



SCHOOL NEWS

"Love your neighbour as yourself." - Luke 10:27



This week in school, EYFS have been continuing with their learning all about the Great Outdoors with Reception focussing on life under the sea and Nursery looking at the life cycle of a frog. As ever, the children have been very eager to share their learning with visitors to the classroom.

On Thursday, Year 4s learning in French was enhanced greatly by a visit from Darquise Bilodeu who has recently moved to Coven with her husband, Father Paul. She has very kindly agreed to come into school to support with both French and reading. Year 4 were learning about hobbies and were able to ask our special visitor some first hand questions, hearing her response in French.

Year 1 have had a very exciting Friday with the arrival of three very special visitors—Miss Evans' guinea pigs! Mrs Guest made sure that they had the best start to the day when she took the children in Kids Club down to give them some fruit.

All classes have also spent time this week reviewing and reflecting on their prior learning in RE. This is an important part of the learning journey and is preparation for the new RE learning that will take place during RE week from 3rd June to 6th June. Over the break we would like the children in KS1 and 2 to think about these philosophical questions:



Year 1: Why is prayer so important?

Year 2: Is the good news of Jesus for everyone?

Year 3: Is it a good thing to have God as a helper in your life? Why might some people not want him?

Year 4: Can we ever have a perfect world? Why or why not?

Parents are reminded that after half term school is closed for an INSET day on Monday 2nd June. School reopens on Tuesday 3rd June with a special Bollywood Day where the children will spend time learning a Bollywood dance and then taking part in the Holi celebration. Please ensure that you have completed the consent slip which was sent out a few weeks ago to confirm that you are happy for your child to take part in this. Unfortunately if we do not have consent on the day then children will not be able to take part. The Holi colour celebration is weather dependent due to the nature of the activity so we are all wishing for glorious sunshine like last year.

Have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 3rd June 2025. .

Mrs Richards
Headteacher

Dear God

Teach us Lord your wisdom:

The wisdom of listening
with open ears,

The wisdom of waiting
with patient hearts,

The wisdom of responding
with ready wills,

So that we may be like the good soil
and live lives that bear good fruit.

Amen



ST PAUL'S VISION AND VALUES

Community Aspire Respect

Endurance

Which part of the vision do you think links to our values?

At St Paul's, our welcoming Christian community, accepts and enables all to flourish to achieve their God-given potential. We develop independent and resilient learners, who lovingly respect each other with care and kindness. All are invited to make a difference in the world in which they live following in the footsteps and teachings of Jesus Christ.

PUPIL AWARDS

STAR OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Maya for growing in confidence and making lots friends

Reception - Tommy for trying really hard with his reading.

Year 1 - Charlie for showing excellent teamwork skills.

Year 2— Amelie for always having a dedicated and focused attitude to learning.

Year 3 - Annie for her courage and determination at swimming.

Year 4 - Amy for volunteering to help with classroom jobs this week in the absence of her classmate.

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Parker for having a positive attitude towards writing.

Reception - Milo for great sentences to describe Tiddler the fish.

Year 1 - Darcy for writing an excellent diary entry and using all of the features.

Year 2 - Noah for an excited adventure story using the correct features.

Year 3 - Elliot B for his excellent writing about Boudica.

Year 4 - Addy for excellent effort when drafting her own narrative based on Wind in the Willows.

MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Adeline for super sequencing all week.

Reception - Lilah for great work solving addition and subtraction problems.

Year 1 - Chester for recognising half of an object and quantity.

Year 2 - Evaline for a good understanding of statistics, when interpreting and analysing pictograms

Year 3 - Olivia for fantastic work on statistics.

Year 4 - Amber for solving problems related to money.

NURSERY PASSPORT

Well done to the following children for completing their Nursery Passport this week:

Evelyn Willow F Jace Millie Meadow

RECEPTION BRAIN CHALLENGE

Well done to the following children for completing their Brain Challenge this week:

Olly Maddison Elsie Arabella Amyra

DT AWARD

Nursery—Millie for always using her initiative and being creative in lots of ways.

Reception—Ava S for beautiful drawings of plants and animals.

Year 1— Harper for her healthy teeth poster.

Year 2— Faye for her royal portrait.

Year 3— Jess for her botanical art sketches and Elliott B for his portrait in the style of artist Frida Kahlo

Year 4—Gracie for thumbnail sketches of a landscape using a range of media.

TTROCKSTARS

If your child is in Year 2, 3 or 4, then please ensure that they are practising their times tables daily and going onto TTRock-stars at least three times a week. Thank you for your continued support.



EVENTS AND NOTICES

Governors

We are looking for a new governor to join our Board of Governors and would welcome any interest from parents or carers.

Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children at St. Paul's.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who:

- Is interested in children's education and the performance of our school
- Is community spirited and would like to represent the community
- Has spare time and the energy for the role
- Is able to work well as part of a team
- Has an enquiring mind and the confidence to ask questions and debate issues that affect the school

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery— 80% Reception — 93% Year 1 - 88% Year 2 - 90% Year 3 - 86% Year 4—94%

BREWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL TRANSITION EVENTS

Please see below for information on transition events for our Year 4 children and parents.

Date	Activity
Monday 9 June 2025	9am 'Meet the Parents' followed by 'Meet the Children' at St Paul's CE First School.
Tuesday 10 June 2025	5:30pm New Parents' Open Evening at Brewood Middle School. Includes Uniform Shop, AIP Food Tasting and Book Fair
Wednesday 11 June 2025	Year 4 Sports' Morning at Brewood Middle School. Children will be collected and returned to St Paul's via coach supplied by Brewood Middle School.

YEAR 2

Please could Year 2 bring in boxes suitable for building castles for their Magnificent Monarchs topic on June 4th.

KIDS CLUB PRICE INCREASE

From September 2025 there will be an increase in the price of Kids Club sessions. Please see the new costs outlined below.

Breakfast Club	
7.30am—8.55am	£7.70
8.00am—8.55am	£5.50
After School Club	
3.25pm—4.40pm	£7.05
3.25pm – 5.40pm	£9.45

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practice double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of walking instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view. Instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

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GROUP CHATS

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

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CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.



summerreadingchallenge.org.uk



South Staffordshire Council

National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (NPLQ)

TRAIN TO BE A POOL LIFEGUARD

- Candidates must be 16 years or over
- Qualify within 1 week
- Courses running during every school holiday
- Available at South Staffordshire Council's leisure centres
- Job opportunities may be available at the end of the course

Cost: £290
per person

Funded Training Available:

Find out if you're eligible for funded training -
call **01902 696228** or
email peopleandskills@sstaffs.gov.uk

PLACES LIMITED – BOOK NOW!

To check availability and book onto the course,
email trainingacademy@sstaffs.gov.uk



SCAN ME

Supported by Arts Council
ENGLAND

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Discounted Fitness Memberships for Students and Apprentices

South Staffordshire Council's leisure centres offer discounted fitness membership packages for students and apprentices aged 16+ that are in full-time education.

For details, visit:

www.sstaffs.gov.uk/sports-and-fitness/membership-packages or scan the QR code.



MEMBERSHIP
PACKAGES

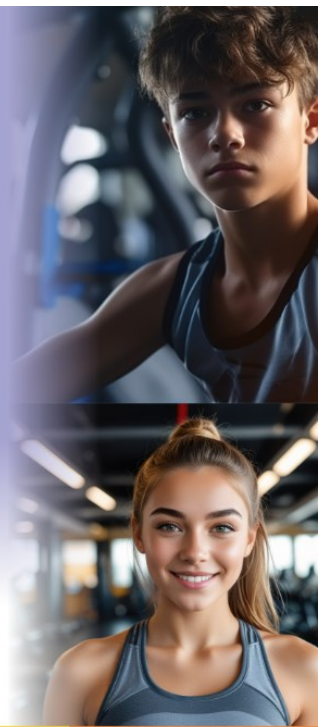


ACTIVITIES FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE

Activities for young people

The leisure centres provide a range of activities for young people including supervised and discounted gym access for 13+.

For details visit www.sstaffs.gov.uk/sports-and-fitness/activities-children-young-people or scan the QR code.





South Staffordshire Council

South Staffordshire Council's leisure centres offer various activities and discounts for young people to enjoy during the Whitsun school holiday.

Aspire Sports activity camps

Sports-based activity camps for 5-14 year olds on offer at Codsall and Wombourne Leisure Centres.

Active Youth gym sessions

Active Youth provide gym access for 13–15-year-olds, available at specific times. Young people can also use the gyms at any time when accompanied by a participating parent/guardian.

Wolves Soccer Schools

Wolves are holding soccer schools for young people aged up to year 7. The soccer schools are available as 2-day courses which are on offer at Cheslyn Hay, Penkridge and Wombourne leisure centres.

Swimming

The leisure centres are offering additional daily swimming to accommodate young people and families.

Enjoy savings with the Leisure Advantage Card

Sign up to a Leisure Advantage card and enjoy 10% off full-price activities. An annual advantage card costs just £2.50 for a child and £5 for an adult. Savings are available for children and adults with 10% off a variety of individual activities.

Student and Apprentice Memberships

Discounted memberships are available for students in full-time education and apprentices. Proof of NUS or equivalent is required at the time of joining. Additional savings are also available throughout April as part of our 'Shape up for summer' offer.

Training Courses

A range of aquatic courses run throughout every school holiday providing young people aged 14+ and 16+ the chance to train to become a pool lifeguard, swimming teacher or aquatic helper.

For details on all the above activities, visit <https://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/sports-and-fitness/school-holiday-activities> or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME

Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre • Tel: 01922 417790 • Email: cheslynhay@sstaffs.gov.uk
Codsall Leisure Centre • Tel: 01902 844032 • Email: codsall@sstaffs.gov.uk
Penkridge Leisure Centre • Tel: 01785 714152 • Email: penkridge@sstaffs.gov.uk
Wombourne Leisure Centre • Tel: 01902 898202 • Email: wombourne@sstaffs.gov.uk

www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure • leisure@sstaffs.gov.uk

DIARY DATES

May 2025	
Friday 23 rd May	School closes– last day of half term
Mon 26 th May to Fri 30 th May	School closed – half term
JUNE 2025	
Monday 2 nd June	INSET Day – School closed for pupils
Tuesday 3 rd June	School reopens for pupils
Tuesday 3 rd to Friday 13 th June	Y4 Multiplication Check in school We kindly ask Y4 parents not to book any holidays during this period.
Mon 9 th to Fri 13 th June	Year 1 children to complete their Phonics Screening Check. We kindly ask Y1 parents not to book any holidays during this week.
Friday 20 th June	Sports Day - 9:30 am for Rec/Y1 11:00 am for Nursery 1:30 pm for Y2/3/4
Wednesday 25 th June	Summer Stay and Play for EYFS 10:30 to 11:30 Nursery/ 2:15 to 3:15 Reception
Friday 27 th June	* Reserve Sports Day
JULY 2025	
Tuesday 1 st July	Viking Day – Y4 further details to follow
Wednesday 2 nd July	Transition Day – children will spend the day in their new class
Monday 7 th July	Homework passports to be brought into school for showcasing
Friday 11 th July	Reports Go out
Wednesday 16 th July	Drop-in Parents’ Evening – 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm – no appointments needed
Monday 14 th July	9:15 am – Y4 Leavers’ Show in school 12:00 pm – Y4 Leavers’ Lunch in school – Y4 parents welcome to join us in school
Wednesday 16 th July	2:30 pm – Y4 Leavers’ Service at church
Thursday 17 th July	4.30pm – 6:00pm – Y4 Leavers’ Party in school
Friday 18 th July	Non-uniform Day - £1 donation for school fund Last Day of term School closes for Summer Holidays
Monday 21 st July	INSET Day