

St Paul's Catholic Primary School

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Newsletter

Friday 12th December 2025

Friends of St Paul's

We are very much looking forward to the Christmas Fair which will be held on **Tuesday 16th December**. There will also be singing from the school choir. Raffle Tickets for the colour hampers will be on sale on Monday & Tuesday breaktimes for the children at £1.00 a strip. They will then be on sale at the Fair on Tuesday after school.

LIVING OUR FAITH

SP

BY WORD AND DEED

Tuesday 16th December 2025
From 3.15pm
School Main Hall

FRIENDS OF ST. PAUL'S
Christmas Fair

Raffle, tombolas, hot choc, sweet
treats and plenty of games!
Plus a visit from Santa!

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A CASH ONLY EVENT SO
BRING PLENTY OF CHANGE!

Key Stage 2 Carol Service

All Parents, Carers and Grandparents are welcome to attend the Key Stage 2 Carol Service at **9.30am** in St Paul's Church on **Friday** morning. The children will be walking down to church shortly after registration so we ask that all children arrive at school on time. We look forward to celebrating this event with you.

Christmas Productions

On Wednesday morning, the youngest children delighted us with their performance of ***The Twinkly Nativity!*** With sparkling costumes, joyful songs and plenty of smiles, the children shared the Christmas story. Their enthusiasm lit up the stage – a huge well done to every child for their performance - you truly twinkled like stars!

On Wednesday afternoon we were so proud of our Key Stage 1 pupils for their wonderful performance of ***Knock, Knock! The Nativity!*** The children brought the Christmas story to life with such enthusiasm, confidence and joy. From the clear speaking and expressive acting to the wonderful singing, every child played their part beautifully.

A big thank you to the staff who prepared the children and to families for helping with practice at home. Most of all, congratulations to the children—you made us all smile and filled the hall with festive cheer!

St Paul's Parish

Thank you for the volunteer who will read at the annual **Parish Carol Service** which will be held on **Sunday 14th December** at 3pm in St Paul's Church. We have also had a volunteer to play the part of Mary but still need someone who is willing to play the part of Joseph at the 6.30pm Mass on **Christmas Eve** at St Paul's. If you are happy to take your child to any of these events please speak to Miss Flynn or Mr Allen.

Advent

This year, families have been invited to create an Advent wreath together. The Advent Wreath will then be blessed by Father Isidore at our KS2 Carol Concert on **Friday 19th December 2025**. The hope would be that families will then have an Advent Wreath to share prayers at home at Christmas time. If possible, we would like to also try and tie in *Stewardship* and encourage the use of recycled items to make the wreaths. Please bring your advent wreath to school by **Monday 15th December 2025** labelled with the name of your child or your family name.

Advent wreath designed and made by Luca – Year 5



Year 3 Sacramental Programme

Thank you to the Year 3 children who led the readings and prayers at Mass on Tuesday morning. Sixteen children were enrolled on the Sacramental Programme and we look forward to continuing to support them on their journey of faith throughout this year as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist in 2026.

Christmas Jumper Day

On **Wednesday** children and staff are invited to wear Christmas jumpers. To keep things simple, we just ask that children wear their Christmas jumper in place of their school jumper so they continue to wear skirts/trousers and school footwear. There is no need to go out and buy a new jumper. We just ask that you make a donation to the Friends of St Paul's.

Before school Dance Club Performances

Well done to the children for their magnificent dance performances on Thursday and Friday morning. It was lovely to have so many parents joining us too. Many thanks to Lianne for her excellent choreography too.

Nursery Places – September 2026

The online form is open for applications <https://www.st-pauls-hyde.tameside.sch.uk/page/forms/5938> for Nursery places for September 2026.

School Building Fund

As in previous years, voluntary contributions to the **School Building Fund** are being requested from all parents with children in our schools. The Fund is of great importance in helping meet the 10% liability on building and major repair projects and managing property, as it enables schools to be able to take advantage of Government funding. The voluntary contributions made by parents in respect of children attending our schools play a vital role in this. The Pdf document explains how you can make their voluntary contribution Online and Gift



Aid. Voluntary contributions can also be made by cash/cheque.

Reception Places – September 2026

The online portal <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions/psa> is now open for applications for Reception 2026. The closing date for applications is **15th January 2026**. Please be aware that we require additional evidence such as baptismal certificates to accompany your online application. This should be brought to the school office before the closing date in January 2026.

Attendance & Punctuality

We would like to remind you of the importance of regular school attendance. Every school day matters and maintaining good attendance ensures that children. Please follow the link that may help you to decide if your child is fit for school <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Attendance so far this year	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Overall
	93%	95.6%	92.8%	94.4%	95%	96.9%	96.2%	96.5%	94.9%
Punctuality so far this year	1.1%	0.78%	2%	1.9%	1.4%	1.5%	0.33%	2.3%	1.5%

Progressive Sports – Holiday Camp

We know that a number of parents have asked about holiday club provision. Our before and after school provider currently offer holiday clubs at the following locations. Please see the leaflet below for more information.



Christmas Cards

The children have been busy making Christmas cards that will be shared to those within the local community by **Direct Care**. This is a really lovely way in which we can live out our Mission Statement by supporting those in need this Christmas. Well done to all who took part in the competition and to those children who were chosen in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. The overall winner of the competition was Mia-Lilly in Year 6.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Nursery	Eric	Bobby	Tommy
Reception	Idris	Amira	Alfie
Year 1	Bobby	Ella T	Alicja
Year 2	Sadie	Freddie	Zoya
Year 3	James	Isabella E	Sophia
Year 4	Alice	Poppy	Santino
Year 5	Zachary	Patrick	Zoya
Year 6	Mia-Lilly	Hallie	Arabella



Dates for your 2025/2026 Diary	
Sunday 14 th December	St Paul's Parish Carol Service at 3pm
Tuesday 16 th December	FOSP Christmas Event from 3.15pm
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Jumper Day – Donations to FOSP
	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 18 th December	Rock Steady Music Concert at 9.30am
Friday 19 th December	KS2 Carol Service at St Paul's Church at 9.30am
	Break up for Christmas holidays
Wednesday 24 th December	Nativity of the Lord - Vigil Mass at 5pm St Mary's Church
	Nativity of the Lord – Vigil Mass at 6.30pm St Paul's Church
Thursday 25 th December	Nativity of the Lord – Dawn Mass at 9am St Paul's Church
	Nativity of the Lord – Mass at 10.30am St Mary's Church
Dates for 2026	
Monday 5 th January 2026	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday 6 th January	Return to school – start of the Spring Term
Monday 12 th January	Fire Service to visit Nursery
Wednesday 14 th January	School Nursing Team in to talk to Year 5
Thursday 15 th January	Closing date for Reception applications
Tuesday 20 th January	Year 4 visit to Chester
Wednesday 28 th January	Year 2 Class Assembly at 9.15am – parents welcome
Saturday 31 st January	Closing date for Nursery applications
Wednesday 11 th February	Year 3 visit to the Laudato Si Centre

As there will be no newsletter next week, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our school family a very happy and holy Christmas and a healthy new year.

Many thanks for the kind and generous gifts that you have donated to staff.

We look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 6th January 2026.