



SCHOOL NEWS



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

As we approach the end of term, it has been an exceptionally busy and rewarding week at St. Paul's, filled with many memorable events.

On Wednesday, our Year 4 pupils went to the Wolseley Centre, which provided them with invaluable opportunities to enhance their learning about rivers and aquatic ecosystems. The activities included hands-on pond dipping activities, allowing the children to observe and identify the different creatures that inhabit our waterways, whilst also focusing on the river environment itself. The pupils demonstrated exceptional engagement throughout the day, and I am particularly pleased to report that their impeccable behaviour was specifically commended by the centre staff, reflecting our shared school values.

Wednesday also saw our Year 1 class turn back time to the Victorian days. The children all came to school looking like children from that period and had a Victorian school day experience in class. I'm glad to say that the cane did not make an appearance but the children were able to learn all about how different school days were back then. Included in the day was a whole school assembly where the children presented their learning about Victorian life showing off their work and singing a super song too.

Today has been particularly special as we witnessed our Year 4 pupils perform their Leavers' show, which proved to be a truly memorable experience for all in attendance. Despite the considerable heat in the hall, the children delivered outstanding performances that demonstrated their talents in both acting and singing. They had also worked tirelessly to practise a range of songs and learn lots of lines too. Thank you to both the pupils and staff in creating such a memorable production and thank you again to our families for supporting with learning lines and providing costumes.

The special day continued for Year 4 with their parent lunch which provided families with the opportunity to join their children for one of their final lunchtimes at St. Paul's. It was a very busy and hot time in the hall but we hope that everyone enjoyed the opportunity to share a meal together and join in some quieter games outside.

Have a lovely weekend!
Mrs Richards

Dear God,

Help us to learn to work together.

May we never be too proud to ask for help, not too hesitant to give it.

Thank you for the ways in which we will help and have helped one another.

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— Evelyn for being a wonderful role model in all that she does.

Reception - Arabella for super listening and recall during topic time.

Year 1 - Chester for sharing excellent ideas during RE week.

Year 2— Eli for being engaged and enthusiastic in all lessons this week.

Year 3 - Renee for her perseverance at swimming.

Year 4 - Megan for making excellent progress in reading over the Summer term.

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Covie for lovely letter sound formation.

Reception - Caithan for writing independent sentences in choosing time.

Year 1 - Oscar for writing lovely ideas on how to show kindness.

Year 2 - Lydia for writing thoughtfully about how faith can impact a person.

Year 3 - Jess for a fantastic ending to Romans on the Rampage.

Year 4 - Harry for writing a fantastic resolution to a narrative.

MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Louie for beautiful numeral writing.

Reception - George for great work making o'clock times on a clock.

Year 1 - Toby for recognising different coins and notes.

Year 2 - Amelie for applying prior knowledge to revision activities.

Year 3 - Elliott W for showing endurance when working with 2D shapes.

Year 4 - Jack for analysing data on our recent rivers trip.

NURSERY PASSPORT

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

Millie Blake Adeline Willow S Willow F Evelyn Parker

BRAIN CHALLENGE

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

Ava S Ffion Elsie Olly

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery—82% Reception — 89% Year 1 - 93% Year 2 - 98% Year 3 - 88% Year 4—98%

NURSERY GRADUATION AND RECEPTION ASSEMBLY

Nursery Graduation— Tuesday 15th July

Reception 'When I Grow Up- Assembly— Wednesday 16th July

EVENTS AND NOTICES

Memorial Hall and Supervision

We would like to once again remind families that they should be fully supervising their children before and after school pick up. We are still seeing children climbing on railings and walls around school when they should be with their parent. For your child's own safety, please ask them to remain with you at all times.

We have also had a complaint from members of the Memorial Hall Committee about children damaging property whilst waiting for the coaches to arrive. It would be very sad if the memorial car-park was no longer made available for use so please can we politely remind parents to fully supervise their children.

Homework Passports

We would like all Homework Passports to be brought into school next week from **Monday 7th July** onwards so that we can share and celebrate them over the week and during the final week too. Please can we ask that they are brought in **no later than Wednesday 16th July** so that certificates can be prepared in advance of our celebration assembly.

Donations for Kids Club

If anyone has any craft resources that they no longer need then they would be very gratefully received by Kids Club. Thank you in advance.

Scarecrow Festival

Coven Mothers Union are once again organising a Scarecrow Festival which we are delighted to also be taking part in. Our School Association will also be selling refreshments over the course of the weekend too.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Hitman* have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Splatoon 3* allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, *The Super Mario Bros. Movie* (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including ION, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

DIARY DATES

JULY 2025

Wednesday 16 th July	Drop-in Parents' Evening – 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm – no appointments needed
Monday 14 th July	Y4 Leavers Church Service—2:30pm
Thursday 17 th 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

SEPTEMBER 2025

Monday 1 st September	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 2 nd September	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Wednesday 3 rd September	School reopens for pupils in Years 1-4
Wed 3 rd to Fri 5 th September	Staggered starts for pupils in Nursery and Reception
Monday 8 th September	Autumn Topic WOW day for EYFS (Non-uniform – wearing blue and green)
Friday 12 th September	School Photos, individual and sibling photos
Tuesday 23 rd and Wednesday 24 th September	<u>Bikeability</u>
Thursday 25 th September	MacMillan Coffee morning – timings to follow
Friday 26 th September	European Day of Languages – non-uniform in country's flag colours Nur/Rec – Spain Y1/Y2 – France Y3/4 – Germany