



'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 October 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Half Term!

I cannot believe we have completed 8 weeks of this new academic year.

The children have worked so hard this term: navigating their way through new routines, new classrooms and new teachers...and they have absolutely risen to the challenge!

The children have learnt about how important it is to recognise emotions and build resilience, during World Mental Health Day, engaged in learning about influential Black figures, past and present, and celebrated the rich contributions of Black communities helping to deepen their understanding of diversity, equality, and inclusion (which will continue after half-term). They have looked at the importance of Harvest to our community as a festival within the Christian Church, been creative in after-school clubs and secured Leadership roles ready to come back after half-term ready to help lead our school!

There are so many dates already in the calendar after half-term...but 2 important events in the first week back are Parent's evening and our presentations to New Reception 2026! Please make sure you know when your appointment is – we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th November after school.

We hope you all have a wonderful half-term, whether it be filled with pumpkin carving, Halloween Parties or just enjoying the darker cosier evenings with the candles lit. A reminder also that the clocks go back on Saturday night!

We look forward to seeing you all after half-term. We are closed on Monday 3rd November – we **re-open on Tuesday 4th November**.

Take care,

Miss Gaskell and the St Paul's Team



Useful Information

St Bartholomew's CE
Multi Academy Trust

Playground Behaviour

A reminder please that children should not be using the equipment before and after school due to no risk assessment in place at those times as they are not supervised.

Can dogs please be on leads, and if you need to come onto the playground, dogs must stay at the gate or be carried on.

Can adults also please stay with children to supervise them, ensuring behaviour is respectful. We are having quite a few before-school issues before we open the doors which we are needing to deal with during registration, causing some dysregulation to behaviours and disruption to our calm, morning learning time.



PE Kit

Please can we remind everyone that PE Kits need to be worn for P.E and in Winter, due to the colder temperatures outside, black joggers and a hoodie are also needed. This is part of the St Pauls PE Kit – information is always on our website.

[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 Tuesday/Thursday)

Year 3/4/5/6

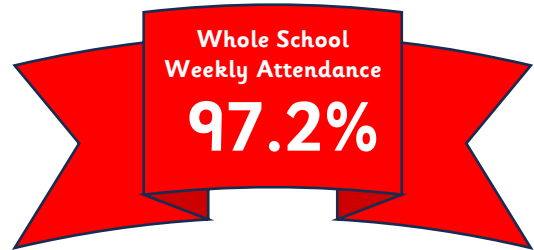
Children will come to school on a Wednesday in PE Kit

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	96.9
Year 2	97.5
Year 3/4	98
Year 5/6	96.4



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 school, we are passionate about fostering a love of reading in every child. Reading every day—even for just a short time—can make a huge difference to a child's vocabulary, imagination, and confidence. It opens doors to new worlds, ideas, and possibilities, and supports learning across all subjects.

We're thrilled to see so many families engaging with our online reading library on Big Cat Collins, which is proving to be a fantastic resource. Thank you for encouraging your children to explore the wide range of books available.

Next week, we'll be appointing our Year 5/6 librarians, who will help run our school library and support book borrowing across the school. This is a wonderful opportunity for our older pupils to take on responsibility and share their enthusiasm for reading with others.

Let's keep turning those pages—every book read is a step forward in your child's learning journey!



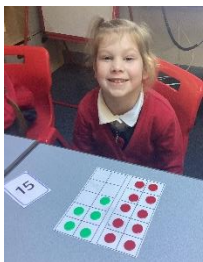


It's hard to believe we've already reached the end of our first half term! This term has been all about settling in, making friends, and getting used to new routines and surroundings. To say the children have exceeded these goals would be an understatement—they've worked incredibly hard, and their progress speaks volumes!

Year 1 have truly impressed us with their independent writing this week. We've been focusing on constructing "I can see..." sentences, and the children can now write these confidently, using rich vocabulary to describe the illustrations in our class book



Little Acorns. Reception children have been working on name writing and letter formation. This week, they were challenged to write their names without a prompt—and they did amazingly well! A favourite fine-motor activity this week was our conker pick challenge! Children used tweezers and their pincer grip to carefully collect conkers from a spider's web—great for developing fine motor skills. While Year 1 have been building their quick recall of tricky words through fun activities like tricky word hunts in books. Their enthusiasm and progress have been fantastic!



In Year 1, children have secured their understanding of using a Tens Frame to support counting (a very important skill they will use as they progress up the school) and have moved on to recalling number bonds to 10. Reception have been exploring the numbers 1, 2, and 3—finding, recognising, subitising, and representing them using a variety of concrete resources. The children were confident to find a partner who had the same number as them but represented in a different way.

In PE, this week we have developing the skill of rolling and following the ball, the children had to practise using their hand-eye co-ordination to catch and roll the ball to their partner. We worked through the stages of this skill and by the end of the lesson, there was a real improvement from all of the children.

This week in RE, we've been learning about why some people think Jesus is special. We read and listened to the Bible story of Jesus healing the blind man, and the children shared some very thoughtful responses about what made Jesus special and the kindness he showed. We then thought about how we could help both in the classroom and at home too!



Throughout the week, we've been exploring the signs of Autumn and how they differ from other seasons. We linked our learning to our story of Little Acorns and then the children used their observations to create beautiful Autumn scene pictures and wreaths,



carefully choosing Autumnal colours and materials.

I hope everyone has a restful half term, well done for all your hard work this term, myself and Miss Tierney are SO proud of every single one of you! *Miss Goddard*



What a lovely week we've had in Year 2! The children have continued to work incredibly hard and have shown such enthusiasm in all their learning.

We continued our Branches journey this week, learning about the features of a poem and how poets use commas to create pauses. The children then used these ideas to craft their own final pieces, which were beautifully written and full of creativity. We also began our Bridge to Spelling journey,



where the children are learning to complete the code.



In maths, we used number lines to help with addition. The children flew through adding three one-digit numbers and even challenged themselves to find missing numbers in addition problems. Their confidence and accuracy were brilliant to see!

Our history lessons took us back in time to Roman Britain, where the children experienced a day in the life of Roman children. They threw themselves into the activities with great curiosity and imagination. In PSHE, we discussed rewards and consequences and thought about how our behaviour can have both

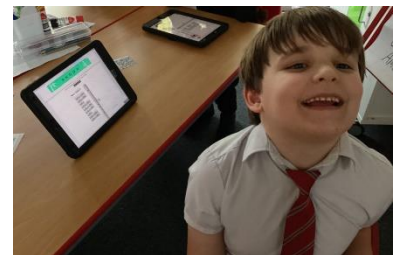


positive and negative effects. The children were so thoughtful and reflective during our conversations.

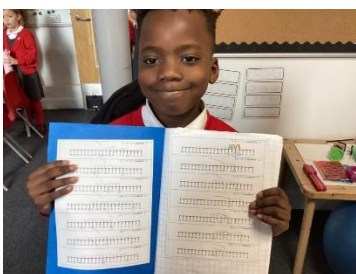


the children's artwork was truly beautiful.

Music was full of energy this week as we used the online recorder to continue our samba topic. The classroom was alive with rhythm and smiles! In art, we used watercolours to explore Van Gogh's Sunflowers, and the



In PE, we learned three new rolls and began incorporating jumps into our routines. A huge well done to all our fabulous PALS dancers—you were amazing (and just a little bit scary with your energy and confidence!).



We started our learning on Black History month in worship, the children learnt all about Malorie Blackman, the children were inspired by her writing, perseverance and equality. We will continue this learning after half term.

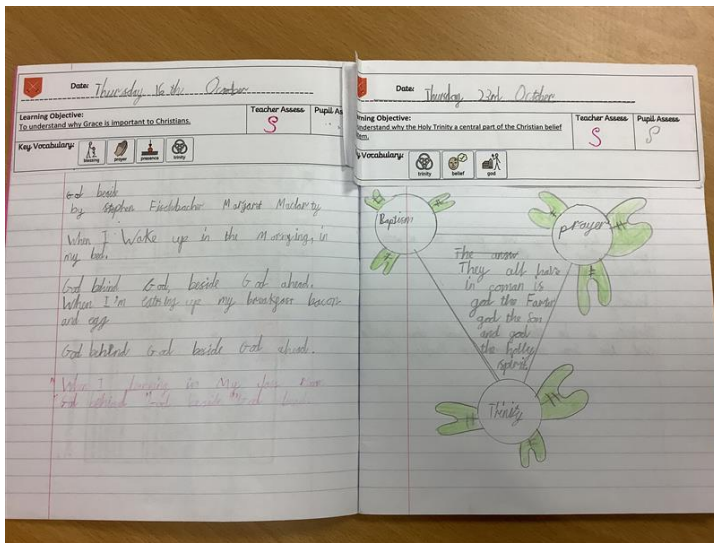


It's been another fantastic week of learning, fun, and creativity. Enjoy your well-deserved week off, and I can't wait to hear all about your adventures next Monday.

Miss Boulter



Well done **EVERYONE** in Class 3-4! You have been busy bees in the last week of this half-term!



In Maths, children continued working on their Addition and Subtraction unit. Year 4 tackled challenging problems involving multiple exchanges, while Year 3 learned the column method for solving their sums and differences.

In English, we explored the creative world of kenning poems. Do you know what a kenning is? If not, ask your child to share some of their clever kenning phrases like "Dragon challenger" or "Boy helper"—they came up with some brilliant ideas!

In Geography, we've been discovering the 9 regions of the UK and learning how to describe their positions using compass directions.

Our **Art** lessons have been inspired by Vincent van Gogh, and the children have produced some stunning work that you'll soon see in their books and on our whole-school display.



In Reading, we've focused on non-fiction texts and how features like bullet points and bold fonts help readers find information quickly and easily.

Finally, **in RE**, we've been learning why the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—is at the heart of the Christian faith, and how it connects to prayer and baptism.



And of course, our Science Club was a great success this evening! The children safely observed some fascinating chemical reactions from a distance, sparking lots of curiosity and excitement.



I am looking forward to more exciting learning in Autumn 2!

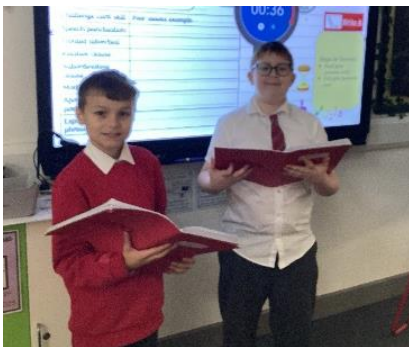
Miss Campbell



What an amazing end to our first half-term together! The children have settled brilliantly into their new routines and classrooms, showing real maturity, enthusiasm, and teamwork throughout the term.



In English, pupils completed their narrative retells, moving carefully through the full writing process — from planning and drafting to editing and publishing. They then shared their finished pieces aloud, giving and receiving thoughtful self and peer assessments. It's been wonderful to see how much pride they've taken in their writing!



In Maths, Year 6 pupils worked incredibly hard on their practice assessments, showing just how much progress they've made since September. Year 5 focused on place value, consolidating their understanding through a range of practical and problem-solving activities.



In Reading, we used *Goodnight Mr Tom* to explore how authors use speech to reveal character and emotion. Pupils used their inference skills to work out what was really happening beneath the surface of the dialogue.



In Geography, we explored the regions of England, using maps to divide the country and then creating fantastic 3D models showing key cities within each region — a great mix of geography and creativity!

In Science, we investigated how day length changes across the year by comparing the UK and Australia. Pupils created line graphs to show their findings and explained how the Earth's tilt and orbit lead to the summer and winter solstices.



In PSHE, we celebrated Black History Month, learning about inspiring figures such as Ade Adepitan and Malorie Blackman, and making detailed notes on their achievements and impact.

In Computing, we compared different online communication tools, discussing how and why people use them safely and effectively.

Finally, in Art, pupils painted beautiful sunflowers, experimenting with colour mixing and brush thickness to create texture and contrast — the results were stunning!



Reception – Albert
 Year 1 – Arthur
 Year 2 - Ollie
 Year 3 – Cameron
 Year 4 – Rupert
 Year 5 – Molly
 Year 6 – April



Reception – Arlan
 Year 1 – Courtney
 Year 2 – Henry
 Year 3 – Eddie
 Year 4 – Oliver
 Year 5 – Lukian
 Year 6 – Kayson





Autumn Term Clubs

Tuesday



Y1/2/3 Football with Mr Farmer

Y3/4/5/6 Art with Miss Wetton

Y1-6 Dance with PALS



Wednesday

Y4/5/6 Football with Mr Farmer

Y1/2 Well-being with Miss Goddard



Thursday

Y3/4/5/6 Science with Miss Campbell

Y1/2 Geography with Miss Boulter



Friday

Y3/4/5/6 Chess with Mr Farmer





Autumn Term Calendar Dates

November

Tuesday 4th November
School opens

Tuesday 4th November
9:00am New Reception 2026 Presentation

Tuesday 4th/Wednesday 5th November
Parent's Evening

Wednesday 5th November
1:30pm New Reception 2026 Presentation

Thursday 6th November
5:30pm New Reception 2026 Presentation

Tuesday 11th November
Remembrance Church Service

December

Tuesday 9th December 1:30pm
Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Wednesday 10th December
Christmas Dinner

Thursday 11th December 9:30am
Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Friday 12th December (time to be confirmed)
Christmas Fayre/Carols round the tree

Monday 15th December
Year 3 and 4 Trip

Tuesday 16th December
Christmas Church Service

Wednesday 17th December
Year 5 and 6 Trip to the Pantomime

Thursday 18th December
Reception/Year 1 and Year 2 to Amerton Farm

Friday 19th December
School closes for the Christmas Holidays





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
Mrs Nevins-Stanford (SENDCo)
01785 337436

Local Offer for parents and carers

