



The St Paul's Post



Autumn 1 – September 2025



www.stpaulscofeprimaryschool.co.uk



01902 558621



St Paul's CofE Primary School – Pendeford



stpaulsprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Welcome back to school for the new academic year!

I hope all our children and families have had a lovely summer holiday!

We are delighted to be welcoming you all back to school this coming week, for the start of the new school year. This is always an exciting time for any school. We are particularly looking forward to welcoming our new families and children to the St Paul's family.

We are all excited about the coming term and have many experiences and opportunities planned for the children (and staff) to look forward to. Details of many of these can be found below or will be sent out in due course.

Please remember to visit our school website for up-to-date information. Our partnership with you as parents is incredibly important to us and our open-door policy is a significant part of this. If you have any questions or concerns or would like any advice, please speak to myself on the gate or pop into the school office. As always, if the query is specific to your child and their class, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance as they are often best placed to answer any questions and resolve any concerns.

We look forward to welcoming the children into school on **Wednesday 3rd September** (Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd are INSET days).

Best wishes and here's to a fantastic year at St Paul's! Mrs J Ferretti - Headteacher







Welcome!

A warm welcome to a new member of the St Paul's team -

Mrs Parlor joins us this week and will be supporting the children Year 5 during the mornings. She will be also supporting during lunchtimes in Key Stage One. I am sure everyone will be very welcoming and that she will quickly settle in and feel at home at St Paul's – I know she is very much looking forward to getting to know all the children.



New year preparations

I'd like to thank staff who have been in school over the holidays for their hard work in preparing classrooms and central areas for the new academic year. Particular acknowledgement and thanks must be given to Mr Pooler for the wonderful work he has done over the holidays redecorating the school hall and replacing all the lights in there – only one or two lights were left working at the end of term which would have been a little tricky heading into autumn and winter!! The completed work will be enjoyed by all in school, as well as by the church congregation.

I would also like to thank Severn Trent Water for sending a team of volunteers to school during the holidays to paint our playground benches, picnic tables and the Key Stage One playground wall. Their hard work has really brightened up the outdoor area! Our Lighthouse children can also look forward to playing and learning in their own, newly created outdoor area after Mr Pinches (Dad of Miss Pinches!) kindly spent a Saturday morning during the holidays installing our new fence and gate. Thank you so much!

Support for families - Pre-loved coats / uniform and shoes and our food bank

A reminder that we have a rail of uniform, coats and shoes in the front entrance for families. Please visit the front office if you would like to select anything for your child.

If you have any preloved uniform/coats or shoes in good condition that you are able to donate or swap, please send them in.

We hope this initiative will support families who are feeling the pressures of the cost of living increases.

We also have our food bank in the front entrance. If any parents would like to donate or receive, please pop into the school office. We do have a link with a local charity who are providing support to families and can provide food parcels, vouchers and period products. Please speak to the office or Mrs Ferretti if you are in need of support.

Please follow the link for information on <u>Wolverhampton food banks</u> and <u>Cost of Living advice and support.</u>

Medicines

If your child requires medicine during the school day, whether for a long-term health condition such as asthma or a short-term illness such as an ear infection, we are able to administer medicines to children **if necessary**. All medicines **must** be signed into school and added to Medical Tracker. Medicines **must** be in their original packaging with instructions/dosage and, if prescribed, **must** have the label with the child's name. If your child's medicine is given, you will receive a notification email from medical tracker. Please ensure we have the most up to date and accurate information for your child and their medication to hand in school. Medications were sent home at the end of the summer term. Mrs Savage will be available on Tuesday 2nd from 1pm to receive medications back into school. Alternatively, parents can bring them to the office on Wednesday morning.



Under <u>NO</u> circumstances should children bring medicines into school to keep in their bag and administer themselves.

Mobile Phones

A polite reminder that mobile phones should not be used in school by children or adults.



We are also a no smoking site – this includes vapes – please do not vape or smoke on the school grounds or immediately outside our gates.



Thank you.

No Nut School

A polite reminder to all parents that we are a 'No Nut School' and ask that parents refrain from sending children into school with nuts or items obviously containing nuts (peanut butter and Nutella for example). We do have a number of children in school who have a nut allergy and whilst we can never guarantee that children won't come into contact with nuts, these measures will help reduce risk. We also have a number of other, wider measures in school to manage food intolerances and ensure our children remain safe. We acknowledge the health benefits of nuts but recommend that these are enjoyed outside of school.



Could we also ask that parents ensure that any grapes sent into school for snack or packed lunches are **cut** in **half**, as whole grapes present a hazard.

Finally, when selecting snacks for KS2 children to enjoy at lunchtime, please ensure it is a healthy item – fruit or a cereal bar for example, **no crisps or chocolate**

bars. Sweets should not be brought into school unless for a birthday in which case they should be handed to the class teacher in the morning to share out.

What will my child be learning?

Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing further information with you about your child's learning. Curriculum newsletters and homework grids will be shared via the website at the end of this week. You can also visit the curriculum area of our website and your child's Class Page for more information about our curriculum at St Paul's; what they will be learning, how and why.

Friends of St Paul's



Can you help?

As I'm sure many of you will be aware, there are growing pressures on school budgets and increasingly, we are having to seek new ways to boost income and make economies as a school.

We are looking to create a collaborative group of people who would like to support our school community.

There are a number of ways to get involved and make a valuable contribution toward the future success of our school -

- -Supporting the organisation of fundraising events (e.g. summer fayre, Easter egg hunt, discos, movie night etc) as part of a committee of volunteers and staff.
- -Joining a group of volunteers who would be willing to give a few hours of their spare time on a weekend or during holiday time, to complete (light!) manual tasks around the school site.
- -Letting us know if you have a business link or you work in a trade that would be able to offer labour or materials at a reduced rate.

If you are interested in getting involved in any way, please complete <u>this short form</u> to register your interest.

We would also be looking for a couple of volunteers to form a small committee to oversee Friends of St Paul's events / activities. If you are interested in this, please indicate via <u>the form</u> or the QR code.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.



Enrichment Clubs... will begin again from Monday 15th September with the exception of dance club: we are excited to be welcoming Spotlight Dance back to St Paul's this year. They will be running their club each Friday until 4.30pm for children in Year 1 to 6. Please book your child's space and make payment via the Gateway app.

Clubs will run until w/c Monday 20th October but please note, there will be no dance club that week due to an event in church. Therefore, the last dance club will be Friday 17th October. Information about our offer this term will be sent out on in the coming days.

<u>Uniform</u>

All children should wear correct uniform in line with our **Uniform Policy** which can be viewed here.

St Paul's maroon jumper or cardigan
White shirt with maroon & silver tie / blouse / white or maroon St Paul's polo
Grey trousers / skirt / pinafore
Grey/white/maroon socks/tights
Black school shoes (no heels or trainers please)
If the weather is warm during September, Summer uniform can be worn.

Long hair should be tied up. Children may wear maroon/white/black bobbles, hair band or small bow.

Small stud earrings may be worn for pierced ears – these should be removed on PE days. No other jewellery should be worn except for items worn for religious reasons (e.g a Kara)

Nail varnish and tattoos should not be worn to school.

All children are expected to wear the correct active uniform for PE and Games; a maroon St Paul's hoodie, maroon St Paul's sports top and black joggers / leggings or shorts. Items should not have other logos on.

Support is available to families who are struggling with the financial impact of uniforms – please speak to Mrs Ferretti or the school office.

We also operate a preloved uniform / coat and shoe rail throughout the year.

All children should bring a named, refillable water bottle every day.

All items should be clearly named to enable staff to return items to the correct owner!

Before the holidays a letter reminding parents of uniform expectations was sent out. If you would like to read it again, please follow the link <u>September 2025 Uniform and Expectations</u>

The School Day

As you know, term starts for children in Reception to Year 6 and existing Nursery children on **Wednesday 3rd September**. (New Nursery children will start as per their agreed transition arrangements) The school day remains as follows –



The gates will open at 8.35am and classroom doors will open at 8.40am, when children should be in school. The gates will be closing at 8.50am. Please ensure your child arrives for school on time in the mornings – learning starts promptly.

In the interests of site security, and to enable us to lock the gate promptly, parents arriving with their child at 8.50am will be asked to drop their child(ren) at the gate. A member of staff will ensure that children walk safely to their classes.

Parents are asked to drop and leave promptly to avoid getting locked in when the gate closes. If still on site after 8.50am, please ask classroom staff to let you out through the front office.

Parents arriving with their children after 8.50am will need to take them to the front office where they will be asked to sign them in as late.

The end of the day will be 3.15pm for all classes.

For safety, we ask that parents do NOT park directly outside the pedestrian gates and avoid driving in to the cul-de-sac unless essential.

School Dinners

Our school catering company ABM will be sharing our new menu with us in the next few days. These will be shared with you as soon as we receive them and will also be added to our school website.



We hope the children enjoy the choices! As we all know, children can be fussy and sometimes don't want all the items of on the menu. However, as part of our duty to provide children with a balanced meal, kitchen staff have been directed to ensure that children are served with all items, for example, the main, potatoes / pasta and veg/salad. Read about the <u>School Meal Food Standards here</u>. Please be reassured, staff will not 'force' children to finish their plate or eat food they do not like but will encourage them to try a range of things. We recommend that parents look at the menu with their child at home each day to help them decide what they would like to choose from the menu before coming to school.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 do not have to pay for their meals, as part of the Government's Universal Infant Free School Meal offer. From Year 3, children are required to pay for their meals (£2.70 per day, or £2.20 for flexi charging) unless eligible for benefit related Free School Meals. For information visit Gov.uk or City of Wolverhampton website.



Milk is provided free of charge to children until the term after their 5th birthday and a healthy snack is provided for children in Early Years and Key Stage One. Children in Key Stage Two should bring in a healthy snack from home (no chocolate bars, sweets or crisps please).



Macmillan Coffee Morning

This year we are delighted to be supporting Macmillan Cancer Support by holding our own Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 26th September 9am – 10.15am. Annual coffee mornings across the country have been highly effective in making sure that nobody faces cancer alone. Parents and members of the local community are invited to join us and catch up over a cup of coffee/tea, enjoy some yummy treats and donate the cost of the cuppa to Macmillan Cancer Research! By joining Macmillan's biggest fundraising event, we will be collecting funds to provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support for people facing cancer, as well as campaigning for better cancer care. There are now 2.5 million people in the UK living with cancer. It would be wonderful if you could come along to this fantastic event and even bring along other family and friends to support the cause. Any cake/ cupcakes/ biscuits contributions would be gratefully appreciated. If you are unable to attend the coffee morning but would still like to donate, you can do so via our Just Giving page. Click here or use the QR code below. Many thanks for your support and we look forward to enjoying a cup of coffee (and cake!!!) with you!

<u>Places available</u> Do you know any families looking for a school place for their child(ren)? Perhaps they are new to area, or perhaps they're not aware of St Paul's – many people don't realise there is a school tucked away behind Morrisons! We have a small number of places available in year groups across school. Please spread the word and encourage potential parents to come and find out about life at St Paul's.



Toddler and Baby Group

Unfortunately, due to Mrs Allcott having had an operation on her foot, we are unable to begin our Little Lights Stay and Play sessions on Monday 8th September as planned. We are hopeful to restart in October so we can welcome parents/carers and their babies and toddlers back for these popular sessions! When they do return, sessions will run each Monday during term time, 9.15am (until 10.45am).

We wish Mrs Allcott a speedy recovery!



Trips

We are delighted to have arranged a range of trips again this year meaning that all children enjoy enrichment activities beyond the classroom.

We are all too aware of the financial pressures being placed upon families currently and seek to do what we can to support our families. As a school, we heavily subsidise trips and visits for all children and even more so for families who are eligible for Pupil Premium. Payments for school trips and visits during the day are voluntary. However, we are only able to continue to offer these valuable experiences if sufficient payments are received. Unfortunately, this year, trips WILL have to be cancelled if they are not financially viable. Please do make payments if possible to enable us to continue offering these opportunities in future years.

This year, we are looking forward to visiting;

Places of worship – (Church, Mosque, Gurdwara, Temple), Black Country Living Museum, Safeside, Shrewbusy Prison, Wroxeter, The Grand Theatre and PGL to name just a few!

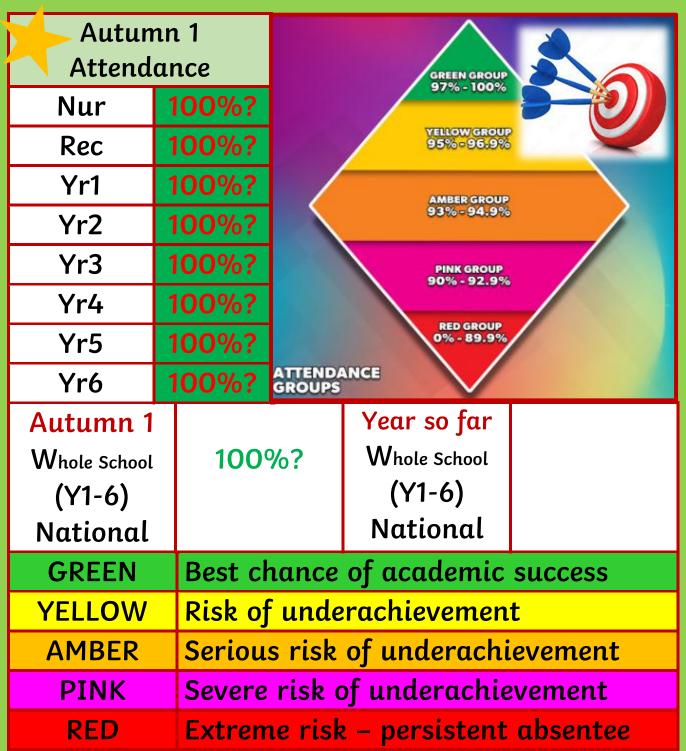
Diary Dates

Whilst we endevour to keep to the below dates, they are proposed and may be subject to change. Proposed dates for the year can also be found on our school website

Diary Dates 2025-26

September	
Monday 1 st	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 2 nd	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Wednesday 3 rd	Children return to school
Friday 5 th	Happy 20 th Birthday to the chapel & Oasis!
Sunday 7 th	Circle Church
Friday 12 th	Y4 Swimming starts
Friday 12 th	Dance Club starts
Monday 15 th	Jeans for Genes Day
Tuesday 16 th	Natalie Pritchard Author Visit
Friday 19 th	School council election
Monday 22nd	Full Governing Body – 5.30pm
Friday 26 th	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 26 th	Macmillan Coffee Morning - 9am
Sunday 28 th	Education Sunday service at St Paul's Church - TBC
Tuesday 30 th	Special Lunch Menu

Tuesday 30 th	Severn Trent workshop	
October		
Wednesday 1 st	Y6 Residential meeting - 2.30pm	
Thursday 2 nd	Census Day – special menu	
Friday 3 rd	Harvest festival	
Sunday 5 th	Circle Church	
Wednesday 8 th	RWI / Early Reading Workshops for Parents – Rec & KS1 2.15pm	
Thursday 9 th	Y2 Class Led Worship – 9am	
Thursday 9 th	Mental health day	
Friday 10 th	Early Years Stay & Play	
Friday 10 th	KS2 Reading workshop	
Weds 15 th	Y6 residential to Boreatton Park	
Friday 17 th	Y6 return from Boreatton Park	
Monday 20 th	Diwali lunch – special menu	
Tuesday 21st	Individual & sibling photos	
Wednesday 22 nd	Y4 A Night Under the Stars – TBC	
Thursday 23 rd	Y5 Class Led Worship – 9am	
Thursday 23 rd	Flu Vaccinations – catch up	
Friday 24 th	No dance club	
Saturday 25 th	Belt It Out! Church event	
Half term – Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October.		
November		
Monday 3 rd	INSET day – school closed to children	
Thursday 6 th	Y6 Class Led Worship – 9am	
Friday 7 th	Culture Day	
Monday 10 th	Anti-bullying Week – Odd Socks Day	
Monday 10 th	Wolverhampton Diversity Celebration – The Halls	
Tuesday 11 th	Remembrance Day	
Tuesday 11 th	Remembrance Day – special menu	
Tuesday 11 th	Parents' Evening Nur – Y6	
Wednesday 12 th	Parents' Evening Rec – Y6 & Community Fayre	
Friday 14 th	Children In Need	
Friday 14 th	Early Years Stay & Play 9-9.30am	
Monday 17 th	Full Governing Body meeting	
Thursday 20 th	Y3 Class Led Worship – 9am	
Thursday 27 th	Disco	
Saturday 29 th	Church Christmas Fayre	



School attendance is vital for a child's future success.

This year we are aiming to further improve our whole school attendance and would appreciate parents' support in ensuring children are always at school when they are able to be.

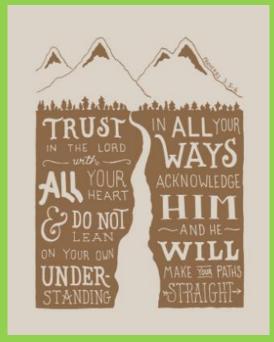
The parent of every child whose attendance is at least 96% at the end of the half term will be entered into a prize draw to win a £25 shopping voucher. We will also be introducing rewards and incentives for the children in school too.

Please read our information - Why does attendance matter?

And our school Attandance Policy.

Our St Paul's Promise;

Our St Paul's Promise P We are prepared R We are respectful O We make the most of every opportunity M We make a difference. I We are in control S We are safe E We excel.





Rainbow Christian Values;

Togetherness, Trust, Honesty, Courage, Forgiveness, Joyfulness, Humility

Our Mission Statement;

Building each other up—with God as our firm foundation.

(The Bible: I Thessalonians 5:11)

The First Day of School

The first day of school can be hard for Mum and Dad.

Part of you feels excited,
The other part feels sad.

For many years you've held their hand,
And have been their loving guide.

Now you know the time has come,
To leave them by our side.

But it is only for a little while,
So your child can learn and grow.
And at the end of every day,
They will share with you all they know.
So as you walk away,
Don't worry any more.

We will take care of your precious gift
When you leave them at our door.



Term Dates 2025-26

Autumn Term 2025

Term starts: Wednesday 3rd September

Half Term: Monday 27th - Friday 31st October

Term ends: Friday 19th December

Christmas Holidays: Monday 22nd December 2025 -

Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 5th January 2026

Half Term: Monday 16th - Friday 20th February

Term ends: Friday 27th March

Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Summer Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 13th April

Half Term: Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

Term ends: Monday 20th July

Summer Holidays: Tuesday 21st July —Monday 31st August

2025-26 Training Days—school closed to pupils;

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Monday 3rd November 2025

Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Autumn Term 2026

Term starts: Tuesday 2nd September 2026 (To be confirmed -

potential INSET day.)

St Paul's C.F

with God as our first foundation

As a school we are committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all of our children.

St Paul's C of E Primary School

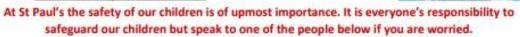


Keeping You Safe



SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

- Do you have concerns?
- Has someone made a disclosure?
- Who can you talk to?





Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss D. Woods

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss G. Pinches

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (from Jan 26)



Ms B. Clarke

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs R. Cook

Online Safety Leader



Mrs L Clarke

Safeguarding Governor



No. 7 Th

weifare of all our children.



If you have a concern about the safety of a child contact Wolverhampton Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub by clicking here or by phone; 01902 555392

Opening times: Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 5pm, Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm

Outside of the above hours for emergencies on 01902 552999

If the child or young person is at immediate risk of serious harm dial 999

If you suspect or believe a child is suffering or is likely to suffer Significant Harm, including any form of mistreatment or abuse, you must report your concerns. All referrals must be confirmed within one hour

by completing the on-line multi agency referral form (MARF).

