10 equipment and part-whole models.



The children have also been using place value counters to find one more, one less, ten more, and ten less than a given number, demonstrating increasing confidence with these key skills.

In Writing, we have continued practising a mixture of new and previously learned skills, including expanded noun phrases and conjunctions. Our writing has been inspired by a magical world in which the captain of an airship discovers giant flying turtles! The children have enjoyed using their imaginations to create exciting descriptions and adventurous narratives.

In Geography, we have been locating and researching the capital cities of the United Kingdom. The children have been learning about the different countries that make up the UK and exploring some of the unique features of each capital city.

In History, we explored cave paintings and became archaeologists for the day,

discussing which period of the Stone Age the paintings might have come from based on the clues we could see. The children enjoyed analysing the evidence and justifying their ideas.

In Science, we began our new learning on electricity by building simple circuits and investigating what components are needed to make a bulb light up. There was lots of excitement as the children experimented and tested their predictions.

In RE, we reflected on the Christian belief that God is a sustainer and discussed ways that we can help to sustain and care for our world. The children shared some thoughtful ideas about how we can all make a positive difference.

In Art, we have been mastering the skill of drawing natural objects, carefully observing shape and detail as we prepare to develop our shading techniques in the coming weeks.

As always, the children have worked incredibly hard and represented the school brilliantly. We are looking forward to another exciting week of learning ahead!





It has been another fantastic week in Foxes, with lots of excellent learning taking place across the curriculum. Some highlights can be found below.

Maths

In Maths, we have been focusing on place value. The children have been ordering and comparing numbers up to 10,000,000, using place value grids to help deepen their understanding of the value of each digit. We have also been working hard on explaining our mathematical reasoning, encouraging children to justify their answers and discuss different ways of solving problems.

English

Our English lessons have been inspired by the beautiful Pixar short film La Luna. The children have impressed us with their fantastic vocabulary choices and creativity. We have been developing our writing through the use of parenthesis, fronted adverbials, and rich descriptive language to create engaging and imaginative pieces of work.



Science

In Science, we have been learning all about electrical circuits. The children thoroughly enjoyed building a variety of circuits and investigating how different components work together. There was great excitement as we got to use our brand-new equipment, which helped bring the learning to life and allowed everyone to take part in practical investigations. A huge thank you to Miss Gaskell for organising these fantastic new resources!

Art

In Art, we have been practising our sketching skills by drawing 3D objects, inspired by the work of sculptor Magdalene Odundo. The children have carefully observed shape, form and

shading to create realistic sketches and develop their artistic techniques. We then enjoyed our first 'Walking Art Show' where the children wander around the room giving feedback to each other on their work.



History

Our Victorian studies have continued with an exploration of Queen Victoria's enormous family tree. The children were fascinated to discover just how many royal connections stretched across Europe! Next week, we will be looking more closely at what Queen Victoria was like as a person and as a mother.

Class News

We are continuing to establish and strengthen our classroom routines, and the children are showing great maturity and responsibility. We have also earned a fantastic number of Dojo points this week. A huge well done to Foxes for coming second place on the leaderboard. Let's see if we can climb to the top spot next week!

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend. 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	Finley	Year 1	Albert
Year 2	Courtney	Year 2	Lumen
Year 3	Bhavesh	Year 3	Lily
Year 4	Eddie	Year 4	Everlyn
Year 5	Ryan	Year 5	Piper
Year 6	Eva	Year 6	Molly
  ♥ Well done! ♥			





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

Healthy Children Happier Learners

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

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.)

Our Mud Kitchen

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