



'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 26th September 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Good afternoon,

What another quick week this has been! Time has flown by and as ever, the week has been full of fun and learning!

Our clubs started this week and it was wonderful to see so many children attend and be excited to tell us about what they had been doing! I know the Art club has already started its Remembrance themed art ready for a whole school display in the hall and we are looking forward to seeing it.

On Tuesday, Lottie led whole school Worship, continuing our theme of Respect and talking about The Ten Commandments – our special values bible story. These commandments encourage people to get along with others by showing them love and respect, and in particular the last six commandments guide them on how to love other people. This will contribute to having a positive impact as a son, daughter, husband, wife, friend, neighbour, classmate, colleague or member of the community.

This week, I launched our new PSHE scheme in school called 'Jigsaw' – a whole-school approach ensuring consistency, with **mindfulness and emotional literacy** integrated to support student well-being. We are really looking forward to sharing this new approach with you all – and introducing the children to the new Jigsaw characters certainly created a buzz of excitement in the hall.

A reminder that our office email has changed – and all communication is to go through there stating FAO (For Attention of) in the subject line together with the name of the teacher concerned.

As Mrs Nevins-Stanford is now only working here one day a week, for all SEND enquiries, please email the office with the subject FAO SEND and we will re-direct your message.

We are still here as always with our doors open should you need anything at any time. We always do our best to support as best we can in the moment.

Have a lovely weekend

Take care

Miss Gaskell and the St Paul's Team



Useful Information



New office email

StPaulsOffice@StBartsMat.co.uk

Please email in with any questions and we can re-direct to the correct staff members to ensure you have the right person to answer your query.



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 3/4/5/6

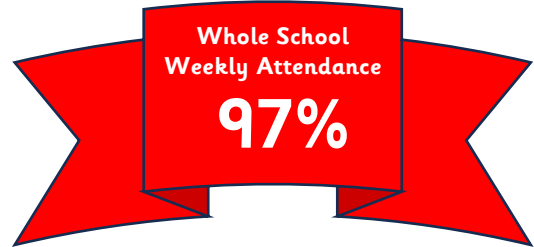
Children will come to school on a Wednesday in PE Kit

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	98.3%
Year 2	98.8%
Year 3/4	97.3%
Year 5/6	95.2%



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.



Please come and join us for our Harvest Celebration at St Paul's Church. There will be songs and poems. We would welcome any donations of tins, dried food or packets of food into school on Monday 13th or on the morning of Tuesday 14th October. All donations this year will be given to Church which will be supporting local charities.



This week, our Reception and Year 1 children have truly shone, showing so many of our Rainbow Values—especially respect through patience, which we've been practising together throughout the week.

In Reception, the children have been learning new phonics sounds and working hard on their blending techniques—a key step in beginning their reading journeys. Year 1 have been reviewing their Phase 4 sounds to ensure they're ready to dive into Phase 5 next week. Across both



year groups, we've been focusing on prosody and expression during our class reading sessions, and the children are becoming confident, expressive readers!

We've been exploring the concept of finding matches, and the children quickly became experts—spotting matches not just in games but all around the classroom! We've also



introduced the vocabulary of "fewer than" and "more than", using practical equipment to deepen understanding and build confidence.



To support early writing, the children have been strengthening their fine motor skills through threading activities, arm exercises, and a class favourite—making their own playdough! They loved discovering how a few simple ingredients could create something so fun and useful. We've also been reinforcing our pencil grip technique with the reminder: nip, flip, grip!



The children have enjoyed lots of time in our indoor and outdoor provision. We were especially proud to see them organising and tidying our outdoor space completely on their own initiative! Their teamwork has been amazing, with collaborative creations of all sorts of vehicles using outdoor resources.



I am incredibly proud of the children's attitude, effort, and progress this week. They have shown such enthusiasm for learning, kindness towards one another, and a growing sense of independence. It's a joy to see them developing not only academically but also socially and emotionally. Well done, Reception and Year 1—you are all superstars!



What a wonderful week we've had in Year 2! The children have been working incredibly hard and have enjoyed lots of engaging, practical lessons.



In writing, we finalised our work on The Marshmallow animation and continued to build our skills with suffixes, focusing on -er and -ed. We also explored punctuation, particularly how to use question marks and exclamation marks to make our writing even more exciting. In maths, our place value topic continued as the children used number lines to show tens and ones and worked hard to develop their estimating skills—never an easy task! We ended the week by comparing objects, confidently using the key vocabulary more than and less than.



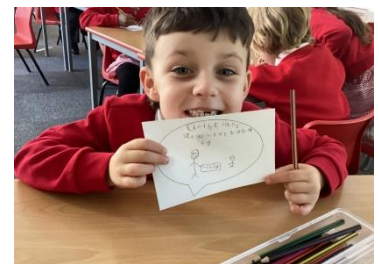
In history, we had lots of fun exploring what life was like for children in the Stone Age by looking at ancient sources. After some great discussions, we all agreed that we're glad we don't have to swap places with them! In RE, our brilliant new lesson leaders helped us explore how Christians show love for God. The children created some fabulous drawings and thoughtful explanations to show their understanding.



In geography, we turned our attention to the United Kingdom, using maps to identify and label the four countries and their capital cities. In science, our investigations into materials continued as we tested their properties—including magnetism, flexibility, texture, waterproofing, and hardness. The children impressed us with their scientific thinking, especially when deciding which materials would be most suitable for different objects.



In music, we began learning about pulse—the heartbeat of music—and had a fantastic time singing our new song, Round and Round. The children's enthusiasm filled the classroom!



Well done, Year 2—you have been amazing this week! Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.



This week in Class 3/4 has been bursting with creativity and collaboration! From hands-on science experiments to imaginative writing inspired by animation, the children have embraced every subject with enthusiasm and joy. We also celebrated the amazing launch of our new Science Club, which proved incredibly popular among children.



Maths

Children developed their estimation skills by finding midpoints on number lines and using these to estimate other numbers. This strengthened their understanding of number placement and reasoning.



English

We continued building spelling, grammar, and punctuation skills through engaging tasks inspired by the animation *Origins*, encouraging creative thinking and sentence construction.

Reading

Our focus was on comprehension, with children practising how to explain their answers clearly using evidence from the text.

Science

Children investigated whether the size of the pinna affects hearing.

Working in pairs, they created ears of different sizes and recorded their findings, learning how to report results like real scientists.

Geography

We revisited how to use map keys, helping children interpret symbols and features on maps.

History

Our Ancient Civilisations topic continued with fact cards about Ancient Egypt, followed by locating and labelling the Indus Valley, Sumer, and Shang civilisations.



RE

We began a new unit on the importance of water for Christians, linking it to baptism, cleansing, and spiritual meaning.

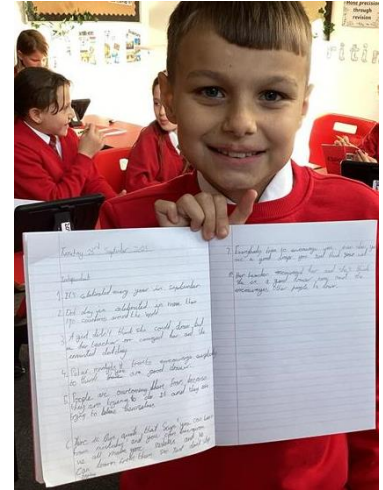
PSHE

Children were introduced to the characters from Jigsaw scheme who will support their learning journey this term. Plush versions have moved into the classroom, creating a warm and welcoming space for personal development.





As we move further into the term, it has been wonderful to see how well the children are adapting to their new routines and challenging themselves in all areas of learning. Their growing independence and resilience are shining through.



In reading, we celebrated **International Dot Day**, exploring the book and answering *explain* questions to develop our comprehension skills. In writing, we have been focusing on grammar and style – practising direct speech, using main and subordinate clauses, building expanded noun phrases, and working on cohesion within paragraphs.



In maths, we moved on to adding and subtracting numbers with more than four digits, with lots of practice in applying methods carefully and checking accuracy. In science, our focus turned to space, where we investigated how the different planets move relative to the sun.



In history, we became detectives by studying old photographs and asking thoughtful questions to deepen our understanding of the past. Geography took us into map work, as we created keys using **Ordnance Survey map symbols**. In art, our sunflower project continued, and the children painted their flowers beautifully, bringing colour and creativity to the classroom.



In RE, we extended our vocabulary in our 'God' unit by looking at the key terms *omniscient* and *omnipotent*, thinking about what these words mean in a religious context.

It's been a busy, productive week, and I'm so proud of how the children are working with such enthusiasm and focus as the term progresses.





Reception – Oliver
 Year 1 - Lumen
 Year 2 - Emilie
 Year 3 – Isaac
 Year 4 – Celine
 Year 5 – Elliott
 Year 6 – Sebby



Reception - Finn
 Year 1 - Maelynn
 Year 2 – Jaydon
 Year 3 – Vincent
 Year 4 – Ryan
 Year 5 – William
 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

Autumn 1

Monday 6th October 3:15pm – 3:40pm

Teacher drop-in to meet the teacher and see the classroom (this is not a parent's evening session)

Tuesday 7th October

School photograph Day

Friday 10th October

World Mental Health Day

Tuesday 14th October 10:00am

Harvest Festival at St Paul's Church – all welcome

Autumn 2

Tuesday 11th November

Remembrance Church Service

Tuesday 9th December 1:30pm

Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Wednesday 10th December

Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 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





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

