



SCHOOL NEWS



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

The Christmas preparations are well underway here at St. Paul's with each year group beginning their rehearsals for their upcoming productions. It is a very busy time of year with lots of exciting events planned and the office have this year, provided families with a comprehensive timetable of events starting next week. These dates and times have been on our newsletter for a number of weeks, but we hope that the specific timetable will help families further.

Today we have been focussing on *Positive Noticing* which is where we recognise the wonderful behaviours, efforts and qualities we see in our pupils every day. This means catching children doing something great - being kind, trying hard, helping others - and letting them know with encouraging words. This helps boost children's confidence and helps build a happy, respectful school environment. The more we notice the good, the more we see it! Your child should come home with a special label celebrating something positive someone has noticed about them and we hope that this in turn sparks lovely conversations at home and helps children feel proud of who they are. A letter detailing this initiative more fully has been sent out along with this newsletter so please do have a read through and help us to further build on this at home.

Next week marks the start of Advent and will also be our second RE week of this academic year. Each day during worship, the children will be looking at our online Advent Calendar which we have also emailed out to parents alongside this newsletter. Running alongside this and linking directly to our work on 'Positive Noticing' we will also have a Kindness Advent calendar for each day in school. This includes a range of ideas of ways to show kindness to both ourselves and others.

The Key Questions and Philosophical Questions for our upcoming RE week are:

Reception: **Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?**

Year 1 - What are festivals and why do we have them? **Why is it important for people to celebrate special times?**

Year 2—**Why does Christmas matter to Christians?** **Would it make a real difference to anyone if we banned Christmas?**

Year 3—What are festivals of light? **Why are festivals and celebrations so important to us as humans?**

Year 4—**What is the trinity?** **Why is belief in God important to so many people? Is faith an important part of being human?**

As ever, we would welcome any ideas and opinions based around the philosophical questions linked to the key questions as these will also be revisited throughout the week.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Richards

Dear God,

Thank you for Advent, a special time to wait and prepare for Jesus. Help us to be patient and hopeful, to share peace and joy, and to remember your love. May we get ready in our hearts to welcome Jesus this Christmas



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— Lilly for always being ready to learn at carpet times.

Reception - Louie for great singing in music sessions.

Year 1 - Oliver, for trying really hard and showing a positive attitude during PE.

Year 2— Harper for an outstanding effort in our Christmas play rehearsals so far.

Year 3 - Millie for always displaying the St Paul's values and showing kindness to others.

Year 4 - Poppy for always being a helpful and hardworking member of the class.

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Reception— Hunter for great work spelling and writing cvc words in phonics.

Year 1 - George, for trying really hard with his phonics and knowing his chatty friends.

Year 2—Chester for excellent ideas when planning a problem narrative.

Year 3 - Jackson for the use of excellent expanded noun phrases to describe the creature he met in "The Dump".

Year 4 - Mya-Bella for the quality of her writing and using speech independently.

MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Reception— William for great work calculating addition sentences.

Year 1 - Arabella, for trying really hard when using subtraction to find a part.

Year 2 - Oscar for persevering when subtracting with exchange—tricky maths and an amazing effort.

Year 3 - Millie for always displaying the St Paul's values and showing kindness to others.

Year 4 - Leo for using problem solving skills to answer reasoning problems.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery—89% Reception — 67% Year 1 - 87% Year 2 - 92% Year 3 - 88% Year 4—86%



A new boys v girls competition is now running on TTRockstars for all children in Years 2,3 and 4. Please encourage your child to logon and have a go over the course of the week to see how many points they can score to help their team win. The tournament ends at 6pm on Wednesday 3rd December.

EVENTS AND NOTICES

Decorating the tree

On Friday 5th December, the children will all be going to St. Paul's Church to decorate the tree with decorations that they have made in school. We would welcome help walking to church from parents who have children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 due to adult/child ratios. If you are able to offer support with walking the children up to church then please join us at the pedestrian entrance at the following times:

9:15am for Nur/Y4
10:15 for Rec/Y2
11:15 for Y1/3

We kindly request that those parents who are able to help do not bring younger siblings please since this would not allow us to include them in adult to child ratios on our risk assessment.

Open Afternoon

On Wednesday 26th November: 9:30am

Thursday 8th January: 4:00pm

These events are aimed at families who are looking to choose a school or nursery for their child in September 2026. They will provide families with an opportunity to see our school in action as well as learn about all that we have to offer here at St. Paul's.

OPEN MORNING & AFTERNOON

Join us for our upcoming Open Day events!

Discover what makes St. Paul's such a special place for learning, growth, and community.

DATES & TIMES:

- Wednesday 26th November – 9:30 AM
- Thursday 8th January – 4:00 PM

WHO IS IT FOR?

Families who are considering a school or nursery place for their child starting in September 2026.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Tour our school and see learning in action
- Meet our friendly staff and leadership team
- Learn about our values, curriculum, and community life

*+ Come and experience the warm, welcoming atmosphere of St. Paul's School – where every child is encouraged to shine.

Extra-curricular Clubs

Please see below for details about the clubs for the second half of the autumn term. If you wish to book a place then please do so via ParentPay.



Autumn Term 2nd Half Term 2025



Day	Year Groups	Time	Club	Staff	Cost
Monday	Y3/Y4	12:30 to 1pm	Young Voices Choir	Mrs Clews	Free to children attending Young Voices 2026
Monday	Rec/Y1/Y2	3:25 – 4:25pm	Commando Joe's	Miss Evans	£5 per week £25 for 5 weeks 10.11.2025 to 8.12.2025
Tuesday	Y3/Y4	12:30 to 1pm	Reading Club	Miss Woodgate	Free to attend
Tuesday	Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4:25pm	Target Games	External Coaches	£5 per week £25 for 6 weeks 4.11.2025 to 9.12.2025
Tuesday	R/Y1/Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4:25pm	Mindful Craft Club	Miss Ball	£5 per week £25 for 5 weeks 11.11.2025 to 9.12.2025
Thursday	Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4:25pm	Times tables Club	Mrs Richards	£5 per week £25 for 5 weeks 13.11.2025 to 11.12.2025



School Association News



School Association Update



With just one week to go until our Christmas Fayre, preparations are in full swing and the School Association has been busier than ever!

This week, our members have been working hard to source a Christmas tree for the school hall — kindly donated once again by Standeford Christmas Trees. We're incredibly grateful for their continued generosity. The team will also be decorating the tree as soon as it arrives so that the hall looks beautifully festive and ready for Fayre day!

We have been beavering away, labelling all your kind donations for the bottle and sweet Tombola to make sure everything is ready for next week's Fayre.

We have also been gathering lots of lovely gifts for the Christmas Gift Sales:

- Monday 1st December — Nursery, Reception & Year 1
- Monday 8th December — Years 2, 3 & 4

There will be a range of gifts for all the family for the children to choose from, ensuring a fun and personal shopping experience. Gifts cost £5 each and children can select up to 2 gifts per child. Payment should be sent in on the day in an envelope with cash.

Christmas Fayre – Key Information

If you missed last week's full Fayre breakdown, you can refer back to the full details on tokens, stalls, Santa's Grotto and more. Token prices and accepted payment methods remain the same, and we are triallying card payments via SumUp, although we kindly ask families to bring cash as well while we get familiar with the system.

Raffle Tickets Now on Sale!

Our St Paul's Christmas Raffle is well underway and will be drawn after the final Christmas play on Friday 12th December. Tickets are £1 each or £5 per book. You can buy raffle tickets at the Fayre, during Nativity performances, the iRock concert, and the Christmas plays—simply visit the refreshments table run by the School Association. Card payments will be available for raffle tickets too!



A little reminder...

We are still welcoming raffle prize donations and stallholder interest from kind parents, local businesses or community partners. If you would like to support the Fayre, please contact us at: schoolassociation@st-pauls-coven.staffs.sch.uk.

Thank you, as always, for your wonderful support. Your contributions, enthusiasm, and generosity are what make events like the Christmas Fayre so magical for the whole school community.



School Association News



Raffle

Our exciting St Pauls Coven Raffle is back! Tickets are £1 each, £5 for a book (of 5). Ticket books will be sent home with children in the coming week, please return to school with cash but will also be available for purchase on the day of the fayre, via cash & card at the token stall.

We have some great prizes this year including:

- 2 x Android 15 Tablets (1 per win)
- 2 x Coven Fish Bar Special Box Meals
- Lower Drayton Farm Play@ Tickets
- Family Ticket for free Day travel on Amerton Farm Railway
- 2 x Free Hair Cuts at BM Barber Shop in Brewood (1 per win)
- 3 x Rugby Tots Sessions
- Hamper from The Little Village Store (Premier)
- Gift voucher from Astons Butchers
- Plus lots more!



Santa & his reindeers!

Santa and his reindeer will be **cash and card** only, no tokens.

A visit to Santa this year includes his special friends kindly arranged by one of our governors Mrs Holloway. Children receive a small gift and a professional picture taken with both Santa and his real reindeer companions to capture the magic of Christmas. Photos will be printed and distributed by the school at a later date.

Visit to Santa, small gift, professional printed picture with Reindeer: £7
Prices are per child.



School Association News



Our School Association is eager to hear your thoughts and insights! We value your opinions and experiences so much, and that's why we've created a **short questionnaire** to gather your feedback. It's quick and simple to complete—just click on the link

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e>

Christmas Gift Sale

We will be holding our annual Christmas Gift Sale again this year which will be an opportunity for pupils to buy gifts for their families. **Gifts will be priced at.....**

Sale dates are:

Monday 1st December—N, R and Year 1

Monday 8th December Years 2,3 and 4

Christmas Fayre

On Friday 5th December, we will be holding our annual Christmas Fayre here at St. Paul's First School. Everyone is welcome to join us for what promises to be a great start to the Christmas festivities for this year. For the first time ever, we will also be having a visit from some reindeer who will be accompanying another very special visitor!

Cuddly toy donation

We will be having a Teddy Bear Tombola again at the Christmas Fayre so if any families have any cuddly toys that they wish to donate then the School Association would be very grateful. Any donations can be sent into school as soon as possible. Thank you in advance of your support.

Uniform Swap Shop

There will be a uniform swap shop staff at the Christmas Fayre which will give parents the opportunity to pick up some previously donated uniform for a donation. This is a great way to save money and to help us to promote sustainability across the community.

* ST PAUL'S SCHOOL COVEN *

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

5TH DECEMBER 3:30PM

Santa's Grotto + special guests!

- Food Stalls
- Raffle
- Tombola
- Gift Stalls
- plus much more

All proceeds go to the School Association to enhance our children's experiences.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **TRACKING DEVICES**

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's SmartTags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces – like home – that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to 'prove' ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location – whether in person or hinted at online – it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it – this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.

From 28th November to 5th December, we are participating in Black Friday and offering a 30% discount using code **ADBF30**, bringing our paid places to just £17.50 per day.

Christmas ADVENTURE DAYS

DISCOVER THE ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE FOR YOUR KIDS AT ENTRUST ADVENTURE DAYS!

- THRILLING ACTIVITIES
- FAMILIAR GROUNDS
- CONVENIENT SCHEDULE
- AFFORDABLE FUN
- Open to all - Inclusive of SEND

Black Friday Sale 30% OFF!

Book Today...
Running at both centres on 22nd, 23rd December 2025 and 2nd January 2026 - Scan the QR codes to book...

STANDON BOWERS LACHES WOOD

WE ALSO ACCEPT HAF BOOKINGS THROUGH EEQU. SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE



EXPLORE & INSPIRE





EDUCATING KIDS OUTDOORS

Winter Holiday Club

at Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Shifnal, TFT1 8LE

Saturday 20th to Tuesday 23rd December 2025

Sessions from 10:30am - 4:00pm - £38 / HAF FREE

Early Drop off 9:00am - 4:00pm - £44

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.

The Winter Holiday Club forms part of the Holiday Activity & Food programme, (HAF). We are thrilled to be able to offer free places to children on free school meals with HAF eligibility from Shropshire, Staffordshire & Telford & Wrekin councils

Use these tabs to book a place

EKO

**Shropshire
HAF**

**Staffordshire
HAF**

**Telford &
Wrekin HHAH**

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.



Educating Kids Outdoors Ltd, registered charity in England and Wales (1191685)
A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales company number 12114074.
Registered office: Astol Farmhouse, Norton, Shifnal, Shropshire TF11 9EW



DIARY DATES

DECEMBER 2025

Monday 1st December	School Association Christmas Gift Safe for Nursery, Reception and Year 1
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
Friday 5 th December	Christmas Fair—3:30pm to 5pm
Monday 8th December	School Association Christmas Gift Safe for Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4
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	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 Nativity Morning in the hall at 9:15 am (Parents and Carers are invited. Limited to two per family)
Monday 15 th December	Homework passports to be brought into school for showcasing
Tuesday 16th December	Polar Express Day
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas Lunch 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
Mon 22 nd Dec to Friday 2 nd Jan	School closed – Christmas Holidays
Monday 24 th December	Crib Service at Church – everyone welcome – 5:00 pm - Families welcome to attend

JANUARY 2026	
Monday 5 th January	INSET Day = school closed to pupils
Tuesday 6 th January	School reopens to pupils
Tuesday 6 th January	Spring WOW Day – Let’s Imagine – dress as a storybook character.
Tuesday 6 th January	Year 1 WOW day – let’s explore London (Children wear red, white and blue)
Tuesday 13 th January	Young Voices
Friday 30 th January	9:00am - Year 4 Parents Information Session on the statutory Multiplication Tables Check – all parents of children in Year 4 are encouraged to attend so that they can find out all about this statutory assessment.
FEBRUARY 2026	
Thursday 5 th February	School Discos - £5 for ticket, glow sticks and refreshments 3:25 - 4:30 pm for Years 2, 3 and 4
Friday 6 th February	School Discos - £5 for ticket, snap bands and refreshments 3:25 – 4:30 pm for Nursery, Reception and Y1
Friday 13 th February	Interim Reports to go home
Friday 13 th February	School closes – last day of half term
Mon 16th to Fri 20 th Feb	School closed- half term
Monday 23 rd February	School reopens for all children
Tuesday 24 th February	Parents’ Evening – 3:40 pm to 6:00 pm
Thursday 26 th February	Parents’ Evening – 3:40 pm to 6:00 pm
MARCH 2026	
Wednesday 4 th March	9:00am Year 1 Parents Information Session on the statutory Phonics Screen Check – all parents of children in Year 1 are encouraged to attend so that they can find out all about this statutory assessment.
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day – Dress up as your favourite Roald Dahl character
Wednesday 11 th March	Stay and Play EYFS Nursery only - 10:30 to 11:30
Friday 13 th March	Mother’s Day Services in school - 9:15 am for Rec/Y1 10:15 am for Y2/3/4 11:15 am for Nur in the classroom
Monday 16 th March	Homework passports to be brought into school for showcasing
Monday 23 rd March to Wednesday 25 th March	Y4 Residential
Thursday 26 th March	Easter Services - 9:15 am in school for Rec/Y1 11:00 am – Nursery Easter activities in class 2:30 pm at church for Y2/3/4
Friday 27 th March	End of term
Monday 30 th March to Friday 10 th April	School closed – Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th April	School reopens to all pupils