



SCHOOL NEWS



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

Last Wednesday our Nursery children had a wonderful day out at Lower Drayton Farm. This was a visit that had been won by one of our families who kindly passed it onto school so that all of the Nursery children could go. Miss Ball reported that it had been the best day ever and that everyone had thoroughly enjoyed all of the different activities that they had been treated to such as meeting lots of animals, feeding some animals, a tractor ride to harvest some fruit and vegetables and playtime in the play barn! Thank you to all of our families who kindly helped transport the children to and from the venue and to our family who passed this gift onto us.

Today, has been our first Wellbeing Day of this academic year which is also World Mental Health Day. The children and staff have spent the day involved in a range of activities all designed to promote the importance of mental health and to provide strategies to promote healthy minds and bodies. These have included such activities as Yoga and other exercise as well as looking at breathing and calming techniques. This afternoon, myself and the Wellbeing and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have talked to the children about how they can help themselves and others to ensure that we all know how to take care of our mental health and what we can do if we feel we need more support at times. After our assembly, the Wellbeing Ambassadors chose where they would like to display our new positive affirmation posters.



Tomorrow we will be holding our annual Open Morning for families whose children are due to start in Reception or Nursery in 2026. This is a great opportunity for families to come along and learn about all that we offer here at St. Paul's so we hope to see lots of new and some familiar faces over the course of the morning.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Richards

Dear God,
Thank you for all the blessings you have given us. Help us to remember that it is important to respect and care for one another, just as you have taught us. May we learn to share what we have and to love our neighbours as ourselves. Guide us to be kind and generous, following in the footsteps of Jesus, so we can make a difference in the world around us. 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— Eddie for super knowledge on our topic of 'My Home' this week.

Reception - Teddy for super Fred Talk in Phonics.

Year 1 - Olly for asking super questions to deepen his understanding of life in the past.

Year 2— Oscar for enthusiastically participating in all lessons this week—an amazing attitude to learning.

Year 3 - Tilly-Rose for showing the school value of endurance in our lessons this week.

Year 4 - Olivia for being an excellent role-model of behaviour expectations.

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Reception—Seren for great improvement in her name writing.

Year 1 - Ava G for recognising if a verb is past or present tense.

Year 2 - Halia for demonstrating amazing drafting and editing skills.

Year 3 - Amelie for writing a fantastic Stone Age setting description.

Year 4 - Ranjeet for using excellent expanded noun phrases in his piece of writing.

MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Reception— Adeline for making perfect repeating patterns.

Year 1 - Caithan for recognising less than, greater than and equal to numbers.

Year 2 - Bertie for trying exceptionally hard in Maths lessons this week.

Year 3 - Jackson for amazing problem solving in Maths.

Year 4 - Harlie for continued effort in maths and self-correcting subtraction problems.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery—98% Reception — 93% Year 1 - 95% Year 2 - 98% Year 3 - 95% Year 4—99%

EVENTS AND NOTICES

School Disco

Next week will be our Autumn term discos which will be taking place on Thursday 16th for Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and Friday 17th October for Years 2, 3 and 4 from 3:25pm to 4:30pm. You should have received an email earlier this week with a Forms link which will allow you to give consent if your child is planning to attend and an opportunity to choose a song too. Payment of £5 should be made on the day.

Mental Health and Wellbeing—Emails

As we focus on mental health and wellbeing, we would like to politely remind parents and carers about being mindful when emailing staff and their expectations as to when those emails should be replied to. Staff will reply to emails between the hours of 8:30 and 5pm. Teachers are in class during the hours of 8:45 to 3:25 so emails will usually not be replied to during this time. Whilst we appreciate that emails are often composed outside of this time period, we would ask parents to please consider sending them during the hours of 8:30 to 5pm so that our staff are not receiving them late into the evening or early in the morning and this in turn does not impact their wellbeing. Thank you in advance of your support with this.

EVENTS AND NOTICES

Supervision

Please can we kindly request that parents and carers fully supervise their children on school grounds. We have seen and had reports of children running around staff cars and up and down the ramp by the boiler house. We recognise that it is not ideal that the car park is part of the school entrance area but unfortunately it is so we aim to make it as safe as possible for everyone. Your support in this would be very much appreciated.

School Lunches

Please see the menu below for what is on offer from the school kitchen this term. Please remember to book and pay for your child's meals on school grid in advance as we are no longer able to book meals for your child in the classroom or office. If this is not done then the only option available from the kitchen will be a jacket potato which will subsequently need to be paid for.

New dishes for 2025

Mega Monday

Tasty Tuesday

Roast Wednesday

Try It Thursday

Fishy Friday

WEEK 1

Weeks starting:
1st Sept, 22nd Sept, 13th Oct
3rd Nov, 24th Nov, 15th Dec

Margherita Pizza & Garlic Slice (V)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Green Beans, Sweetcorn
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Vanilla Ice Cream (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Crispy Chicken Dippers & Tomato Based Sauce
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Steamed Rice, Sweetcorn, Broccoli
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Marble Sponge & Custard (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Roast Chicken (GF) or Plant Based Sausages (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Raspberry Jelly & Peaches (VG)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Homemade Beef & Vegetable Pie
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Mashed Potatoes, Savoy Cabbage, Carrots
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Winter Fruit Crumble & Custard (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Breaded Fish Fingers or Vegetable Grill (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Chips (VG) (GF), Peas
Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF)
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Lemon Cookie (VG)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

WEEK 2

Weeks starting:
8th Sept, 29th Sept
20th Oct, 10th Nov, 1st Dec

Margherita or Vegetable Supreme Pizza (V)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Baked Potato Wedgies, Sweetcorn, Green Beans
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Ice Cream & Fruit (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Mild Fajita Chicken, with Nachos & Steamed Rice
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Cabbage, Carrots
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Fruit Crunch & Custard (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Sausage Stuffed Yorkshire Pudding
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Lemon Drizzle Cake (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Cheddar & Chicken Pasta Bake
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Broccoli, Sweetcorn
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Jam Sponge & Custard (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Breaded Fish Fingers or Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Chips (VG) (GF), Peas
Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF)
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Chocolate Cookie (VG)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

WEEK 3

Weeks starting:
15th Sept, 6th Oct
27th Oct, 17th Nov, 8th Dec

Margherita or Sweetcorn Pizza with Pasta Salad (V)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Green Beans, Sweetcorn
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Crispy Cake (VG)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Macaroni Cheese (V)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Cauliflower, Peas
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Apple Cake & Custard (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Roast Chicken (GF)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

New Potatoes, Carrots, Savoy Cabbage, Gravy
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Strawberry Mousse (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

The Dolce All Day Breakfast
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Hash Brown, Baked Beans, Peas
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Fresh Fruit Salad (VG)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Breaded Fish Fingers or Fishless Fingers (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Chips (VG) (GF), Peas
Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF)
Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Hot Chocolate Fudge Pudding (V)
Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

V is Vegetarian (VG) is Vegan (GF) is Gluten Free
For full allergen information please refer to your school's allergen chart. *Dolce free products are prepared in a kitchen that handles products containing gluten. If your school has opted to include Dolce meals, these dietary considerations have been acknowledged at the point of selection. All meals are subject to change without notice. Please refer to SchoolGrid for any menu changes.

EVENTS AND NOTICES

Open Morning

We will be holding our annual Open Morning on Saturday 11th October from 10:00am to 12:00pm. This is aimed at prospective parents who are interested in securing a place at St. Paul's for either Nursery or Reception.



St Paul's First School Open Morning

Saturday 11th October 2025
10:00am - 12:00pm

For parents who are interested in applying for Nursery or Reception places for September 2026

Before and after-school club information and application packs for Nursery/Reception will also be available to collect on the day

Please come along to find out what our lovely school has to offer

Contact us on 01902 291124
or office@st-pauls-coven.staffs.sch.uk for more information

Reception Early Writing Workshop

Parents and carers of children in Reception are invited into school on Wednesday 22nd October to learn about how they can support their child's fine motor and early writing development. This will be an interactive session with Mrs Walsh and Mrs Clemson leading a lesson with the children and their parents/carers.

Please do come along to find out how your child learns and how you can support at home too.



Poppies

So that we can create our poppy display again this year, we are collecting the bottom of big plastic bottles. Please send them into school by Monday 20th October.

Cross Country Event

Miss Evans is taking a group of Year 3 and 4 pupils to a Cross country event at Marshbrook First School on Monday 20th October. A letter about this will be sent home on Monday 22nd September. If your child would like to take part in this then please return the consent as soon as possible.

For those children who do wish to attend, there will be two training sessions after school on:

Tuesday 14th October 3:25pm—4pm

Polar Express Day

On Tuesday 16th December we will be having a Polar Express Day which will be an off timetable day with a wide range of activities all linked around the theme of the Polar Express. We would like to invite children to come to school on this day in their pyjamas. Further information about this will be shared nearer the date but we wanted to ensure that parents had notice well in advance of the date.

Year 4 Parents Meeting—Laches Wood 2026

We are excited to announce that St. Paul's will be returning to Laches Wood in March 2026. All of Year 4 have the opportunity to attend this residential experience with Miss Ball and Miss Evans. In order to provide parents and pupils with as much information as possible about the visit, a member of Laches Wood will be visiting on Monday 13th October for a parent and pupil information session held at 2:50pm. A letter with further details has been emailed out to all Year 4 parents.



Trips and Workshops

We have lots of exciting events planned for this school year. Please pay for activities as soon as you are able to do so. We are not able to run these activities without sufficient support from our families. We do try to keep the cost of trips to a minimum, unfortunately the cost of coaches rises each year. If you need a copy of any letters or information on how to pay please contact the school office.

Year 1 Toy Workshop in school - 20th October

Year 3 Potteries Museum Trip - 23rd October

Year 2 Twycross Zoo Trip - 21st November

N/R Farm on Wheels in school - 4th December

Y3/Y4 Young Voices - 13th January

This is our game.

DYNAMOS CRICKET



Free Dynamos Cricket Holiday Camps in Staffordshire

Girls & Boys aged 8 - 11 years

For more information and to book
your place, scan the QR Code or visit
the link below :

https://www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk/about/dynamos_cricket/



EDUCATING KIDS OUTDOORS

EKO Holiday Club October Half Term

at Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Shifnal, TF11 8LE

Tuesday 28th to Friday 31st October 2025

Sessions from 10:30am - 4:00pm - £38

Early Drop off 9:00am - 4:00pm - £44

**BOOK
NOW**



If you're new to EKO we are all about having fun outdoors whatever the weather. We might be bug hunting or plant spotting or den building or creating natural art, the list is endless and there will always be something new to try.

We are based at Weston Park and have our own dedicated EKO Outdoor Learning Site and Orchard Hive Classroom as well as use of the extensive grounds.

To book a place at our Holiday Club, simply visit
<https://educating-kids-outdoors.classforkids.io/>
For more information take a look at our website
www.ekolearning.org.uk
and if you have any questions or concerns email us at
info@ekolearning.org.uk



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A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales company number 12114074.
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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfil long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviour.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mimicking of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term, if children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer. EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including iDR, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

DIARY DATES

OCTOBER 2025	
Saturday 11 th October	10:00 am to 12:00 pm Open Morning for new Nursery and Reception parents for September 2026 intake
Monday 13th October	2:50pm—Year 4 Laches Wood Residential parent information meeting—all Year 4 parents are invited to attend
Thursday 16 th October	School Discos - £5 for ticket, snap bands and refreshments 3:25 – 4:30pm for Nursery, Reception and Y1
Thursday 16th October	School Association AGM 4:30pm to 5:30pm
Friday 17 th October	School Discos - £5 for ticket, glow sticks and refreshments 3:25 – 4:30pm for Years 2, 3 and 4
Monday 20th October	Y1 Toy Workshop
Monday 20th October	Y3/4 Cross Country Event
Wednesday 22nd October	Reception Early Writing Workshop—parents and carers are invited into school at 9:00 to join their child as they learn about how to develop early writing skills.
Thursday 23 rd October	Y3 School trip
Thursday 23 rd October	Last day of term
Friday 24 th October	INSET – School closed to pupils
Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st October	Half Term Holiday

NOVEMBER 2025	
Monday 3 rd November	School reopens for pupils
Tuesday 4 th November	Parents' Evening – 3:35 pm to 6:00 pm (Reception/Year 1, 2, 3 and 4)
Wednesday 5 th November	Parents' Evening – 3:35pm to 6:00 pm (All year groups)
Sunday 9 th November	Remembrance Sunday – church service at 9:30 am / Memorial Hall at 11:00 am
Wednesday 12 th November	Stay and Play EYFS (N - 10:30 to 11:30, R – 2:00 to 3:00) Phonics Workshop for Reception parents 3:00pm to 3:25pm Refreshments from the SA
Tuesday 18 th November	Flu Vaccine
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need – £1 donation for charity Children invited to wear something spotty
Friday 14 th November	School Association Reading Café 2:00—2:30 – Y1/Y2 2:45—3:15 – Y3/Y4 Parents and carers are invited into school to read with their children and meet members of our School Association * NB Change of date and time
Friday 21st November	Year 2 trip
Friday 28 th November	Non-uniform day – donations of bottles or chocolate or sweets for the Christmas Fair
DECEMBER 2025	
Tuesday 2 nd December	Maths Parent Workshop 9:00am and repeated at 2:45pm This session is designed to give parents and carers an insight into how we teach maths at St. Paul's First School.
Thursday 4th December	EYFS Nativity Farm on Wheels visit to school
Friday 5 th December	Non-uniform day – donations of cakes for the Christmas Fair
Friday 5 th December	All children to visit church to decorate the tree – parent helpers needed to walk to church 9:15am for Nur/Y4, 10:15 for Rec/Y2 and 11:15 for Y1/3
Tuesday 9th December	9:00am Irocks concert—parents and carers of children who take part in Irocks are invited into school for their termly concert.
Tuesday 9 th December	3:25 – 4:25pm: Christmas Craft Club for Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 £5 per child
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Lunch in school Wear your Christmas Jumper
Wednesday 10 th December	Kids club Christmas Party 3:30pm to 4:30pm
Thursday 11 th December	3:25 – 4:25pm: Christmas Craft Club for Nursery, Reception and Year 1 £5 per child. Morning Nursery children are welcome to come back at 3:25 pm to join us.
Thursday 11 th December	9:30 am – Y1/2 Christmas Play 2:00 pm – Y3/4 Christmas Carol Concert
Friday 12 th December	9:30 am – Y3/4 Christmas Carol Concert 2:00 pm – Y1/2 Christmas Play
Monday 15 th December	Nursery and Reception Christmas Singing and Activities in the hall at 9:15 am
Monday 15 th December	Homework passports to be brought into school for showcasing
Tuesday 16th December	Polar Express Day
Wednesday 17 th December	Y2/3/4 Party Day – children in Y2/3/4 to wear party clothes to school
Thursday 18 th December	Nur/Rec/Y1 Party Day – children in Nur/Rec/Y1 to wear party clothes to school
Sunday 14 th December	Nine Lessons Carol Service at Church 6pm Year 3 and Year 4 to sing
Friday 19 th December	Last Day – Non-uniform - £1 donation for school fund School closes for Christmas