



SCHOOL NEWS



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

This week in Nursery the children have been linking all their learning to superheroes which has included painting shields for Captain America, writing secret codes, decorating and cutting out masks as well as of course role playing lots of heroes too.

Last week, Reception wrote invitations to members of staff to invite them to dinner so this week, staff from across school have been visiting Reception to be served with lunch in their role play area. The children always have lots to share about their learning whenever myself or other members of staff pop in. We had a visit from our EYFS advisor too this week and the children loved sharing their learning with her too.

Year 2 were learning all about the importance of money and how to look after it in their PSHE lesson which I popped into on Wednesday. They had lots of questions about money and lots of ideas and opinions too especially on how to save and spend!

Elsewhere in school, the children have all been progressing well with this term's topics. They have also spent some time reflecting and recalling some of last term's learning. This recall and retrieval practice is important to ensure that learning is not forgotten and is consistently built upon.

This week, we have also had our Movie Nights which have been organised and run by our School Association with the support of staff. Both events have gone very well and helped raise valuable funds towards the remaining interactive whiteboards for Year 1, Reception and Nursery. Thank you to the SA for organising this and to our families and staff who have supported too.

Finally, as parents will be aware from the news, a request has been made by a child in the West Midlands, who is receiving palliative care treatment, for 8000 birthday cards to be sent to her on her 8th birthday in March. We were approached by two parents who offered to facilitate this at St. Paul's therefore on Thursday each child wrote a card for Amelia Kolpa. These cards had been kindly supplied by the family of Armaan and Shaan and are going to be collected by their dad today and Guinevere's mum on Monday. They will then ensure that they are delivered in time for Amelia's birthday. If any families would like to add additional cards, then please could you ensure that they are brought into school by 9am on Monday 2nd February.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Richards

Dear God,

Thank you for St. Peter and St. Paul.

Thank you that you forgive us when we get things wrong, and help us grow when we try again.

Help us to be kind, brave and loving today.

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— Lily for being so happy and independent in her new class.

Reception - Louie for a detailed recount of who Henri Matisse is and the type of artwork he produced.

Year 1 - Milo for being an enthusiastic learner and carrying his learning on at home, creating a super character and sentences.

Year 2— Morgan for being a superstar in History lessons! He has been fully engaged and enthusiastic.

Year 3 - Leo of a fantastic attitude towards his learning this week.

Year 4 - Ranjeet for putting in 100% every lesson.

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Leo for super effort in writing the letters in his name.

Reception— Blake for independent sentence writing to describe the witch in Hansel and Gretel.

Year 1 - Oliver for trying really hard in Phonics, writing the different sounds.

Year 2— Archie for brilliant compound sentences using when/if about Christopher Columbus.

Year 3 - Noah for his excellent answers in Sentence Not Sentence.

Year 4 - Armaan for trying his hardest to improve and develop his handwriting.

MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Nursery— Oakley D for spotting lots of 2D shapes in the environment.

Reception— Willow S for finding ways of making 6, 7 and 8.

Year 1 - Eboni for super work in adding using number bonds.

Year 2 - Harper for an excellent start to multiplication learning.

Year 3 - Paige for great work on measuring.

Year 4 - Poppy for using her prior knowledge to efficiently answer multiplication prob-

Nursery Passport Challenge

Brody JuanJohn-William Eddie Oakley D Ted Ruben

Star

Reception Brain Challenge

Blake Evelyn Eddie

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

N1—90.6% N2—87.9% R— 94.6% Y1 - 99.1% Y2 - 98.8% Y3 - 95.3% Y4—93%

EVENTS AND NOTICES

Parent Forum

We are looking for new members to join our Parent Forum which aims to meet at least once a term. The objective of the St Paul's Parent Forum is to facilitate positive and effective two-way communication between parents and the school, providing a channel for communication, feedback and suggestions for improvement.

Please let the school office know by Friday 6th February if you would like to represent your child's class this year. office@st-pauls-coven.staffs.sch.uk

Attendance

Did you Know?

Children start their Phonics, English and Maths learning and practice sessions as soon as they arrive in the morning. Teachers also run additional learning sessions for groups of children if they are finding any aspects of their learning challenging.

Most importantly, staff ensure that daily checking in with each child, sharing the daily timetable and any important messages for the day happens first thing in the morning- this helps children feel regulated and informed and develops their sense of belonging.

Good attendance supports learning and the development of social skills and friendships, as well as building good habits that are essential for adult life.

Lateness

- 5 minutes late each day = 3 days lost over the year
- 10 minutes late each day = 6.5 days lost over year
- 15 minutes late each day = 10 days lost over the year
- 30 minutes late each day = 19 days lost over they year



Absence

If a child had an attendance figure of 83% in an academic year, this would mean they had been absent FOR A WHOLE TERM.



If they had the same percentage for all their primary school years, this is the equivalent of MISSING AN ENTIRE YEAR!

The damage this would do to their academic achievements and friendships would be huge and unrecoverable.

EVENTS AND NOTICES



Baby and Toddler Group ★

Coven Memorial Hall

★★★

Tuesday Mornings
9:15am - 11am

★★★

£4 per adult and up to
2 pre-school age children

★★★

For more information, please
speak to Brenda or
Jo, 07564 013668

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
Registered Charity Number: 249942

MEET THE EASTER BUNNY

OVER BREAKFAST



**On Wednesday 1st April 2026 at
Coven Memorial Hall, 9:30am**

Ring Jo Knight on 07564 013668
to book your space

Breakfast includes cereal, toast,
croissants, orange juice, hot drinks

All children to make an Easter craft
and receive an Easter egg to take home

£5 per admission

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
Registered charity Number: 249942

Cuppa & Cake Event

**Saturday 7th March 2026
2pm-4pm at St. Paul's Church, Coven**

Raising money to support
The Haven, Wolverhampton and other Mothers'
Union charities



Covens Mothers' Union



School Association News



♥ Thank You for an Amazing Couple of Movie Nights! 🎬 🍿

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our **School Association Movie Nights** this week. They have been brilliantly attended, and your generosity really has made a difference.

We'd also like to say a special thank you to the teachers and staff who stayed late to help supervise and support the events – we hope you enjoyed your hot dogs just as much as the children enjoyed the films!



♥ Valentine's Kindness Tokens - 9th-13th February ♥



Next up is our **Valentine's fundraising event**, and this year we're spreading the love across the *whole week!*

From **Monday 9th to Friday 13th February**, children can take part in **Kindness Tokens Week** – a lovely way to encourage thoughtful gestures

and brighten someone's day.

Children can give tokens to friends, family members, teachers, or anyone who might appreciate a smile.

Tokens cost £3 for a bundle of 6 and will be distributed to children via their class. Full details can be found on the attached poster or on the events page.

👉 Tokens are available to purchase via our PTA Events page:
<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stpaulscovenschoolassociation>





School Association News



Let's fill the school with kindness and smiles 🌸

🛒 School Uniform Shop - Now Open!

A quick reminder that the **School Uniform Shop** is now open and well stocked. If you need uniform items, please consider purchasing from us rather than the supermarkets — every purchase helps support the school.

🎯 Why We're Fundraising

All of our fundraising efforts this term are working towards a really important goal: 🙌 **raising enough funds to purchase more interactive whiteboards for the school.**

The three interactive whiteboards installed earlier this month have already made such a positive impact in classrooms, which has really motivated us to keep going and work towards equipping the rest of the school too. Your continued support at events genuinely makes a difference to the children's learning environment — thank you for being part of it.

ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s

10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is crucial that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers using digital devices. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

1 USE DEVICES TOGETHER

This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for. It also provides the interaction that supports children's understanding of what they're seeing – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.

PARENT CODE:

6 BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a bank card), use the parental controls to block buys from app stores, as well as in-app purchases. That will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.

2 ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to. If your little one uses any device (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and enable them whenever they have access to it.

7 CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES

There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading an app, and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.

3 MANAGE SCREEN TIME

This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes certain times of the day when they go without devices.

8 INVOLVE THE FAMILY

If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be different – and that they'll access content that isn't appropriate for younger ones (a particular worry if they share devices). Encourage the whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.

4 TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE

Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to stay safe online. Use age-appropriate language to help them understand, and plenty of hand gestures can reinforce what you're telling them.

9 IF IN DOUBT, ASK

The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. Developing an open dialogue at an early age helps them grow up feeling able to talk to you about their digital life – providing opportunities to intervene if you're concerned.

5 SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to follow the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you balancing your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.

10 SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY

Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, you could encourage games that require physical movement; dance and sing along to songs your child loves; and follow step-by-step crafting videos.



DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY 2026	
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
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
Thursday 19 th March	School Discos - £5 for ticket, glow sticks and refreshments 3:25 - 4:30 pm for Years 2, 3 and 4 * Change of date
Friday 20 th March	School Discos - £5 for ticket, snap bands and refreshments 3:25 – 4:30 pm for Nursery, Reception and Y1 * Change of date
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
JUNE 2026	
Monday 1 st June	School reopens for pupils
Monday 1 st June to Friday 12 th June	Y4 Multiplication Check in school We kindly ask Y4 parents not to book any holidays during this period.
Mon 8 th to Fri 12 th June	Year 1 children to complete their Phonics Screening Check. We kindly ask Y1 parents not to book any holidays during this week.
Wednesday 10 th June	Stay and Play EYFS Nursery only - 10:30 to 11:30
Wednesday 17 th June	EYFS Teddy Bears Picnic
Friday 19 th June	Non-uniform - Donations of bottles for Summer Fayre
Friday 26 th June	Non-uniform day—donation of sweets/chocolate for the Summer Fair please
Tuesday 30 th June	Sports Day
JULY 2026	
Wednesday 1 st July	Transition Day – children will spend the day in their new class
Wednesday 1 st July	4pm Meet the teacher – Parents and carers are invited in to meet their child’s new teacher. There will be a short talk in the hall and then an opportunity to visit the new classroom and meet the teacher.