



# SCHOOL NEWS



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

Welcome back and happy new year to you all. We hope that you have all enjoyed a lovely Christmas break. The recent change in weather has presented some challenges, and I would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your continued support in helping us ensure that school is accessed safely.

On Tuesday, our Year 1 pupils commenced their new topic with an engaging 'Wow Day', arriving dressed in the colours of the Union Jack ready to begin their new topic all about the United Kingdom.

Across school, the other classes have also begun work on their new termly topics which focus on either history or geography. Parents will have received a class newsletter and timetable alongside this week's newsletter, ensuring you are well-informed about the upcoming learning.

Our Nursery has welcomed new children this week, and it has been lovely to see how well they have adapted to their new environment and have all made a great start on their learning journeys at St. Paul's.

During our Thursday worship, Mrs Pope led a session which introduced Christianity as a Global Faith to pupils from Reception to Year 4. Following the collective worship, teachers continued the exploration in their classrooms, using a powerful photograph to illustrate the global nature of Christianity. This approach allowed our pupils to share their thoughts and develop a broader understanding of how this faith is practiced across different countries. This learning connected well with our 'Advent Across the World' worship from last term, and as always, our children demonstrated remarkable thoughtfulness and openness in discussing their evolving perspectives.

Finally, on Friday we said farewell to Miss Griffiths, who has been an integral part of our school office team for the past four years. While we will miss her greatly, we extend our warmest wishes as she begins a new position at a school closer to her home.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Richards

**Dear God,**

Thank you for all the blessings in our lives.  
Help us to treat them with respect and reverence,  
and to care for others and 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— Oakley W for a super confident first week in Nursery.

Reception - Willow F for always following our Golden Rules.

Year 1 - Elsie for asking excellent questions on our WOW Day.

Year 2— Harriet for settling into life at St. Paul's and in Year 2, exceptionally well.

Year 3 - Ethan for working hard in all lessons this week.

Year 4 - Flori for being proactive in her learning and focusing in all of our lessons.

## WRITER OF THE WEEK

Reception— Covie for great work writing a sentence to describe a picture in drawing club.

Year 1 - Blake for showing an excellent understanding of how to write a compound sentence.

Year 2—Charlie for an amazing effort to improve handwriting and a great attitude in all lessons.

Year 3 - Aria-Grace for excellent, thought-out answers during this week's Sentence Not Sentence.

Year 4 - Jess for the quality of writing in her history work last week.

## MATHEMATICIAN OF THE WEEK

Reception— Tommy for working really hard on his counting skills.

Year 1 - Chase for recognising different ways to make 10.

Year 2 - Finley H for a super effort in Maths lessons this week based on money.

Year 3 - Tilly-Rose for smashing the 3 times table this week.

Year 4 - Nancy for her hard work when multiplying by 10.

# EVENTS AND NOTICES

## Movie Nights

This term the School Association will be holding two movie nights after school where the children can enjoy a hot dog and drink whilst settling down to a movie with their friends. Please see the School Association news further down in the newsletter for additional information.

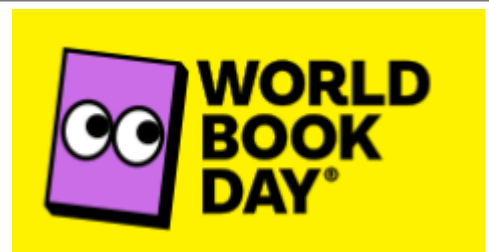
## Lateness

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.

## World Book Day

Miss Woodgate will be sending out a link to information about this year's Year of Reading which is a national initiative that we are keen to take part in here at St. Paul's. The children were introduced to this during an assembly and we will be doing lots to promote reading for pleasure over the course of the year.

Thursday 5th March 2026 is World Book Day and as ever we would love for our children to dress up for the occasion. Since our Reading Challenge for this year is based around the books of Roald Dahl, we would like to invite children to dress up as a character from one of his many books.



# 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

**ONLY £5 PER SESSION**

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

**Book now at [beeactive.co.uk](http://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.

## Clubs

Please see below for this term's clubs which can be booked via ParentPay or via Bee Active.

### Spring Term 1<sup>st</sup> 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
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 <b>(Excluding 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026)</b>
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



## School Association News



As we begin a new year, the School Association would like to wish all our children, families and staff a very happy New Year.

We're delighted to share some fantastic news from the School Association (SA)!



The new **interactive whiteboards** have now been delivered to school and are awaiting installation in **Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4** classrooms. Teachers are incredibly excited about the opportunities these will bring to lessons, helping to make learning even more engaging and interactive for the children.

We're also very pleased to announce that, this week, the SA approved **part funding for the Year 4 Egyptian Workshop**. We're sure the children will have a brilliant time bringing their history learning to life through this experience.



Neither of these achievements would have been possible without the amazing support from our parents and carers — whether through donations, attending events, or giving their time to help with fundraising activities last year. Your involvement truly makes a difference.



Building on this momentum, we are now fundraising to purchase **three further interactive whiteboards** for **Nursery, Reception and Year 1**. This will begin with **two after-school Movie Night fundraisers** taking place at the end of January. We hope you'll be able to support us once again and join in with what promises to be a fun way to raise funds for an important cause.




# School Association News





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## **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/eX2jJKT5YF>


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## **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/WQcd7qDCMQ>

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## **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

We hope the children enjoy a cosy after-school movie treat while helping to support an important school project. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the School Association 

## 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.

# DIARY DATES

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 16 <sup>th</sup> 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