



SCHOOL NEWS



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

It has been another exceptionally busy and rewarding week at St. Paul's First School, with numerous exciting developments and activities taking place across all year groups.

Our Reception pupils have been absolutely captivated by the arrival of our new chicks, which has provided them with a wonderful learning opportunity. One particularly eager chick was so enthusiastic about joining our school community that it hatched during the journey to St. Paul's, much to everyone's delight. The children have been thoroughly engaged in observing the changes that occur each day, and their anticipation continues to build as they eagerly await the moment when the chicks can be safely removed from their pen for closer interaction. This wonderful experience serves as an excellent vehicle for teaching our youngest pupils about growth, change, and development, whilst simultaneously fostering their understanding of animal care and reinforcing our fundamental core value of respect for all living creatures.

Additionally, our Year 4 pupils have had a very busy week looking towards the next big step in their learning journey. On Monday they were visited by Mr Dixon and Mrs Guy from Brewood Middle School who talked to them about what they can expect when they move to middle school. Then, on Wednesday those children who are moving to Brewood in September, all went off for a Sports Morning. This provided them with an opportunity to not only experience their new setting but to also meet the children joining from other schools. The whole morning went well and the children and staff all returned to school full of enthusiasm and excited about their new adventure.

Year 4 have also commenced rehearsals for their Leavers Performance, which promises to be a memorable finale to their time here at St. Paul's. The children are already demonstrating enthusiasm and commitment to learning both words and songs ready to make the performance truly special.

As we look ahead to the coming weeks, there are numerous events and activities planned that will continue to enrich our pupils' learning experiences. Please do check the diary dates and look out for any additional information that may be distributed via your child's class teacher.

Finally, looking specifically towards next week, our Nursery children will be receiving some very special visitors at the beginning of the week to enhance and embed their current learning focus on 'People Who Help Us'. Please do not be concerned if you observe any emergency vehicles in our car park, as these visits are very much planned and we are sure that your child will tell you all about it when they come home.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Richards
Headteacher

Loving God,

Whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;

Look with mercy on those who are fleeing from danger, who are homeless and hungry.



Bless those who work to bring them relief:

Inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts:

And guide the nations of the world towards that day

When there will be justice and peace for everyone.
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— Willow S for thinking of others and always being the first to help her friends.

Reception - Bradley for helping to care for the chicks.

Year 1 - Morgan for being focused and engaged in every lesson.

Year 2— Daisy for being a kind friend and a positive role model to others.

Year 3 - Leo for an excellent design of a Roman town.

Year 4 - All of Year 4 for excellent behaviour at their Sports Morning at Brewood Middle School.

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Jace for his perseverance and positive attitude for writing.

Reception - Ava G for lovely sentences to describe the chicks.

Year 1 - Finley B for recognising a question and using different question words.

Year 2 - Roman for adding brilliant detail to a sentence by adding a subordinate clause.

Year 3 - Henry for excellent work on speech.

Year 4 - Toby for writing a range of sentences including appropriate co-ordinate conjunctions.

MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Evelyn for ordering numerals 1-10 independently.

Reception - Chase for great descriptions of 3D shapes.

Year 1 - Alice for trying really hard to describe different turns.

Year 2 - Amelia for giving her best effort in maths consolidation this week.

Year 3 - Imogen for superb work on time.

Year 4 - Billy for identifying angles.

NURSERY PASSPORT

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

Evelyn Millie Blake Parker Adeline

RECEPTION BRAIN CHALLENGE

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

Milo Ffion Ava S Elsie Elliot Finley Oscar



Congratulations and well done to Amber and Eli who managed to run 3K a day in May. This was something that they chose to do having been made aware of the event and the charity and persevered to raise £159. Toby worked out that they had run a total of 93K—amazing!

Run 3k a Day in May for Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation



Lyndsey Hay is raising money for Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation
[Create a team](#)



£159
raised of **£100** target by
15 supporters

[Give Now](#)

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Run 3K a Day in May · 1 May 2025 to 31 May 2025



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— 82% Reception — 92% Year 1 - 97% Year 2 - 95% Year 3 - 82% Year 4—93%

NURSERY GRADUATION AND RECEPTION ASSEMBLY

To give parents plenty of time to arrange work commitments Nursery and Reception have booked the following dates for their end of year events.

Nursery Graduation— Tuesday 15th July

Summer Fair News

Friday 4th July will be our annual Summer Fair from 3:30pm to 5pm here at St. Paul's. We would love to see as many of our families as possible and value any support that you are able to provide. Please see the dairy dates for donation requests.

As well as the usual items, we would also like any donations of cuddly toys which will form part of a soft toy raffle. These can be sent into school at any point up to and including Wednesday 2nd July.

Thank you in advance of your support in making this a very memorable event.

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

Early Education and Childcare Staffordshire

Have your say

Are you the parent of a child under 5 or a parent to be?

Have your say on childcare in Staffordshire

Please complete our childcare survey for 2025 by visiting the link below
or scan the QR code. Have your say now!

<https://tinyurl.com/yx5pzz6m>



You could be
entitled to help
with childcare costs



Visit staffordshire.gov.uk/fundedchildcare

Staffordshire
County Council

THE READING AGENCY Summer Reading Challenge

Delivered in partnership with libraries

2025

Story Garden

Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors



summerreadingchallenge.org.uk



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BECOME A ROCK STAR THIS SUMMER

Looking for summer
holiday plans?

**Camp iRock
is here!**

28th July to 8th August



**Ages
5-12**

8:30am-4:30pm



- 50% off siblings
- Armed Forces discount

www.rockschool.com/camp

Camp iRock



Form a band and
rehearse together



Learn to play
popular songs on
real instruments -
drums, keyboard,
guitar and vocals



Write and record
their own
original song



Starring in their
own music video



Perform in a
live concert
at the end of
the week



Play music
games, make
friends and have
loads of fun!



Limited edition
add-ons
available now!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Emojis are more than playful expressions — they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 👍 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (🧑) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍂 (falling leaves emoji) or 🍷 (wine glass emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌵 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🍷🍷🍷 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emoji) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emoji-pedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.

CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.

PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to — not just someone who's watching them.

EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples - please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around	🥰 (Smiling face with hearts) Over-affectionate or 'simping'
😎 (Smiling face with sunglasses) Cool, stylish or ruthless	👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold
😍 (Smiling face with heart-eyes) Intense attraction or excitement	👑 (Crown) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)
😐 (Neutral face) Stone-faced, unbothered	👉 (Pointing right hand) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference
👑 (Crown) 'Slaying', as in doing great	🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone's behaviour

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

🍷 (Star of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms)	🌵 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness
❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine use	🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced'
🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use	💧 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm
🍂 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis	⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil
💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse	🍲 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles)

Meet Our Expert

Keith Bruni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emoji-pedia.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

DIARY DATES

JUNE 2025

Friday 20th June	Non-uniform day—donation of bottles for the Summer Fair please
Wednesday 25 th June	Summer Stay and Play for EYFS 10:30 to 11:30 Nursery/ 2:15 to 3:15 Reception
Friday 27th June	Non-uniform day—donation of sweets/chocolate for the Summer Fair please
Friday 27 th June	Year 2 School Trip

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
Friday 4th July	Non-uniform day—donation of cakes for the Summer Fair please
Friday 4th July	Summer Fair 3:30pm to 5pm
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 17th July	Interhouse Games Competition—All children to attend in PE kits
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