



# SCHOOL NEWS



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

This week has been another exceptionally busy one here at St. Paul's. One which has been full of music and singing along with lots of Christmas activities too.

On Monday, it was the second of the School Association Gift Sales which were again was a great success. The children enjoyed choosing something special for loved ones, and we thank the School Association for organising this popular event and to our families for supporting with this again.

On Tuesday we were delighted to welcome parents and carers to enjoy the Irocks music concert along with the rest of the school. This showcased the hard work of pupils who take part in their weekly music sessions. The children performed brilliantly and it was wonderful to see their growing confidence and skill. Thank you to Irocks and to all families who attended in support of this.

On Wednesday we held our annual Christmas Jumper Day and it was wonderful to fill the school with such a wide array of festive jumpers. If families wish to donate to Save the Children then please follow this link: [Christmas Jumper Day 2025 | Save the Children UK](#)

The second half of the week has seen the Christmas performances from Key Stage 1 and 2. The children have worked incredibly hard learning lines and songs and we are very proud of each and every one of them. A huge thank you to the staff for working hard in preparing the performances, and to all the parents and carers for your support in providing costumes and supporting the children learning lines and songs too.

Also this week, we have held our Christmas Craft Clubs which, as usual, have been well attended. The children produced some lovely creations whilst having lots of fun along the way too. Thank you to the staff who planned and ran the sessions, and to the SA members who also supported with this.

Finally, thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas Fayre last Friday. It was a wonderful community event, full of festive spirit, and it raised an impressive amount for the school. We are very grateful to the School Association and staff members who worked tirelessly to ensure everything ran smoothly. Please see further down in the newsletter for additional news from the School Association.

Next week continues to be busy so please see further down in the newsletter for information about specific events as well as the Christmas Diary sheet that was sent out to families at the start of the month.

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Richards



**Dear God,**

Thank you for sending Jesus to be with us..

Thank you for the Christmas story and the joy it brings.

Help us to remember that Jesus is God's special gift of love. May we share His love with our family, friends and everyone 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— Jasper for following all of our star rules.

Reception - Tommy for always trying hard and being ready to learn.

Year 1 - All of Year 1 for trying their hardest and being super stars in their Christmas play.

Year 2— All of Year 2 for being incredible in our Christmas Nativity—I am so unbelievably proud.

Year 3 - Jay for stepping in last minute and being a fantastic sheep AND cow in our performance.

Year 4 - Jess for amazing effort and confidence in the Christmas service.

## WRITER OF THE WEEK

Reception— Willow S for trying really hard when writing her Christmas sentence.

Year 1 - Matthew for using a range of adjectives in your setting description.

Year 2—Bertie for excellent effort when drafting, editing and publishing a problem narrative.

Year 3 - Arthur for a brilliant diary entry based on Stig of the Dump.

Year 4 - Elliot W for showing excellent improvement with his handwriting.

## MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Reception— Daisy for calculating number bonds to 5.

Year 1 - Ivy for recognising a range of patterns in Shapes.

Year 2 - Finley for excellent subtraction with exchanging.

Year 3 - Connie for making an excellent start to our work on arrays.

Year 4 - Ranjeet for good reasoning during our consolidation lessons.

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery—92% Reception — 90% Year 1 - 93% Year 2 - 94% Year 3 - 95% Year 4—93%



This term's final competition was between year groups. Well done to Year 3 for coming first.

**4th December - 10 December 2025 07:00 - 19:30**

**Year 3**

**147**

**Year 4**

**68**

**Year 2**

**5**

The most valuable players were:

**Morgan, Oscar, Roman, Rhyley, Shaan, Armaan, Poppy and Elliott B**

## EVENTS AND NOTICES

### Competition Winners

The two winners of the competitions which took place at the Christmas Fayre were Blake in Y1 for the KS2 one and Isla in Y2 for the KS1 one.

### Kids Club

If your child attends Kids Club please can families make sure their child's medical details are up to date on the Kids Club booking system. Care plans are shared with Kids Club but as the school office is closed during Breakfast and Afterschool club, this ensures information is always to hand.



SERVICE OF  
NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS  
SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 6pm  
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, COVEN

We would welcome as many of our Year 3 and 4 children as possible at church on Sunday for the Nine Lessons Service where they will sing some of our Christmas songs.

## CHRISTMAS 2025 AT SAINT PAUL'S



SUNDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
6.00pm Service of  
Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE, 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
5.00pm Family Crib Service  
9.00pm Christmas Eve Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
10.00am Mass of the Day

## EVENTS AND NOTICES

### The Polar Express - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Get ready for a magical journey on the Polar Express. On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, we're thrilled to invite children from Nursery to Year 4 to join us on an exciting Polar Express Christmas Celebration.

The children are invited to come to school dressed in their cosy pyjamas, paired with suitable outdoor footwear, and immerse themselves in a day filled with Polar Express-themed activities and excitement.

To finish our festivities, the children will enjoy movie time with a hot chocolate and marshmallows - how deliciously festive! *(Please ensure we are aware of any allergies or if you do not want your child to have these Christmas treats).* A special golden ticket, paired with a precious silver bell will conclude our magical day.

Thank you for your continued support this year.

All aboard the Polar Express!

Mrs Pope



### SILENT DISCO kids edition

On Tuesday, Mr Chetwood will be holding a silent disco for each class from Reception up to Year 4. This will take place during their usual PE slot on Tuesday therefore we kindly ask that trainers are worn along with pyjamas rather than any other

### Homework Passports

Children are invited to bring their Homework Passports in from Monday next week so that they can be shared in class. Please ensure that they are brought in no later than Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December.



### Open Afternoon

**Thursday 8th January: 4:00pm**

This event is 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 have a tour of the school as well as learn about all that we have to offer here at St. Paul's.

We also welcome visits at other times so please get in touch with the school office to arrange an appointment:

[office@st-pauls-coven.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-pauls-coven.staffs.sch.uk)

### Christmas Fayre - Thank You!



the magic happen!

A huge and heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who joined us at the Christmas Fayre last Friday. Despite the awful weather, it was wonderful to see so many families coming together to support the school and enjoy the festivities. Thank you to every single person who contributed—whether you donated, baked, volunteered, organised, or simply turned up in the rain—you truly helped make

This was our **first time using a token system**, and in general the feedback has been very positive. We've also listened carefully to the constructive criticism shared with us and will be making a few improvements to make the experience even smoother at future events.

We were also pleased to trial **card payments** during the fayre. The response was encouraging, and we're excited to roll this out more widely at future events using both **Tap to Pay** and **QR code payments**—making it easier and quicker for everyone.

We were also delighted to welcome **real reindeer** to the Fayre this year—an extra touch of Christmas magic that proved to be a huge hit with children and adults alike. A **big thank you to our governor, Mrs Holloway**, for arranging such a wonderful addition to the event. The reindeer truly helped make this year's Fayre one to remember.



And a special thank you to **Mrs Richards**, who organised the photographer and bravely assisted with photos throughout the afternoon — **including some impressive umbrella-handling skills in the pouring rain!** We are also incredibly grateful to her daughter, who kindly donated her own time as our photographer, helping capture so many lovely moments from the day.

Finally, we would also like to extend a **heartfelt thank you to Brian and Sam Saunders**, who generously covered the full cost of **all the photographs taken with the reindeer and Santa**. Their kindness meant we were able to offer the photo experience to families **at a significantly discounted rate**, ensuring even more children could enjoy this magical moment. We are incredibly grateful for



## School Association News



their support.

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### Christmas Fundraising Total So Far

Thanks to your generosity and support across this year's Christmas activities, we're thrilled to announce that we've already raised **over...**



# £1,600

And we're not done yet—**Christmas Raffle tickets are still available**, with some fantastic prizes up for grabs. Don't miss your chance to enter!

Raffle tickets are £1 each or £5 per book and will be sold with the refreshments at all Christmas events. Cash and card accepted. The draw will

## 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.



**EDUCATING KIDS OUTDOORS**

# Winter Holiday Club

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

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.ekolearning.org.uk) and if you have any questions or concerns email us at [info@ekolearning.org.uk](mailto: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 15 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> December	Homework passports to be brought into school for showcasing
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Polar Express Day
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch Day
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Y2/3/4 Party Day – children in Y2/3/4 to wear party clothes to school
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Nur/Rec/Y1 Party Day – children in Nur/Rec/Y1 to wear party clothes to school
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nine Lessons Carol Service at Church 6pm Year 3 and Year 4 to sing
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day – Non-uniform - £1 donation for school fund School closes for Christmas
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	School closed – Christmas Holidays
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Crib Service at Church – everyone welcome – 5:00 pm - Families welcome to attend

<b>JANUARY 2026</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET Day = school closed to pupils
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	School reopens to pupils
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Spring WOW Day – Let’s Imagine – dress as a storybook character.
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 1 WOW day – let’s explore London (Children wear red, white and blue)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Young Voices
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> 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.
<b>FEBRUARY 2026</b>	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	School Discos - £5 for ticket, glow sticks and refreshments 3:25 - 4:30 pm for Years 2, 3 and 4
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	School Discos - £5 for ticket, snap bands and refreshments 3:25 – 4:30 pm for Nursery, Reception and Y1
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Interim Reports to go home
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes – last day of half term
Mon 16th to Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School closed- half term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	School reopens for all children
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents’ Evening – 3:40 pm to 6:00 pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents’ Evening – 3:40 pm to 6:00 pm
<b>MARCH 2026</b>	
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day – Dress up as your favourite Roald Dahl character
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Stay and Play EYFS Nursery only - 10:30 to 11:30
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> March	Homework passports to be brought into school for showcasing
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March to Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Residential
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> March	End of term
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	School closed – Easter Holidays
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	School reopens to all pupils