



SCHOOL NEWS



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

Alongside all of the great learning that has taken place since the start of the academic year, there have been many enrichment opportunities which have supported our pupils' personal development. This week has certainly continued that theme and has been particularly busy.

On Sunday, I was joined by some of our Year 3 and 4 children at St. Paul's Church for the annual Nine Lessons Carol Service. The children sang two carols and did a super job of representing our school so well done and thank you to them again.

The school week started with EYFS putting on their first ever Nativity Show which celebrated this special time of year through the retelling of the Christmas story both in words and song. The children wowed us all with how well they spoke through the lovely video that Miss Ball had put together and then sang the songs that they have worked so hard to learn.

Tuesday was packed full with the Polar Express Day and with each class from Reception to Year 4 taking part in a silent disco. Mrs Pope and the staff had planned some lovely activities throughout the day all linked to the lovely story of the Polar Express and Mrs Cole set the scene by visiting each class to clip their tickets wearing a fabulous train conductor outfit for the occasion! The children also enjoyed a hot chocolate provided by our kind School Association.

The silent disco was led by Mr Chetwood and was the first of our WOW events which BeeActive provide at the end of each term. It was a great session with the children and staff thoroughly enjoying the experience. It was lovely to pop in and see them all dancing around fully immersed in the experience.

Tuesday was also Christmas lunch day where the children and staff were all treated to a delicious Christmas lunch provided by our Kitchen staff. We are hoping to work with Dolce, who provide our hot meal service, in providing some further themed days and opportunities for other family members to attend in the new year so please watch this space.

Wednesday and Thursday have been our Christmas Party days with the children enjoying a range of party games, treats and a visit from a very important person who presented them with a gift provided by our generous School Association.

Wednesday was also the day that we said goodbye and good luck to Mrs Hodgkins who has been part of life at St. Paul's for 17 Years. We are sad to see her leave but know that she will have lots of lovely new adventures so wish her lots of luck for the future and look forward to seeing her when she pops in from time to time.

Finally, the staff and myself would like to extend our sincere thanks for all of the support that we have received from our families this year and for the lovely Christmas gifts. We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Mrs Richards

Dear God,

Thank you for Christmas and all the joy and happiness that come with it.
 Thank you for Mary and Joseph for being the wonderful parents of Jesus.
 Thank you for the animals who shared their stable especially the donkey for carrying Mary and Joseph there.
 Thank you wise people for your gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
 Thank you for people who are for us at Christmas. We pray for people who are alone at Christmas.
 Amen



Written by Imogen

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



This term we have launched the Headteacher's Award. Staff have chosen a child from their class who they feel has consistently demonstrated our school values. Their parents were invited into school today to see their child accept their certificate and to hear why they had been chosen by their teacher. This award will now be presented every half term.

Nursery— Oakley for showing exceptional kindness to his peers and always considering the feelings of others. He consistently tries his best in everything he does and sets a positive example to those around him by being respectful and polite at all times. He brings nothing but joy to our classroom.

Reception - Jamie for always following the class rules. He is extremely kind and caring towards his friends and always shows respect for others and his environment. He has great enthusiasm for learning, is very inquisitive and enjoys talking partner sessions. Jamie is a very sociable and friendly little boy who has made lots of friends since starting Reception and is always helping others. He always tries his best, has a smile on his face and is a wonderful role model.

Year 1 - Eboni for being an exceptional role model in the class. She is thoughtful, kind and caring to all of her peers. She consistently follows the school values by always showing respect to everyone and the environment around her. She always exceeds in her learning by pushing herself to complete all challenges and is an inquisitive learner in all subjects. Eboni is a ray of sunshine in the class.

Year 2— Harper for always trying her hardest and being the perfect role model to others. She is a hard working, determined and passionate learner who always tries her very best. Even if Harper finds a challenge tricky, she perseveres and never gives up. She is an amazing little girl!

Year 3 - Faye for treating everyone with the upmost respect and will do anything to help anyone. Kindness shines through in everything Faye does. She puts 100% effort into everything she does and perseveres when she finds things difficult. Faye brightens up the classroom with her infectious grin, positive attitude and willingness to succeed. She is a true pleasure to teach and an absolute star!

Year 4 - Armaan for being an excellent role model in his class, consistently demonstrating our school values. He is always proactive in his learning, trying consistently hard in everything he does and always wants to be the very best he can be. His positive attitude and eagerness to succeed ensure his continued success in all he does. Armaan is a pleasure to teach.

AUTUMN 2 ART AWARDS

Nursery— Juan for the wonderful progression of his painting skills across the Autumn term.

Reception - Freddie for his amazing drawings in class.

Year 1 - Charlie for his portrait.

Year 2 - Archie for his mixed media of a rainbow.

Year 3 - Archie for his textured cave painting of a robin.

Year 4 - JJ for his 3D painting using two colour pattern.

EVENTS AND NOTICES

Photo Consents and Social Media

As families are aware, as a school we seek consent for taking and sharing photographs and we ask at all events that photos taken in school are not shared on social media so we would like to politely remind parents of this again. Thank you for your support with this.

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.

Lateness

We have noticed that there are a significant number of pupils who are arriving late each morning. This is a polite reminder that the **school gates close at 8:55 and all children should be in school at this point**. Office staff are currently being taken away from their morning duties due to having to take late pupils to their classes and these pupils are also missing valuable time in class.

Clubs

Please see below for next term's clubs which can be booked via ParentPay or via Bee Active. Please note that where pupil numbers are below 5 unfortunately the club will not run and you will be offered an alternative or a refund.



Spring Term 1st Half Term 2026



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	Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4:25pm	Dance Club – This will be in preparation for the <u>Wolgarston</u> Dance Festival on Tuesday 3 rd February 2026.	Miss Evans	£5 per week £25 for 5 weeks 12.1.2026 to 9.2.2026
Tuesday	Y3/Y4	12:30 to 1pm	Reading Club	Miss Woodgate	Free to attend
Tuesday	Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4:25pm	Team Sports See flyer and book online	External Coaches	£5 per week £25 for 6 weeks 6.1.2026 to 10.2.2026
Tuesday	R/Y1/Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4:25pm	Film Club – bring your pyjamas to change into before enjoying a film with a drink and snack.	Mrs Walsh	£5 per week £20 for 4 weeks 13.1.2026 to 10.2.2026 (Excluding 3rd February 2026)
Thursday	Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4:25pm	Times tables Club	Mrs Richards	£5 per week £25 for 5 weeks 8.1.2026 to 5.2.2026
Friday	Y2/Y3/Y4	3:25 – 4pm	World Change Makers	Mrs Pope	£4 per week £20 for 5 weeks 9.1.2026 to 6.2.2026

EVENTS AND NOTICES



BEE ACTIVE

Join us every week for team sports

Sessions will give your child the opportunity to try new team sports as well as improve fitness, skills and confidence.

Open to all children from Years 2, 3 & 4

Meet your coach
Jamie

Team sports - Tuesdays
3:25-4:25pm

Book now at beeactive.co.uk

Places are limited and will be secured on a first come, first service basis

Search: 'Bee Active'

Read our reviews ★★★★★
See what others say about Bee Active.

New PE Days

We are excited to announce that from January 2026, Bee Active will be in school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to deliver our PE curriculum. This means that children in Years 1 to 4 will have one PE day a week now rather than two. This will be either a morning of PE or an afternoon of PE. Children should come to school in their PE kit on their PE day. See below to find out which day your child will have PE with Bee Active:

Tuesday—Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesday—Year 3 and Year 4

Reception will continue to have lessons with Bee Active but these will be on both Tuesday and Wednesday so they will need to come in PE kit on both of these days. The exception to this will be Tuesday 6th January where we ask that they come in their WOW day clothing but wear trainers—Mr Chetwood has a story book themed session planned!

Miss Griffiths

Miss Griffiths, who has been a valuable member of our office team since joining us in 2022, will be leaving St. Paul's on 9th January to take up a new position in another setting. Whilst we will miss her greatly, we wish her lots of luck and success for the future.

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



School Association News



Christmas Fundraising Total

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

£1,949.49!



Where Does the Money Go?



Our fundraising mission for this school year is to provide **each year group classroom with an Interactive Whiteboard.**

Interactive Whiteboards are large touch-sensitive screens that connect to a computer and replace traditional projectors and whiteboards. They enable teachers to deliver lessons in a far more dynamic and engaging way – bringing videos, diagrams, interactive activities, and digital resources directly into the classroom.

For pupils, they support different learning styles, allow hands-on interaction, and make lessons more accessible and exciting. For teachers, they streamline lesson delivery, save preparation time, and allow resources to be reused or adapted easily.



This week, the School Association was delighted to approve funding for **three new interactive whiteboards**, made possible through the generous support of families and friends at our events throughout this term and previous years. The school will be ordering the boards before the end of term, ready for installation in the New Year, and they will be used in **Year 4, Year 3 and Year 2 classrooms.** Looking ahead, our aim for next year is to continue fundraising to provide interactive whiteboards for the rest of the school. With that goal in mind, we will be running a programme of more regular events and look forward to your continued support.



School Association News



Movie Night Fundraiser


The School Association is delighted to announce **two after-school Movie Night fundraisers**, taking place at the end of January. These fun, child-friendly events will help us raise funds towards new interactive whiteboards for the school, directly supporting teaching and learning.




Movie Night - Key Stage 1

For children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

 Thursday 29th January 2026

 3:30 - 5:30pm


 A U-rated age-appropriate film


Vote here for the KS1 Movie night film! -


<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/eX2jJKT5YE>

Movie Night - Key Stage 2

For children in Year 3 & Year 4

 Friday 30th January 2026

 3:30 - 5:30pm

 A U / PG age-appropriate film

Vote here for the KS2 Movie night film! -

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/WQcd7qDCM0>

Tickets

- £8 per child includes a drink and hot dog (meat or veggie options)

 Optional snack bundles available to pre-order

Important Information

- This is a children-only event
- Children will be supervised by school staff and School Association volunteers
- Pre-booking is required as places are limited

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 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

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 16 th 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