



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 24th September 2026

Message from the Headteacher

We are officially half-way through the term! I cannot believe we have had 4 weeks of this new academic year!

We have continued to discuss how we keep ourselves safe – and this week has had a particular focus around allergies - what an allergy is and what the common allergy triggers are. We will be sending out some parent information this term around these explaining changes to the statutory guidance and what we are doing in school to ensure best practice is happening.

This week in Singing Worship as well as music lesson, we have begun our Harvest Festival practice, choosing our songs and learning words! Our Harvest Festival this year will be held at St Pauls Church on Tuesday 13th October at 10:00am. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see lots of new faces as well as familiar ones. We will be asking for donations nearer the time – with information about where our donations are going in our local area.

This week we have also finalised our Christmas Trips along with our local trip to the library for each class and other whole school calendar events. We will also send these out on dojo. Please see the calendar page later in the letter.

Black Hoodies and PE Kits – Please can I ask that all PE kit is labelled. I appreciate that the children are arriving in it – but the hoodies are often taken off. We are overrun with lost property black hoodies – but they do not have names on. Please can we ask that you are naming the children's clothing – it really does make finding clothes much easier!

As always should have any questions about anything, please do pop in and see us at the office or catch your class teacher on the playground.

Have a great weekend

Miss Gaskell and the St Pauls Team



What another fantastic week we have had in Reception and Preschool! Our theme this week has been 'We are better together', and the children have been thinking about what makes them unique, where they belong and how being kind, helpful and a good friend makes our classroom a happy place to be. We particularly enjoyed our friendship activities and exploring our Rainbow Value of Friendship and Love.

There has been lots of exciting learning taking place too! Reception have continued their Little Wandle phonics and have also started their Little Wandle reading sessions using picture books. We have been looking carefully at illustrations, talking about different types of books and sharing our ideas about what we can see. In maths, Reception have been busy sorting, creating sorting rules and comparing amounts, while Preschool have been making and comparing collections using the words more, fewer and the same.

Our wider learning has included exploring different jobs people do, talking about our feelings and emotions, creating autumn button art and continuing to develop our independence through enhanced provision. In PE we transformed into jungle snakes, practising slithering, sliding, curling and travelling safely around and under equipment! We have also enjoyed worship, our Five Finger Prayer, Forest School and PE with Mr Farmer.

It has been lovely to see so many new friendships forming this week and to watch the children beginning to work together, help one another and really feel part of our Reception and Preschool family. We can't wait to see what next week brings!

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Gibson, Miss Tierney and Miss Evie





The Hedgehogs have been trying really hard this week and have been showing that they know our routines really well. They have also been demonstrating lots of respect for each other, their learning and our classroom. Well done, Hedgehogs!

In English this week, we have been exploring adjectives. The children used adjectives to describe different parts of an animation and enjoyed describing and guessing different objects around the room. Year 2 worked hard to create their own sentences using adjectives, while Year 1 focused on choosing the best adjective to describe a noun.

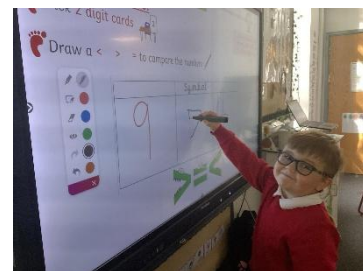
In maths, Year 1 got their crocodile skills out and were ready to "eat" the bigger number! They have been learning how to compare numbers using the symbols $>$, $<$ and $=$. Year 2 have been using number lines to find and estimate different numbers within 100. We spent time looking at the



midpoint and how this can help us identify and represent a number.



In geography, we turned into mini explorers and headed outside to investigate the human and physical features we could find on our playground. The children did an amazing job working together in pairs and sharing their observations.



In history, we explored different secondary sources about the Lotus Factory. The children had to look carefully for clues to work out what each source was about and think about what the sources made them wonder. Year 2 then completed a timeline showing the past to the present, using pictures of Stafford to help them.



In PSHE, we looked at our responsibilities in the classroom and at home. Luckily, the children are always very keen to have a job and work hard to help keep our classroom tidy! It has been lovely to see them taking pride in their responsibilities.



In science, we looked at how we can classify different flowers. We grouped them based on their shapes, petals, colours and stems. The children are becoming really confident at using their key vocabulary to name and describe the different parts of a plant.

Well done, Hedgehogs, on another fantastic week! Enjoy your weekend, have a lovely rest and we will see you on Monday!



We've had another fantastic week in class, and the children are really beginning to shine and show us their talents across all areas of the curriculum. It has been wonderful to see their confidence growing as they continue to settle into routines and challenge themselves in their learning.

In Writing, we have completed our grammar focus on apostrophes and progressive verb forms. The children have worked hard to apply these skills accurately and are becoming increasingly confident in spotting and using them in their own writing. In Maths, we have been working with number lines, ordering and comparing numbers, and developing our understanding of how numbers relate to one another. The children have shown great resilience when tackling some tricky reasoning tasks and have enjoyed explaining their mathematical thinking. In Reading, we explored a non-fiction text about Yom Kippur. The children practised explaining their understanding using evidence from the text and engaged thoughtfully with the information they learned about this important Jewish festival.



In Art, we continued developing our observational drawing skills by focusing on the shapes of a variety of natural objects. The children have shown excellent attention to detail and are building strong foundations as we prepare to move on to shading techniques. In Geography, we mapped some of the major cities of the United Kingdom and learned about urbanisation. To help bring this learning to life, the children created their own doodle stories, which were both imaginative and informative. In History, we put ourselves in the shoes of Stone Age people and wrote

a "How to Survive" guide for someone living by the River Sow in Stafford. The children combined their historical knowledge with their writing skills to produce some excellent and creative advice.

In Science, we investigated why circuits sometimes fail to work. By testing and analysing different circuits, the children developed their understanding of what is needed for a circuit to be complete and

successfully light a bulb. In RE, we read the Creation story from Genesis and reflected on the role of humans within God's world. The children shared some thoughtful ideas about responsibility, stewardship, and how we can care for the world around us.

We are incredibly proud of the effort, enthusiasm, and positive attitudes the children continue to show each day. Keep up the fantastic work!





It has been another busy and exciting week of learning, with the children showing great enthusiasm, perseverance and curiosity across all of our subjects. Here is a look at what we have been getting up to.

This week, the children have been putting their writing skills to the test with their independent writing based on *La Luna*. They have worked hard to apply everything they have been learning about vocabulary, sentence structure and description, making their writing increasingly ambitious and detailed. There was also plenty of excitement as we finally got to watch the ending of *La Luna*! After building suspense and making predictions throughout the week, the children were very keen to discover how the story concluded. It was wonderful to hear their reactions and see them reflect on whether their predictions were correct.

We have also continued to develop our vocabulary, thinking carefully about choosing words that make our writing more interesting and precise. Alongside this, the children have been working incredibly hard on their handwriting, with many showing great determination as they work towards earning their pen licence. Their effort and improved presentation are something to be very proud of!

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of rounding numbers and exploring this concept through a range of different representations. The children have been encouraged to look at numbers in different ways and use these representations to support their understanding.

Our History learning has taken us deeper into understanding Queen Victoria as a person, rather than simply learning about the events of her reign. The children have been analysing evidence to explore what Victoria was like and, in particular, considering her experiences as a young queen. We have looked closely at her views on motherhood, considering her own words and experiences to help us understand how she felt about being a mother as well as being Queen.

We have now reached our final text by our Author of the Term, Ross Montgomery. This week, we have been enjoying *I Am Rebel*, a wonderful story told through the eyes of a dog. The children have really enjoyed experiencing the story from such an unusual perspective and have been engaging thoughtfully with the characters, events and emotions within the text. It has been a lovely way to finish our time exploring Ross Montgomery's writing and discovering what makes his stories so engaging for young readers.

Well done to everyone for another fantastic week of learning. We have seen lots of enthusiasm, hard work and perseverance, and it has been wonderful to see the children becoming increasingly confident in explaining their ideas and applying their learning independently.



This week's winners

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



Values

Living our values, letting our light shine

Year 1	Idris
Year 2	Thomas
Year 3	Ava
Year 4	Clemmie
Year 5	Celine
Year 6	Maame

Swords of Success

Learning with courage, achieving with pride

Year 1	Vishakha
Year 2	Hoorish
Year 3	Nevaeh
Year 4	Cameron
Year 5	Assma
Year 6	Daisy





 **St Paul's C E Primary School**

ATTENDANCE Matters!

Whole School Attendance to date **97.8%**

A huge well done to our pupils for their amazing attendance!

The following class attendance shows **WEEKLY** attendance

Class	% (Weekly Attendance)
 Butterflies	100.0%
 Hedgehogs	96.8%
 Badgers	98.1%
 Foxes	96.4%

Class attendance is based on weekly figures.

This week's **WINNERS** are **Butterflies!**

Thank you for your continued support in helping us reach for excellence!

 **St Paul's C E Primary School**



Autumn Term Dates

Caterpillars and Butterflies (Pre-school and Reception)

19th October
Library Trip

17th December
Amerton Farm

Hedgehogs (Year 1 and Year 2)

9th November
Library Trip

14th October
History Trip

14th December
Ancient High House
and Soup Kitchen Lunch
with a VIP

Badgers (Year 3 and Year 4)

12th November
Library Trip

16th December
Pantomime

Foxes (Year 5 and Year 6)

9th October
Cannock Chase Trip

23rd November
Library Trip

16th December
Pantomime

Whole School Events

13th October Harvest Church Service 10:00am

3rd November School Photographs (individual and siblings)

4th and 5th November Parent's Evening

10th November Remembrance Church Service

11th November Flu Vaccinations

11th December Christmas Fair 2:00pm

15th December Christmas Church Service

Everyone
Belongs

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.**

Learn Grow Belong Together

Play Learn Achieve Together

Be Active
Be Healthy
Be Confident
Be Your Best

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

After-School Clubs

New Skills
New Friends
Brighter Futures

Learn ★ Try ★ Make ★ Play ★ Belong

Be Curious
Be Creative
Be You

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!
¡Vamos!

Wednesday
Years 3-6

Learn a new language
Discover a new culture!
Have fun!

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!



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