



Newsletter

Friday 22nd October 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our latest newsletter and the new format. We hope that the newsletter will provide you with a greater insight into what is happening in school for your children and their learning.

We have had a great half term in school since returning in September. As per normal the children have settled down to their learning brilliantly well. We have had some great feedback from our School improvement advisor Trevor Davies and Mathematics Improvement partner Jonathan Hughes. Both were very impressed with our learning and teaching at St. Paul's.

All staff have been working very hard on our 3 school priorities. These are:

Priority 1-Raise pupils' outcomes in mathematics so that all children achieve their very best especially disadvantaged children.

Priority 2-Raise pupils' outcomes in reading so that all pupils especially disadvantaged pupils and boys can access the full curriculum offer.

Priority 3-Leadership at all levels including pupils is highly effective.

Bus Update

We are excited to tell you that the bus and reading hut are almost complete. It is really taking shape out there and will be a major asset in supporting our drive to get everyone loving reading. We plan to be using them shortly after half term and I know that the children I have spoken to are very excited. For reasons beyond our control it has been a long time coming, but we are now so pleased to be approaching the finishing line.

Covid19 update

We do hope to revert back to normality after half term, after having our brush with Covid19 over the last few weeks. However we will continue to follow Public Health advice in order to ensure our school community's safety.

And Finally

It is with some sadness that I must announce that I will be leaving St. Paul's after the Spring Term. I have decided that, due to personal reasons, I will be retiring from headship after 15 years, 6 of them here. My time at St. Paul's has been brilliant and as I said to the governors, it has been in equal measures full of love and challenge. The governing body will now be working hard to appoint my successor and I am sure more information will follow. You can be assured that in the interim I will remain dedicated to the children of St. Paul's and giving them the best learning experience possible.

Have a wonderful half term break.

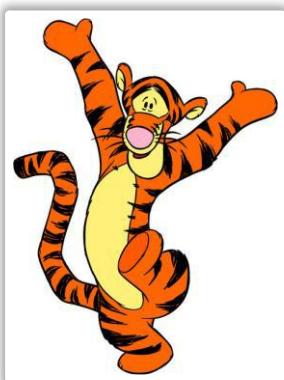
Mr Thornton - Head Teacher

Religious value of the week

At St Paul's we take time to worship, reflect and celebrate every day through whole school assemblies (even though still online), collective worship, hymn practice and celebration assemblies. During our collective worship we focus on our core school Christian values. These are Friendship, Love, Kindness, Trust, Respect and Courage. During the last few weeks we focused on friendship and explored the features of a good friend. Our children listen to and discussed the Bible story of David and Jonathan, as well as Naomi and Ruth. Pine class even wrapped it up with an ultimate favourite 'You've got a friend in me' sing along. Year 5's 3375 made a bit more of a recent link and talked about distant friendships during Corona Lockdown times and how we can still keep friendships alive through it all.

Attendance

Attendance up to 15th October 2021 is 93.01%. The school target is 97%.



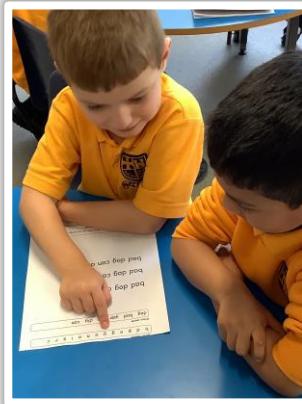
Staff Book Choice

Miss Turner's book choice

One of my favourite books as a child was Winnie The Pooh by A.A. Milne. Tigger was my favourite character and I longed to explore the hundred acre wood which was where the story was set. I remember my Grandad giving me a Winnie The Pooh book for Christmas. It had beautiful illustrations and I treasured it. I still have the book and every time I look at it I think about my Grandad reading it to me.

Reading

Reception children have been working hard in phonics. They have been learning to read from day one in Reception where they are learning what sounds the letters of the alphabet make. Once they know the sounds they are learning to blend the sounds to read words and segment the words to spell words.



Math's

Some pupils playing '24,' a game where you have to use all 4 numbers on the card to make the number 24 - it is great for improving mental arithmetic!

After half term we will be taking part in Math's week England from the 8th November to 12th November - we have exciting plans in store, watch this space!

STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering and Math's)
Over the next year we have lots of exiting plans for STEM within school. We have already started the ball rolling by having our digital leaders elected from each class and we will be asking for Science Ambassadors to be elected next half term. Later on in the year, we are hoping to hold a science fair, stargazing evening and carry out engineering projects within school.



Nursery

In Nursery we have been learning about our 5 senses and how to be amazing listeners. Do you like our listening ears?

Reception

In Reception this half term we have been thinking about our wonderful selves and how we can shine like stars at St Paul's. We have:-

- Made self-portraits
- Thought about our emotions and related it to the Colour Monster story
- Thought about who is important to us,
- Thought about how we can be healthy and stay safe
- Looked at our bodies and all the wonderful things our bodies can do



Year 1

Our Year 1's have really made us proud. They have had to learn so much more than on the academic side. New routines, new teachers, new environment. However, they are already showing brilliant progress, especially in their daily RWI (read, write, inc), handwriting and maths lessons. In maths we have predominantly focused on sorting, counting forwards and backwards, ordering numbers, more and less than, greater than and smaller than, number line work and ordinal numbers. In Science, we are learning about plants, what they are, their parts and functions. This week we set up our first experiment to observe the water transport in plants. We will go out on a local walk to identify trees and look at how leaves make oxygen in another experiment. In RE we have been exploring the parable of The Lost Son and how it links to God being like a loving and forgiving Father. Our PSHE lessons focus mainly on our rights and responsibilities of a calm and positive learning atmosphere and how we can contribute to that. In music we are enjoying to find the pulse in songs, clap, dance and sing along to it. Our computing lessons are greatly enjoyed by our year 1s as they get to plan algorithms on the Scratch Junior program and make the cat move in various ways by coding. Our children practice their balance and footwork in our PE lessons in and outdoor. Our topic lessons are fun packed with personal work, such as family trees and special events that happened in our family's history, as well as analysing new and old toys. We will be on our first school trip this half term to see toys from the Victorian times at the St John's museum and discover what it was like to be in school in the past.

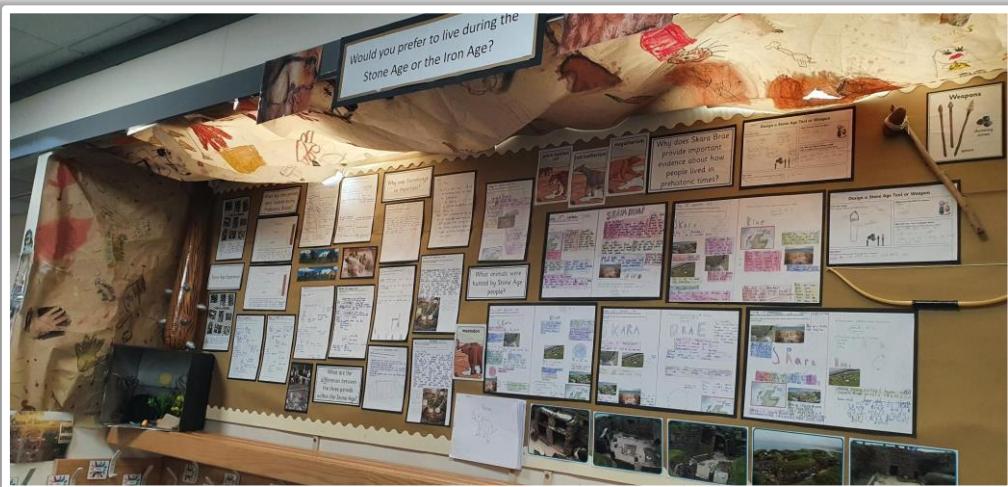
Year 2

In Year 2 we have been learning about different houses with our big question in mind 'What if we could design our perfect house?' We have looked at houses through the ages and used our historical knowledge to place them on a timeline. We thought about the difference with our own houses and how lucky we are to have brick walls and warm radiators rather than wattle and daub walls and fires. Did you know wattle and daub are sticks woven together clad in mud, clay and poo! We found it both gross and fascinating!



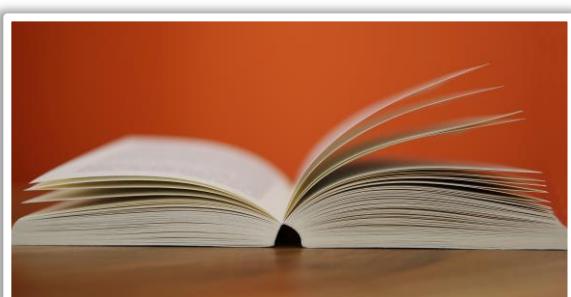
Year 3

Year 3 have really enjoyed going back in time to the Stone Age this half term. They have listened to many pieces of text in English and during Topic lessons and produced diaries and instructions related to the Stone Age. During Topic, they became cave people for the afternoon, cooking a chicken over a fire, shooting arrows, building dens and being hunter-gatherers. They have also become archaeologists and enjoyed discovering about a Neolithic settlement called Skara Brae in the Orkney Islands. One afternoon, Year 3 also became cave painters and were extremely creative. In Science, the children have learnt lots about Rocks and have become geologists, becoming experts at distinguishing what type of rocks they are looking at. During Science, they have also become palaeoologists, creating their own fossils and researching about the life of a famous palaeontologist called Mary Anning.



Year 4

Year 4 have been learning lots about mountains and have loved reading the story "The Abominables" by Eva Ibbotson! We have thought about what Christians learn from the Creation story in RE and learned about the different aspects of sound in Science. It's safe to say we've had a busy and great start to the year!





Year 5

In Birch we have been working hard on our topic studying the rainforest. We have looked at where rainforests are located and why they are located there. In addition, we took the time to discuss deforestation. As part of our topic we have used the text "The Explorer" by Katherine Rundell and have used this to inspire our writing.

Year 6

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Year 6 went to Solihull Synagogue and Cadbury World. A Jewish lady told us all about the special scroll called a Torah which was made out of dried animal skin. She showed us the Jewish symbol, The Star of David. We all had the opportunity to wear a Kippah and a Tallit. At Cadbury World, we learnt how chocolate was made. Most importantly, we also learnt how the Mayans used cocoa beans to trade with, for example 100 cocoa beans could be traded for a servant.



Humanities

During the first half term of Autumn, each year group has had a History or Geography focused topic.

History focus.	Geography focus.
Reception ~ How do I shine? <i>Looking at significant events in their lives and putting these events in chronological order.</i>	Year 4 ~ What if you had to climb a mountain? <i>Finding out about how mountains are formed; identifying the physical features of the Alps and Andes mountain ranges and comparing life in the Kumaon region of the Himalayas with our own life.</i>
Year 1 ~ What if you could go back in time? <i>Looking at family trees and how toys have changed over time.</i>	Year 5 ~ What if there were no rainforests? <i>Finding out about the layers of the rainforest; the life and culture of the Kayapo tribe from the Amazon rainforest and the effects of deforestation.</i>
Year 2 ~ What if you could design your perfect house? <i>Looking at homes in the local area and how houses have changed over time.</i>	Year 6 ~ Could you survive? <i>Finding out about extreme weather and the effect of earthquakes and volcanoes.</i>
Year 3 ~ Would you prefer to live during the Stone Age or Iron Age? <i>Finding out about life in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age and the differences between each era.</i>	

We aim to make Humanities learning fun for the children by providing memorable experiences. Key Stage 1 have provided experiences for the children in the following ways:

Year 1 have been on a visit to St John's Museum in Warwick for a Workshop about Victorian toys. Year 2 have been on a walk of the local area looking at houses and noticing things they perhaps hadn't noticed before.



Sports

Before and after school clubs have started well, children have had a lot of enjoyment participating in the activities on offer with many trying new sports such as handball, hockey and basketball. Places are still available for year 3 & 4 for hockey on a Tuesday after school. Please contact the school office for more information and to sign up.

Choir

St. Paul's choir have started preparing their repertoire for Young Voices and were sounding fabulous on Monday afternoon. The key stage 2 children have already finished their first song and are hoping to add in the final actions next week. They will be pitch perfect by the time of the Young Voices concert in January!



Poppy Appeal

This year Poppies and other merchandise will be on sale the week after half term. We will contact you after half term. Suggested donations as follows:-

Poppies 50p

Zip Pulls and Reflectors 50p

Wrist Bands £1

Snap Bands £1.50

E-Safety

It can be tricky to keep up to date with age ratings on games and the like, but we would encourage parents to be vigilant of these with regards to all forms of digital media. There have been a few incidents this term of pupils viewing material not suitable for their age and discussing this in school. Please see below a link explaining video games age ratings. Feel free to contact Mr Payne or Mr Colley with any questions. Thank you.

www.internetmatters.org/resources/video-games-age-ratings-explained/



Meet the Teacher

I am Mr Payne, I have joined the St Paul's team from a school in Rugby and have been teaching across both key stages for 7 years now. I have joined as a STEM leader in school and love anything to do with computing and science and really enjoy sharing new games and experiments. Before St Paul's, I completed my university degree in forensics and have used that science knowledge in school to help lead exciting computing and science projects in my classes and I can't wait to do the same here.



I am Miss Taylor, it is my first year of teaching and I am excited to be back in Year 3 as this is when I joined St Paul's school as a child! I studied BA Education in Cardiff and MSc Psychology prior to completing my PGCE at the University of Warwick last year, so you could say that I enjoy learning quite a lot! I am really enjoying my time at St Paul's so far.



Hi I'm Mr Colley and I have recently started in Year 5. Previously I have taught at Michael Drayton. Currently I combine teaching with my quest to capture a dragon. Progress has been slow, but I am hopeful of success in the end. I am looking forward to the year ahead at St Paul's and hope that we can celebrate Coventry City's promotion back to the premier league.



Free School Meals

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are automatically eligible for a free school dinner under the Universal Free School Meals initiative launched by the government a few years ago.

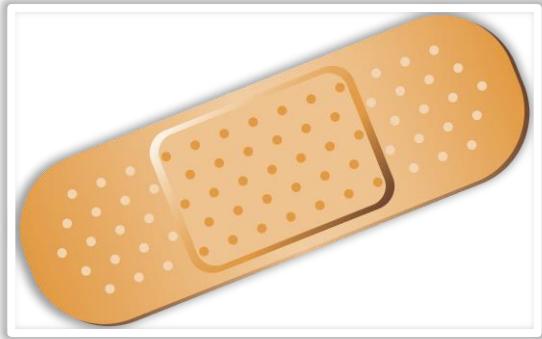
Even if your child is in receipt of a universal free school dinner (Reception, Year 1 or Year 2) or in Nursery or in Years 3-6, if you are in receipt of any of the below benefits, please still apply by calling free schools meals on 01926 359189 as the school will receive funding to help your child.

- income support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related employment and support allowance (ESA)
- guarantee element of state pension credit
- Universal Credit (with an annual income of less than £7,400)
- Both income-based and contribution-based JSA/ESA if you receive the same amount for both. You should also qualify if you receive both, but the income-based amount is greater, but not if the contribution-based amount is greater.
- Families who are awarded Child Tax Credit and have an annual income assessed by HMRC to be no more than £16,190, providing there is no entitlement to Working Tax Credit (unless in respect of a 4-week 'run-on').

When eligibility has been confirmed by the school, you will receive a £25 uniform voucher per child.

Accident Reporting

The school continues to use an on-line system for the recording of accidents and parents will receive an e-mail notification of any minor accident such as a small bump, cut or graze. When our first aiders consider the injury may require further medical care by a GP or Hospital or is a head injury, then our policy is to call the priority contact by telephone. **Please ensure the school has all up to date phone numbers and an email address.**



Absence

Could we remind parents that all Illness's need to be reported/updated daily. This can be via text or answerphone message.

As per Public Health England guidelines, if your child has sickness, Diarrhea or both, they must remain off school for 48hrs from the last episode.

You must complete a holiday request form if you wish to take your child out of school during term time, available from the school office.

School Dinners

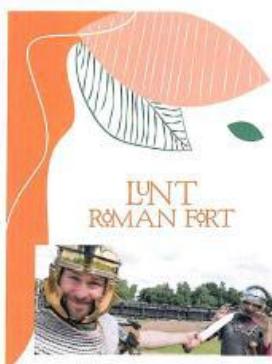
The new menu from Educaterers is up and running and proving very popular. Meals Cost £2.25 per day and remember if your child is in Foundation or KS1 they are free. Menus are available on the School website and from the office.



Twitter

For up to date photos, links and information on what your children are doing and learning at St Paul's every day, follow us at:
<https://twitter.com/StPaulsSchNun>





October Half Term at Coventry Museums

Rainy Roman Days

26 & 27 October

10.00am – 12.00pm & 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Visit the Lunt Roman Fort for one final time before we enter the closed period for the winter season. Our costumed guides will run interactive demonstrations of the most popular board games of the Roman world.

Book online in advance | £3.83 - £4.63

Designed for age 5 - 12, but all are welcome

The Big Draw

23 – 30 October (excluding Sunday)

10.30am – 12.00pm & 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Explore art as a means for mindfulness for families and to support children's mental wellbeing in the worldwide festival of drawing.

#MakeTheChange #TheBigDraw

Book online in advance | £4.90 per child, accompanying adults are free

Designed for 5 – 11 years, but all are welcome

Herbert

Art Gallery & Museum



Daily October Activities:

Saturday 23, Monday 25 & Tuesday 26

Coloured Chalk Creations Create big art pieces of your favourite things using large cardboard, chalks, and pastels and help fill our studio walls with your artworks.

Wednesday 27 & Thursday 28

Collaborative Art Works Using bold, black markers, draw images and thoughts of your own imaginings onto paper, which will then be coloured in using mess free paint sticks.

Friday 29 & Saturday 30

Mindful, Musical Masterpieces Move your hand to the rhythm of the music as we bring sound, emotive responses and drawing together to create unique line drawings that will become filled with colour as you enjoy the calming method of watercolour painting.

Art Masterclass - Watercolours & Ink

Thursday 28 October

10.30am – 12.30pm & 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Investigate objects from our collection in this masterclass that will teach young artists key skills for drawing from still life.

Book online in advance | £11.37 per child. An accompanying adult must remain for the duration of the workshop.

Designed for ages 8 – 16



COVENTRY TRANSPORT MUSEUM

Driving curiosity



Make and Play Engineers: Playful Pendulum Painting

Monday 25 October & Wednesday 27 October

10.30am – 12.30pm & 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Playfully create pendulums for painting and discover the brilliant world of STEM through hands-on experiences.

Book online in advance | £9.21 per group (max. 5 ppl, including adults & children)

Includes free admission to the museum for the day | Designed for age 3 – 12, but all are welcome

This Makes That With These

Tuesday 26 October, Thursday 28 October & Tuesday 28 December

10.30am – 12.30pm & 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Purposely take apart everyday objects to solve our curious minds' constant questions about how they work.

Book online in advance | £4.90 per child, accompanying adults are free

Includes free admission to the museum for the day | Designed for age 5+, but all are welcome

Made in Coventry Lab - A Stitch In Time

Friday 29 October | 1.30pm – 2.30pm

Saturday 30 October | 10.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 2.30pm

Taking inspiration from Coventry's textiles history, create embroidery designs by writing computer programs.

Book online in advance | £9.21 per child, accompanying adults are free

Includes free admission to the museum for the day | Designed for age 7+, but all are welcome

Visit Santa! Vintage Sleigh Ride and Winter Wonderland

4 – 23 December 2021

This Christmas make family memories to cherish!

Wander through a magical winter wonderland of festive activities and snowy scenes before taking a ride on an enchanting vintage sleigh, pulled by two trusty reindeer. Your next stop? Lapland. Meet Santa, tell him your Christmas wishes and collect a special gift.

Book your tickets now at transport-museum.com



HALF-TERM BIKEABILITY LEVEL 1 COURSES



Course Dates:

Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th and Friday 29th October 2021 (Only one date needs to be attended).

Venue:

The Pingles Stadium, Avenue Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4LX

ENTRY CRITERIA:

Years 2, 3, 4 & 5

COURSE DURATION:

2 hours

COST: FREE

To book a place go to WWW.THEPINGLESSTADIUM.COM/HOLIDAYCamps or for further information please email bikeability@nwactive.org.uk or call 07471896070

Closing date for bookings Wednesday 20th October 2021, minimum numbers required.



HALF-TERM BIKEABILITY LEVEL 2 COURSES



Course Dates:

Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th or Friday 29th October 2021 (only one date needs to be attended)

Venue:

The Pingles Stadium, Avenue Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4LX

ENTRY CRITERIA:

Years 5, 6, 7 & 8

COURSE DURATION:

6 hours

COST: FREE

To book a place go to WWW.THEPINGLESSTADIUM.COM/HOLIDAYCamps or for further information please email Bikeability@nwactive.org.uk or call 07471896070

Closing date for bookings Wednesday 20th October 2021, minimum numbers required.



Don't forget to scan the Go Parks: Active Schools Challenge codes across our museums this half term!

Dates for your Diary 2021 - 2022

- Friday 22nd October - School breaks up for Half Term
- Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October : Half Term
- Monday 1st November : School Re-opens
- Friday 19th November : Children In Need (More info to follow)
- Wednesday 24th November : School Photos (Children & siblings in school)
- Wednesday 8th December : School Christmas Dinner (Letter to follow)
- Friday 17th December : School breaks up for Christmas
- Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January : Christmas Holiday
- Tuesday 4th January : Inset Day
- Wednesday 5th January : School Re-opens
- Friday 18th February : School breaks up for Half Term
- Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February : Half Term
- Monday 28th February : School Re-opens
- Monday 4th April - Wednesday 6th April : Year 4 PGL Residential Trip
- Thursday 7th April : School breaks up for Easter
- Friday 8th April : Inset Day
- Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April : Easter Holiday
- Monday 25th April : School Re-opens
- Monday 2nd May : Bank Holiday
- Monday 9th May - Wednesday 11th May : Year 5 Castleton Residential Trip
- Friday 13th May - Monday 16th May : Year 6 Manor Adventure Residential Trip
- Friday 27th May - School breaks up for Half Term
- Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June : Half Term
- Monday 6th June : School Re-opens
- Wednesday 6th July : Induction Day
- Wednesday 20th July : Break up for Summer Holidays
- Thursday 21st July : Inset Day
- Friday 22nd July : Queen's Jubilee (extra day given to schools)

