



Unique and precious in God's eyes,
be the best that you can be



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St. Paul's Newsletter - February 2025

St Paul's C of E Primary School
Protected Characteristics



We are committed to being a safe and welcoming place, showing support and solidarity for all pupils, staff and visitors, in line with the Equality Act 2010.

Message from Miss Harrington

Welcome to this edition of our Newsletter, and I hope that you enjoy reading all about the learning and activities that the children have been doing this half term. It has really been packed with exciting events and opportunities for the children, and I hope that you have seen some of these already if you are following us on our Facebook page.

We have had an Ofsted monitoring visit this half term, which was very positive, and acknowledged all the work that has been done to address the areas highlighted in our report last year. I am just waiting for the final report which I will then share with you. Attendance remains an area of concern. We have so many children who attend well, but unfortunately we have a significant number whose attendance is below where it should be, and less than 90%. Good attendance is classed as at or above 95%. We have tried to think about different ways to encourage better attendance, and you will see a couple of new ideas in this Newsletter that we are going to trial next term. If you have any other suggestions that might help, then please let myself or Mrs Nairn know.

Next half term we have some important events; World Book Day, the Y4 Activity Day, Parents' Evening, Red Nose Day, visits to Church, sharing assemblies, and for the first time, an Easter Disco! More information about each of these will come out nearer the time.

So, enjoy reading, and I hope that you all have a lovely half term break, and we will see you when we return on Monday, 24th February.

Welcome Wednesday's

We are thrilled to announce that we will be launching our new 'Welcoming Wednesdays' to Breakfast Club on Wednesday, 26th February 2025.

Parents are invited, free of charge, to enjoy a healthy breakfast with their children, and it will be an opportunity for parents to build relationships with each other and school staff.

There is no need to book, just arrive with your child/children from 8.00am. We ask that you leave by 8.35am to allow staff to get the children ready to go to class.

Bagels will still be available to children arriving at the school gate.

More attendance incentives for you to look out for will be launched during the next half term.





THANK YOU



Bags2School came to collect all of your donations this term. We managed to donate 390kg of donations which we received 20p per kg, adding £78.00 to our school fund account.

St. Luke's Visit Year 3

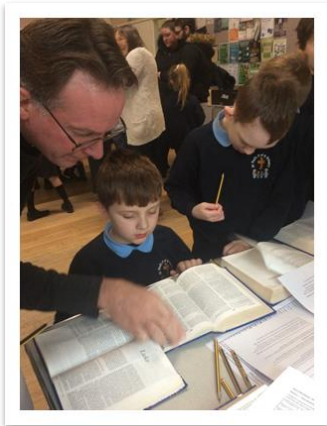
Year 3 enjoyed a great visit to St Luke's Church. They were welcomed by Reverend Andy and a team of volunteers from the church.

Both classes took part in a range of activities to enrich their learning about Christianity. The children looked at different styles of Bibles, some of which were very old. They were challenged to find specific Bible verses that teach the importance of the Bible and the children discussed how the words of the Bible share the message of God. In groups, the children learnt how God might communicate with us, using songs and stories, letters and analogies to describe experiences and, how this can help us in our everyday lives.

Reverend Chris's passion and enthusiasm inspired all of the children, and adults, to engage in the activities and return to school with a confidence to share their learning with their friends and colleagues.

Everyone at St Luke's church praised Year 3 for their excellent behaviour throughout the morning and we are already looking forward to our next visit to our local church.

It was lovely to welcome parent helpers on our visit and Year 3 staff and children would like to say thank you for supporting us with our learning.



Headlice

We are experiencing a high number of reports of head lice in school, and whilst not serious or dangerous, unless they go untreated, it isn't a pleasant experience for any child.

Please be vigilant and check your child's hair regularly. **Long hair should always be tied up.**

If you are struggling to control head lice, please speak to the school nurse.



It's Cool to be in School



This half term winners of The Awesome Attendance Trophy is \$JA/SC and 5CS/DF

#everydaycounts

CLASS	6 Jan - 14 Feb 2025
Nursery Beg	86.99%
Nursery End	84.33%
Maple	89.58%
RNH	87.13%
1NL	93.21%
1/2JB	90.42%
2ME	92.64%
3GB	93.01%
3MH	91.73%
4SK	92.28%
4JA/SC	93.91%
5MG	89.87%
5CS/DF	93.91%
6LM	93.14%
6LB	90.25%

Every Day Counts

Studybugs

Many thanks to all parents/carers who have downloaded Studybugs and are seeing the benefits of using it to report your child's absences due to sickness,

So, if you haven't already, download the free mobile app now.



Parent Apps & ParentPay

For help activating your accounts, please call in at the school office and we'll help you to get up and running

Hit the link to apply for Free School Meals - you only need to complete it once!

[Apply Online Today!](#)
CLICK HERE

End of Term Attendance Awards

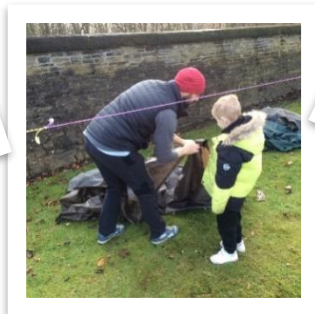
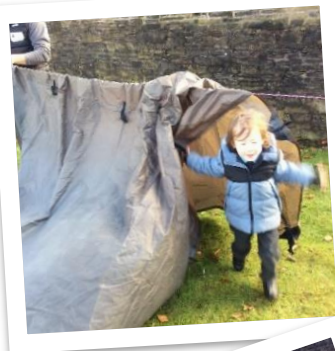
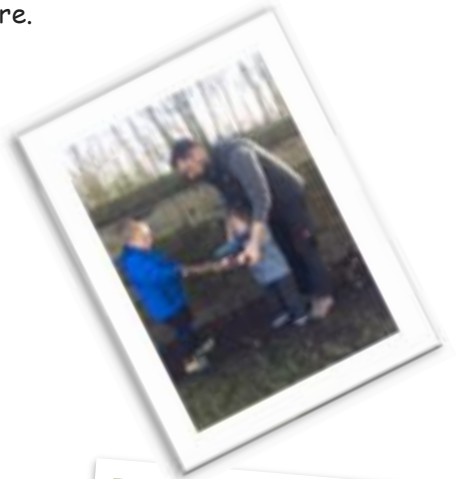
It goes without saying that regular attendance is essential to your child's progress and success. To reward those children who have achieved 95% or above attendance this term, they have all received very special prizes. Very well done to all those children and thank you to parents for working with us to ensure your child is in school.



News from Maple Class

This half term Maple have been looking at the topic "exploring food". We have been using our senses to touch, smell and taste different foods. This has helped us to build positive relationships with food as well as building our language development and motor skills. Our favourite books linked to the topic have been the Hungry Caterpillar and Handa's Surprise!

The children have also loved our forest school sessions with Phil. Over the term we have developed our social skills by making shelters and collecting sticks for a fire. We built up our confidence and were able to make a fire. We were able to understand and follow all the safety rules and were in awe of the sights, sounds and smells of the fire.



Sharing Assembly

Year 5MG wowed parents/carers and teachers with their Sharing Assembly this half term. They put on a fantastic performance, in front of lots of adults and children, showcasing so much of their learning and activities in the year so far. Thanks to all parents/carers who came along.



Parent/Carer Engagement

This term we have held two SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Parent Event which were open to all parents/cares

Living With Autism

David Griffiths, a Disability Stockport Autism Ambassador, led the session and gave a really interesting talk about his life living with Autism. He gave a presentation including hints and tips for those living with, or family members living with Autism. Following the presentation David offered a questions and answer session which was very welcomed.

Understanding and Improving Sleep for Neurodivergent Children

Joe Booker from the Seashell Trust delivered a presentation on Understanding and Improving Sleep for Neurodivergent Children. Whilst the session focused on strategies for children who may be neurodivergent, it proved very useful for families with children who are struggling with sleep.

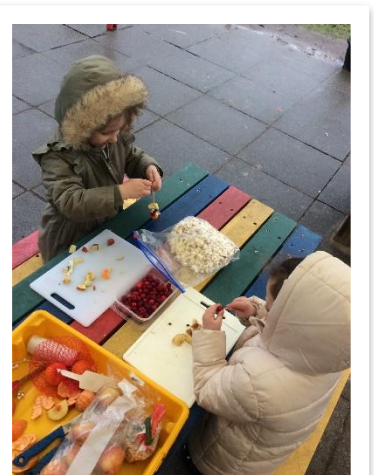
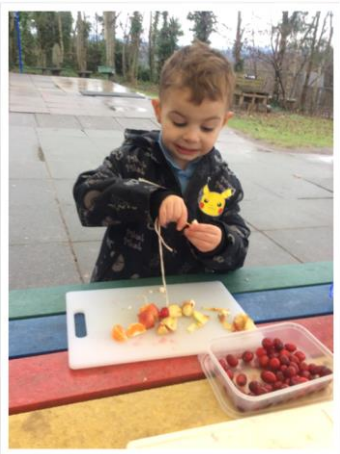
His presentation was very enlightening as he explained how to help fix children's sleep problems, including preparation for bedtime, consistency in parents approach day-to-day, and limiting the number of naps taken throughout the day.

At the end of the session, he gave time to speak to families on a 1:1 basis which was very welcomed.

A big thank you to all parents/carers who came along, and please do keep a look out on ParentApps for future events.

News from Early Years

Early Years have been busy learning about British Woodland animals this half term. We have enjoyed learning how to care for the birds in our outdoor area by making bird feeders. We worked hard to improve our fine motor skills by threading popcorn and fruit onto string before hanging them in the trees for the birds to eat!



Interfaith Week

Our week long celebrations saw the whole celebrate Inter Faith Week. It was a wonderful celebration of religions and an opportunity to highlight the many similarities as well as differences between those faiths and Christianity.

We kick-started the week off with a whole school worship. During each afternoon, the children did a range of activities such as singing, dancing, artwork and looking at artefacts. Some of us focused on our chosen faith in our Literacy lessons, too. On Friday we gathered back together to share a little of what we had learnt in another whole school celebration.



Sikhism - Yr3 celebrated their learning about the Sikh religion by following instructions to make a headdress.



Islam - Yr5 celebrated their learning about the Islamic faith by producing lovely Henna artwork.



Buddhism - Y6 have been exploring special pilgrimages across Buddhism and have created Buddha collages using foil, string and paint.

Gardening with Phil

It's been a very busy term clearing and tidying up the beds and borders during gardening lessons. As the winter season approaches its end, we are busy preparing to welcome the spring. It's still cold outside, but there are signs of spring's arrival everywhere. All classes who have taken part in gardening this term have worked really hard and done a terrific job. Well done!



Christians in School

Christians In School came to visit Key Stage 2 this term and the children all enjoyed thought provoking lessons.

Year 5 had a really interesting lesson which linked perfectly to their R.E. unit, Green Religion. The children discussed their learning on different religions around the world and, how and why should religious communities do more to care for the Earth. They also took part in some activities to further learn how Christians care for the world.

All the children were engaged and enjoyed the session!



Year 6 continued their R.E. learning around the question -

'Is it better to express your religion in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity?'

Mrs Fullerlove encouraged the children to reflect on how sacred buildings and churches made them feel. They recognised how artefacts and artwork in these places made them feel awe and wonder. The children learnt about the purpose of the artwork and architecture of many different types of special buildings, and were then posed the question -

'Should more money be spent on making a building special or, should a building be kept simplistic allowing for more money to be donated to charity?'

This opened up an interesting debate. Well done Year 6 for your honest thoughts and ideas.

Dates for your diary

Thursday, 6th March - World Book Day
Friday, 14th March - Comic Relief
Tuesday, 18th March - Parent's Evening
Wednesday, 19th March - Parent's Evening
Thursday, 4th April - Year 4 Venture Out
Tuesday, 8th April - Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade
Thursday, 10th April - Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade
Friday, 11th April - Reception Easter Bonnet Parade
Wednesday 30th April - Reception Screening

Mark your calendar!

6LB

Friday, 28th February

Swimming

Enjoy Half Term

We can't wait to see you all again on
Monday, 24th February