

St Paul's Catholic Primary School

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Newsletter

Friday 3rd July 2026

Reception Class Assembly

Well done to our wonderful Reception children for a fantastic class assembly. We are so proud of the confidence, enthusiasm and joy they showed while sharing their learning with us all. We loved your singing! Thank you to all the parents and families who came along to support the children. Your encouragement and partnership make a real difference and are greatly appreciated. We hope you enjoyed celebrating this special moment with us. The children were amazing, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them. I think they are almost ready for Year 1.

Friends of St Paul's – Summer Games

Many thanks to all for the generous donations of bottles today. We are very much looking forward to the Summer Games event next Friday, starting at 3.30pm.

We have had a request for donations of Wellington Boots for one of the stalls. If anyone has any wellington boots that could be used for this stall, please bring them for Friday.



Staffing Arrangements for September 2026

On **Monday 13th July**, as part of our transition programme, children will have the opportunity to spend time with their new teacher. These sessions are designed to help children feel confident, comfortable and excited about moving to their new year group in September.

During the session, children will meet their new teacher, spend time in their new classroom and take part in a range of activities to support a smooth and positive transition.

We encourage families to talk positively about the move and reassure children that their new teachers are looking forward to welcoming them in September. Thank you for your continued support as we prepare the children for the next stage of their learning journey.

Here are the staffing arrangements for September 2026. Both Mrs Speck and Miss Shelley will be commencing their maternity leave at the start of the Autumn Term.

Executive Headteacher	Mr D Hemington (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)
Head of School	Mr P Allen
Nursery	Mrs J Calderbank Mrs C Bower - Tuesday
Reception	Mr T Rothwell
Year 1	Mrs S McGowan
Year 2	Mrs E Lloyd – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Miss C Bower – Friday
Year 3	Mr R Gould – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Mrs H Wood – Thursday, Friday
Year 4	Mr C Titterington
Year 5	Miss R Smith
Year 6	Mrs R Shackleton – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday Mr P Allen – Tuesday

Summer Reading Challenge

This summer, we are encouraging **all** of our children to take part in our **Summer Reading Challenge**. Reading regularly over the holidays helps children maintain and develop their literacy skills while discovering new stories, facts and adventures.

We challenge every child to read as often as possible over the summer break. This could be independently, with a family member, or by listening to stories being read aloud. A visit to your local library is a great way to find exciting new books, and many libraries run their own Summer Reading Challenge activities.

We would love children to keep a record of the books they read and be ready to share their favourites when they return to school in September. Happy reading, and thank you for your continued support in helping your child develop a lifelong love of books!



Sports Day

We hope that you understood the difficult decision we took regarding Sports Day. This postponed event will now take place on **Monday 20th July** starting at 9.15am. All of the children will take part in each race/activity. The children will need to wear a coloured t-shirt of the house that they are in. They can come to school in their kit and stay in their kit for the remainder of the day.

Barlow – Green Beckett – Blue Clitherow – Yellow (PE Kit is fine) More - Red

Please ensure that your child brings their water bottle to school and if the sunshine makes an appearance, don't forget to apply sunscreen and send them in with a hat.

Parents and family members are all welcome to follow their child to see each of the activities, but please stay on the outside of the sports circuit.

In the case that Sports Day can't go ahead due to the weather we will post a message on the school website, after 8am. Please check the website before phoning school.

We look forward to an active and enjoyable day.

Learning at St Paul's

Our Year 4 pupils are in the initial stages of making their **Electrified Roman Chariots** as part of their Design and Technology project. The children have been developing their design, construction and problem-solving skills while exploring how simple electrical circuits can be used to make their chariots move.

They have shown great creativity and enthusiasm as they planned their designs, selected materials and began building their models. We look forward to seeing their finished products and watching their ideas come to life in the coming weeks. Well done, Year 4!



Fidget Toys

Over recent months, we have seen an increase in children bringing fidget toys and similar items into school. While we understand that some children enjoy collecting and playing with these toys, they are increasingly becoming a distraction to learning and can sometimes lead to issues in class. A number of them also present a health and safety risk due to the contents. As a result, **fidget toys should not be brought into school** unless they form part of a specific support plan agreed with the school and relevant professionals. We ask for your support in ensuring that children leave fidget toys at home. Any toys brought into school may be confiscated and returned at an appropriate time. Our priority is to maintain a calm, focused learning environment where all children can achieve their best. We appreciate your understanding and co-operation in supporting this expectation.

Attendance & Punctuality

Every school day matters and maintaining good attendance and punctuality ensures that children achieve well. We would like to thank families for your continued support with attendance and punctuality. Being in school every day and arriving on time has a significant impact on learning and wellbeing.

Overall attendance remains above 95% for the majority of classes and it is great to see that Year 1 attendance is now at 94%. **We would love to see all children arriving on time to school each day.**

Please note that requests for holidays during term time will be unauthorised and may incur a fine.

Attendance so far this year	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Overall
	95.2%	95%	94.1%	95.5%	95.8%	97%	96.8%	96.2%	95.6%
Punctuality so far this year	1.0%	0.95%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	0.2%	2.3%	1.3%

We look forward to seeing everyone bright and early on Monday morning, hopefully after a victory for England in the World Cup.

Warm Weather

With the warmer weather set to make a return, please ensure that your child comes to school prepared for sunny conditions. We recommend that sunscreen is applied before school each morning, as staff are unable to apply sunscreen to pupils during the school day.

Please ensure your child has a sun hat and a water bottle each day to help them stay safe and comfortable while enjoying outdoor activities. Thank you for your support.

Dates for your 2026 Diary	
Tuesday 7th July	Active Body/Active Mind
Wednesday 8th July	Year 6 SEND Transition Session at Hyde Town Hall
Friday 10th July	FOSP Summer Games Event at 3.30pm
Monday 13th July	Transition Morning 9.30am – 11.30am
	TechKnow Digital Festival Week
Tuesday 14th July	Whole School Mass at 9.15am – Parents welcome
	Active Body/Active Mind
Wednesday 15th July	Year 6 Production of Mystery at Magpie Manor at 6pm (ticket information to follow)
Thursday 16th July	Rock Steady Music concert for Parents at 9.30am
Friday 17th July	Last day of swimming for Year 4
	Year 6 Leavers Trip – Clip 'n Climb
Monday 20th July	Sports Day – starting at 9.15am
Monday 20th July	Reports drop-in Session for Parents
Wednesday 22nd July	Whole School Cafod Assembly
Thursday 23rd July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
	Break up for Summer at 3.15pm
Friday 24th July	Staff INSET Day

Community News

Understanding autistic young people's experiences of mainstream primary schools

Autism Central is holding the webinar 'Understanding autistic young people's experiences of mainstream primary schools', where an autistic researcher will share what needs to be done to create supportive and inclusive school environments. It will be held on Friday 17th July from 12-1pm. We would encourage any interested families to book their place on the [Autism Central website](#).

TechKnow Digital Festival

There is an interesting and varied programme of activities on offer during the TechKnow Digital Festival running from 13th - 18th July which may be of interest to families. While some events require advance booking, there will also be plenty of free-drop-in activities taking place throughout the week, so there's something for everyone to enjoy. Please see festival flyer for more details.



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Festival Flyer DESIGN_