St Paul's CE Primary School – Newsletter Autumn 26

www.stpaulswithington.co.uk

Update from Miss Lee…

Thank you for a wonderful start to the school year, we had a great half term 1. I am so proud of how well the children settled into their new classes and routines. Their positive attitude to learning has been amazing.

This year, our school focus is **'Taking pride in all we do'**. Please celebrate your child's hard work at home. When you look at their work or Seesaw posts together, ask them what makes them feel proud.

Thank you for coming to our school events, including the parent workshops, transition meetings, Macmillan Coffee Morning, and the PTA Teddy Bear Picnic. Seeing our families together builds a strong, happy school community. Please look out for more events soon!

Our New Focus: Writing

For the rest of the year, our big focus across the school is **writing**. You can help at home by encouraging your child to write for fun. Here are a few easy ideas:

- Write a shopping list together.
- Write a short story or a letter to a family member.
- **For Nursery and Reception:** Drawing, painting, and making marks are the first steps to writing. Please praise all their efforts, even if the letters are not perfect yet!

Please also look out for improvements in your child's handwriting and celebrate their progress.

Thank you again for all your support. Together, we help every child shine.

Warm wishes,

Miss Lee

Dates for Your Diary



18th November 2026: Safer Street – No cars allowed on St Paul's Rd, Children can play on the road, but parents must stay to supervise their child. Safety Equipment must be worn if child is using a bike, scooter or skates.
20th November 2026: World Children's Day. Children can dress up as their future selves
23rd November 2026: Teddy Donations begin today, please leave the Teddies in the office.
24th November 2026: Bottle collection for The Christmas Fair (Bring an unopened bottle exchange it for a house point)
25TH November 2026: YR3 & YR4 Stone Age Exhibition in The School Hall, 09:15 am Parents invited
25th November 2026: School Photograph Day
26th November 2026: Non-Uniform Day in exchange for a donation of chocolate/sweets for our The Christmas Fair
28th November 2026: Christmas Fair 12-3 pm at St Pauls Church
Week Beginning 30TH November: Bike Ability YR5 & YR6
30th November 2026: YR4, YR5 & YR6 Music Show **postponed** until the spring term due to a tight Christmas Schedule.

Christmas Dates

4TH December 2026: SEND Coffee Afternoon 2-3 pm
11th December 2026: YR3 & YR4 Christmas show for Parents/ Carers 9:30am
15th December 2026: EY's Christmas Show for Parents/ Carers 9:30 am
16th December 2026: YR1 Christmas Show for Parents/ Carers 9:30 am
16th December 2026: Picnic Lunch (All pupils will be provided with a free meal)
17th December 2026: Christmas Party Day & Christmas Dinner Day (All pupils will be provided with a free meal)
18th December 2026: Christmas Service at Church, 9:30 am (Reception to YR6)

Harvest Service at St Paul's Church

Our Harvest Service was a wonderful celebration of thankfulness. Children shared prayers about being thankful and sang a selection of hymns with great enthusiasm. It was lovely to see so many parents/carers join us to share in this special occasion.





Thank you to all the Parent/ Carers who came to our Year 5 & 6 WWII Exhibition, it was lovely to share the work our children had being doing on WWII. We loved hearing their poems, sharing their blitz artwork, their plane constructions and seeing the pride on parents faces as you celebrated their work and achievements.





Sports

A huge thank you to our Hockey team for their dedication, commitment and enthusiasm during this terms Hockey League. They finished 4th in a very competitive league and represented the school in a wonderful manner with their teamwork and sportsmanship. The children demonstrated fantastic resilience, perseverance and determination. They made us all at St Pauls extremely proud.

The Dodgeball team will be looking to emulate them and have already begun to do so with a solid start in their first fixture this past week.

In addition, Sports Leaders have been announced this week. There were many wonderful candidates which reflect how proud we are of sports at St Paul's.

Early Years Teddy Bears Picnic

At the start of the term our PTA arranged a Teddy Bears Picnic for our Early Years children, parents and carers. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for families to meet their child's teacher, get to know other parents and carers and begin building connections with the school community. We enjoyed a lovely afternoon filled with conversation, story telling and friendship whilst watching the children play. It was a delightful way to start the term.



KS1 Trunk Theatre's Great Fire of London Performance



Before half term KS1 had a Great Fire of London Day and the children got to watch a brilliant performance by the Trunk Theatre Group all about the event. They thoroughly enjoyed this and got to join in with different parts of the show.

KS2 Special Visits

Y3/4 Fire Service visit The children really enjoyed a special visit from our local fire service at the start of term! We learned all about fire safety and the important role firefighters play in keeping our community safe. The children also had the exciting opportunity to explore the fire engine, discover its different parts and find out what each piece of equipment is used for. There was lots of curiosity, with the children asking some fantastic questions and showing great interest throughout the visit! Most importantly, we learned lots of new and valuable information about what to do in an emergency and how to stay safe.

Y3/4 Stone Age Day We had a fantastic time welcoming a special Stone Age visitor to our school! The children loved stepping back in time and discovering what life was like during the Stone Age. They had the opportunity to take part in some exciting hands-on activities, including making their very own clay pots and learning how to make rope! It was wonderful to see the children being so enthusiastic, exploring new skills and learning about how people lived, worked and made things thousands of years ago. It was a fabulous way to begin our Stone Age topic!

We celebrated **Space week** in style this year, with a competition! Well done to all those children who took time outside of school to create a planet or a star. Our Staff were extremely impressed by the pride, knowledge and creativity shown in their entries. Congratulations to our winners!





After School Clubs

After-school clubs at St Paul's offer children exciting opportunities to explore their interests, develop skills, express their creativity and have lots of fun! Here's what we've been doing in our clubs so far this term…

Music technology club
Delivered in partnership with our local music hub, One Education, our children have been learning to play a new instrument, explore music technology and read different forms of music notations. We have been very impressed by the creativity children have showed so far.

Film & Craft club
Children have enjoyed watching short films, sharing their thoughts and creating crafts inspired by what they have watched. So far, we have made pop penguins (Lost and Found), clay animals (Peter and the Wolf), and decorated moon biscuits (La Luna and A trip to the moon). We have enjoyed both experiencing new cultures and media and showcasing our creativity through various arts and crafts.

Creative Arts
Children have been exploring their creativity through a variety of artistic activities, experimenting with different materials and techniques while developing their artistic skills and confidence.

Spanish Club
Children have been exploring *el otoño* (autumn) through new vocabulary and seasonal crafts. The class bear, Chiqui has also been going home each week with our *estrella de la semana* (star of the week), and we've loved hearing about their adventures at the start of every session! Spaces are still available you can sign up here: https://pbbl.uk/4AtOsKU

Cooking & Baking
Children in Year 3-6 have been developing their cooking and baking skills, exploring new recipes and creating a delicious variety of sweet and savoury treats. Cooking and baking club provides a fantastic opportunity to learn new techniques and have fun in the kitchen!

Multisports
Children have been trying a range of sports, developing new skills and keeping active. Multisports club encourages teamwork, confidence healthy lifestyles and the opportunity to make new friends.

Chinese
Children have been building their Chinese vocabulary, practising speaking, listening and writing. They are also enjoying Chinese culture through fun activities such as bingo, origami and creative crafts.

Coding Club
Children have been developing their Scratch coding skills, focusing on animation, sound and input control. They are learning to bring their ideas to life while building problem-solving and digital skills.

Story telling
Club Children explore the magic of stories through listening, discussion and creative activities. They are developing their imagination, confidence and communication skills while discovering new characters and creating their own stories.

Reading Ambassadors

We are delighted to introduce our Reading Ambassadors, a dedicated team of pupils who are passionate about books and reading. Their role is to help keep our library organised and up-to-date, which is keeping them very busy at the moment!

Our Reading Ambassadors also work hard to promote a love of reading across the school by sharing recommendations and encouraging others to read. Later in the year, they will have the opportunity to support some of our younger pupils by listening to them read and helping them develop their confidence and enjoyment of reading.

We are very proud of our Reading Ambassadors and look forward to seeing the positive impact they will have around school.



Rights Rangers

We are excited to have new Rights Rangers for this year! These children will play an important role in promoting children's rights across our school by:

- Raising awareness of children's rights.
- Making sure children's voices are heard.
- Leading positive actions and campaigns.
- Monitoring our school environment to help make it safe, happy and inclusive for everyone.

We are very proud of our new Rights Rangers and can't wait to see the positive difference they make! Every child has a voice, every child has rights!

Attendance Heroes

Being in school every day gives your child the best opportunity to learn, develop and thrive. Regular and punctual attendance supports their education, wellbeing, friendships and helps them feel part of the school community.

Our **Attendance Heroes** help promote positive attendance across St Paul's. They encourage their classmates to understand why coming to school everyday matters and to help us celebrate children who are making a great effort with their attendance. Our Hero's also have the very important job of helping **Alfie the Attendance Trolley** on his rounds delivering prizes, rewards and plenty of enthusiasm to celebrate great attendance across our school.



Autumn Term PSHE

We are very excited to be introducing our adapted PSHE curriculum this year to meet new statutory guidelines. We will keep you updated through our newsletters and share information about the unit objectives and key learning that will be taught each half term. We look forward to working together to support your child's personal, social, health and emotional development. If you have any questions about the PSHE curriculum, please do not hesitate to speak to Ms Gallienne.

Key Stage 1

- Why are families important for helping us feel loved, safe, and secure?
- What makes a caring and happy family?
- Why are friendships important?
- How can we help others feel included?
- Why do friendships sometimes have problems, and how can we solve them?
- How can we tell if a family or friendship situation feels unsafe or upsetting?

Lower Key Stage 2

- What qualities make a friendship trusting, respectful and enjoyable?
- How can we tell when a friendship is becoming unkind or unhealthy?
- Why is it important to think about other people's needs, and why can balancing everyone's needs be difficult?
- What are healthy boundaries in relationships, and how can we respect them?
- How can we express our feelings safely and manage conflict?
- What is the difference between being assertive and being controlling, and how can we be kind without forgetting our own needs?

Upper Key Stage 2

- Why is it important to respect others, especially people who are different from us?
- What practical skills can we use to build strong, healthy relationships in different situations?
- How do good manners and courtesy help us get along with others?
- What is self-respect, and how can we develop our confidence and identity?
- What kinds of bullying exist (including online), how does bullying affect people, and what should we do if we see it?
- What are stereotypes, why are they harmful, and how can we challenge them and ask for help when we feel unsafe?
- What practical skills can we use to build strong, healthy relationships in different situations?
- How do good manners and courtesy help us get along with others?
- What is self-respect, and how can we develop our confidence and identity?

The ZONES of Regulation

How are you feeling?

BLUE ZONE

IF I FEEL...



I CAN TRY...



YELLOW ZONE

IF I FEEL...



I CAN TRY...



GREEN ZONE

IF I FEEL...

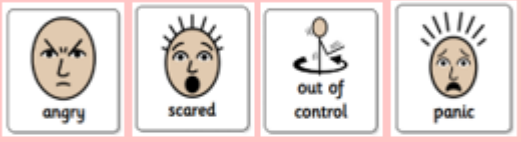


I CAN...



RED ZONE

IF I FEEL...



I CAN TRY...



Year 5 & 6 Attendance Week

Mon 30 Nov to Fri 4th Dec

We have a exiting prize of a family ticket to the cinema and a yummy hamper for the winner to take home.

To be in with a chance to win children must arrive on time at 8:55am every day and be in school all day, for the whole week. Their names will be entered into the draw for a chance to win the Attendance Prize!

Good Luck Everyone!

Gentle Reminders

- We have four designated disabled parking bays available on a first come first serve basis. To avoid grid lock and keep our children safe please only use these bays between 8:40 – 9:10am & 3:10 – 3:35pm
- The school gate closes at 3:30 pm. Once you have collected your child, please leave the school site promptly so that staff can secure the premises safely.
- For safeguarding reasons mobile phones must not be used anywhere on the school site. If you are seen using your phone, you will be politely asked to put it away.
- Please remember to book Breakfast Club in advance, via school spider. If your no longer require your booking, please cancel as soon as possible so that the space can be offered to another child.
- An important Attendance information was shared via school spider on 14/10/2026, if you have not read this, please do so.
- *Reception to Year 4 Parents/ Carers*, for Safeguarding purposes anyone collecting your child on your behalf will need to provide the agreed collector password. If you have not already provided a password, please speak to the office.
- If you wish to give your child permission to walk home independently, please email the office and we will send you the relevant form
- Please ensure that all your child's belongings; Coats, jumpers, P.E Kits are clearly labelled with their name.
- As Autumn is setting in, the weather is changing and the mornings and evenings are becoming darker we encourage parents/ carers to ensure children wear reflective or fluorescent items on coats or school bags to help stay visible whilst travelling to and from school. **Be Bright! Be Seen!**
- We still have availability in our Multisport After School Club. If your child would like to join, please book and pay through school spider, once done, please email us to confirm your booking.
- The Year 5/6 Bike Ability course is fully booked, your child will need a bike which is in a roadworthy condition