



St. Paul's Church of England Primary Newsletter

Friday 10th January 2025

From the words of St. Paul... 'Encourage one another and build each other up.'

Headteacher news



Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to school and a happy new year to you all! As we embark on what promises to be a busy Spring term, I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks for your understanding during this challenging start to the term.

The recent weather conditions have certainly kept us on our toes. I want to assure you that decisions about school closures or delayed starts are never taken lightly. We carefully consider the conditions both at school and on the routes leading to it, always aiming to inform you as early as possible.

Your support and understanding during this time have been truly appreciated. Many of you have reached out to back our decisions and keep us informed of your circumstances – thank you. I want to emphasise that if you ever feel it's unsafe for your child to travel to school, we fully support your decision to keep them at home.

I am hoping that the promised warmer weather for the weekend materialises next week, melting away the snow and ice!

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Let's embrace this new term with enthusiasm and a positive mindset.

Together, we can make this Spring term a truly memorable and rewarding one for all.

Here's to a fantastic start to 2025!

Dates for your diary...



Re-open Monday 6th January 2025

Mid Term Closure Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2025 (inclusive)

Re-open Monday 24th February 2025

Closure after school on Friday 4th April 2025

Attendance/Holiday information

Attendance to school is compulsory, all children must attend every day unless they are ill.

To enable us to safeguard our children, may we request that if your child is absent from school you, please telephone the school on 01706 215893 by 09:00am to inform us. If we have not received a call, a member of our office staff will call you to ensure that your child is at home and is safe.

What to do if my child is ill.

Despite school being cleaned daily using antibacterial solutions with the use of antibacterial soap and hand gels available for all to use freely. It is that time of year where illness and viruses start to unfold.

- The NHS have a helpful guide should you wish to use this. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- Please can you ensure that your child does not attend school for 48 hours after they have last vomited or had diarrhoea.

We are still encouraging good respiratory hygiene i.e. covering their nose/mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, discarding tissues after use and washing hands with soap and water. It is important to reduce the risk to others.

Can you authorise my child's absence?

As many of you are aware, we are unable to authorise any absences that are not illness related unless in exceptional circumstances. There is a 'leave of absence' form available from the school office however, we would ask that all holidays are taken within the holiday periods and not in term time, to avoid a fine from Lancashire County Council.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Holiday list



Earlier this week, I sent out our new holiday dates for the 2025-26 school year. These dates are crucial for planning purposes, and I kindly ask that you keep them in mind when considering any future family holidays or trips.

It's worth reiterating our school's policy on attendance during term time. As you're all aware, we place a high value on consistent attendance and its impact on our pupils' educational progress. With this in mind, I must remind you that leave during term time will not be authorised. This policy is in place to ensure that our pupils receive the full benefit of their education and don't miss out on valuable learning opportunities.

Should unauthorised leave be taken during term time, it's important to note that this will result in a penalty notice. This measure is not one we take lightly, but it's necessary to maintain the high standards of attendance that contribute to our pupils' success.

I understand that planning family time is important, and I hope that by providing these dates well in advance, we can work together to ensure that holidays and family commitments align with the school calendar wherever possible.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about this or any other matter, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Here are the quick links to -

- [2024-25 Holiday list](#)
- [2025-26 holiday list](#)

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD WHO MAY BE BEING NEGLECTED...



If you are a young person, you can contact 2-10pm, 365 days a year.
Phone on 0800 51 11 11
Text on 07786 51 11 11
Email: talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk



NSPCC

If you are an adult or professional,
call 0300 123 6720



For more information
www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/neglect/



Lancashire Family Hubs

For more information, scan the QR code or
visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/family-hubs/



Healthy Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

For more information, scan the QR code or visit
<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/school-holiday-activities/>

Fundraise for school in a way that does not cost you anything.

Easyfunding



We're now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use Easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE!

These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-pauls-rawtenstall/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=email-1

This week we have been learning...



Amazing Acorns



In English we have been reading 'Owl Babies' written by the author Martin Waddell.

In Maths we have been busy writing different numbers.

We have had lots of fun playing in the snow. We have been learning how to use scissors and how to cut in different ways. We have made some lovely owl collages, showing our skills.

Please can all PE kits, wellies and forest school kit be returned to school. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend

The EYFS team

[Awesome Ashes](#)



Welcome back and Happy New Year! It has been lovely to see the children this week, they have loved playing in the snow and meeting their friends after the Christmas break.

Curriculum news.

This term our topic is 'Fire! Fire!' Please find the topic web on our website. We will focus on The Great Fire of London.

Friendly Class reminders

- Reading books- These will be given out as soon as our audit has been completed. Please bring your reading book to school each day.
- New weekly spellings given - Each Friday
- Indoor and Outdoor PE -Tuesday (the change is due to our Sports Coach)

- Forest School session - Friday 10th January (and then every other week)

Have a lovely weekend

Miss Fielding

Super Sycamores



Happy New year and welcome back to the Spring Term. I hope that you have all enjoyed the holidays and myself and Mrs Edwards would like to say a huge thank you for all the cards and gifts at the end of last term, it is very much appreciated. It has been lovely to see all the children again and to see them engage in their learning, as well as enjoying playing in the snow.

In English lessons we have finished our topic of Tradition Tales with a Twist by writing our own independent tale with a twist. The starting point was the Big Bad Wolf building a Robot Pig to try to trick the three little pigs. The children have enjoyed creating their own twists.

In Maths we have been learning about time and the differences between seconds, minutes, hours, days and years. To help understand seconds the children had to time themselves completing different tasks to see how many seconds it took them. They continued their understanding by working out who was quicker and who was slower at the tasks.

In Science, we have also been continuing our learning about Humans and animals by asking questions about how humans stay healthy and also understanding the importance of exercise.

Friendly reminders

- Spellings - sent home every Friday
- Reading books - to be brought to school daily
- PE - every Thursday (please bring kit each week)
- Outdoor Learning- Tuesday 21st January (kit to be kept in school)

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs De Boutemard

Outstanding Alders



Welcome back, I hope you all had a fantastic break. It has been brilliant to have the children back in school.

Curriculum News

In English, a crime was brought to our attention, 'The Highway Rat' had been stealing food. We set a trap with delicious food, practising our noun phrases. We have also been exploring poems all about food, identifying their features and learning them off by heart. Look at our photo's.

In Maths we have been learning about Time. We have been learning how to tell the time to the hour, quarter past, half past and quarter to. The children have been brilliant. Fancy practising this at home?

Try this game at level one, <https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/hickoryDickory/index.html>

We have started our new Art unit on Pointillism, and we have created an umbrella picture in that style.

Friendly Class reminders

- PE - Every Tuesday.
- Forest School - Every other Thursday (next one 23rd January).

Have a lovely weekend

Miss P Cavaney





Enchanted Elms



Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday. Mrs Morris and I would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the thoughtful cards and gifts we received at the end of last term – they were truly appreciated. It has been lovely to hear all the children’s stories about their Christmas Break.

In English we have started our new novel ‘Stig of the Dump’ by Clive King – We have learnt that there is someone living in the dump called Stig. We have answered some viper questions about the opening of the book.

In RE we have begun our new unit on Islam. In History, we have started out new topic – Stone Age.

Friendly class reminders

- Reading diaries – Every day
- New weekly spellings given - Each Friday
- Outdoor PE (weather permitting) - Tuesday
- Indoor PE - Wednesday
- Forest School sessions – Monday 20th January 2025, Monday 10th February 2025

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Cowgill

[Marvellous Maples](#)



Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed a lovely Christmas break, whatever it looked like. The children have come back to school with exciting stories and news to share and we have enjoyed a productive week back in class.

The children have been really engaged in our English lessons where we have look at a new book. The children do not know which one or what the story is about, we are working slowly through it, looking at language and using information stated and implied to create some plausible predictions.

The children have been finding properties of 3D shapes and have been looking at right angles and also acute and obtuse angles.

In Geography, our focus question is 'Is Earth extreme?'. The children are researching and will present their information about an extreme environment.

Our class topic web is on our website if you would like more information about our learning this half term.

Please ensure your child is reading every night and handing in their diaries. It is such an important part of learning and will help your child in all areas of the curriculum, so please do encourage this as much as possible at home.

Friendly class reminders

- Outdoor PE- Tuesday (weather permitting)
- Indoor PE- Friday
- Forest school- Every other Thursday PM (first session: 16th January)

Have a great weekend.

Miss Yates

Dazzling Elders



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday. Miss Poston and I would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the thoughtful cards and gifts we received at the end of last term – they were truly appreciated. It's been a joy to see the children again, engaging enthusiastically in their learning.

In English lessons we have started to learn the features of a discussion text and have continued to read 'Boy at The Back of The Class', which the children are really enjoying.

In Maths, we have been identifying, naming and describing the properties of 2D shapes, including parallel lines, perpendicular lines, vertices, angles and symmetry.

This week, the children have been learning more about reversible and irreversible changes in our Science lessons. They were challenged to design an experiment to find out which jug contained salt water and which contained pure water. After setting up their experiments, they will observe them next week to see if the liquid evaporates and what remains.

Robinwood 2026 We have already secured our date for Robinwood 2026 and are looking forward to taking our current Year 5 to Todmorden. If your child is in Year 5, please complete the google form to show your expression of interest. This will close early next week so dates can be confirmed.

Friendly class reminders

- Spellings - sent home every Monday
- Reading books - to be brought to school daily
- PE - every Monday outdoor and Friday indoor (please bring kit each week)
- Outdoor Learning- Wednesday 22nd January (kit to be kept in school)

Have a great weekend,

Mrs Nolan

[Wonderful Willows](#)



Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to you all!

This week the children have been finishing off their unit on 'A Christmas Carol' and writing an independent character description of Bob Cratchit, using all the techniques we learned before the holidays during our scaffolded write on Scrooge.

Next week in English, we will begin our new unit on Streetchild written by the author Berlin Doherty. Please ensure your child has a copy of the book to support them in their English and Guided Reading sessions. These can be borrowed from the local library at no cost.

In RE we have begun our new unit on God. We have been looking at concepts of God and what qualities a Christian would want God to have.

Swimming was cancelled this week due to the snow closure but please ensure your child has their kit for Monday. A reminder that the girls (and any boys with longer hair) will need to wear a swimming cap.

Indoor PE will now be on a Wednesday.

A gentle reminder also that homework has been set for the new half term and the spelling shed and rockstars challenges need to be completed by all students. In addition, your child may bring home some supplementary homework this term as we work towards the SATs and termly assessments. All children need to read for at least 20 minutes 3 x per week.

For our Year 6 children only: Bikeability - Mon 20th - Thurs 23rd Jan

Thank you for the forms that have been returned. The cut-off date for the last remaining ones is Monday 13th January. Unfortunately, any forms received after this date will not be accepted. This is due to Go Velo organising instructors for the sessions and completing their risk assessments for the activity. Next week, information will go home about the groupings for the week and arrangements for the days that your child will be taking part in the sessions. Parents are reminded that all pupils need to be able to ride a bike confidently in order to take part in the sessions.

For our Year 5 children only: Robinwood 2026

We have already secured our date for Robinwood 2026 and are looking forward to taking our current Year 5 to Robinwood. If your child is in Year 5, please complete the google form to show your expression of interest. This will close early next week so dates can be confirmed.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Cooper and Mrs Todd

Mighty Oaks



It has been lovely to see the children again after the Christmas break and despite the snowy disruption to the week, Oaks class have made an excellent start to the new term. They have come back into school with a positive mindset, approaching their learning with enthusiasm and excitement. Their whole class certificate in Friday worship was very much deserved.

Curriculum news

This term, our focus will be on what it is like to live in North America. The children will be learning about the physical and human features of this country, using mapping skills and internet research to find out information. In English, our novel this half term is *Holes* by Louis Sachar where we will be thinking about the main characters and writing a non-chronological report.

The half termly topic web is on Oaks class page with further information about the class learning.

Bikeability - Mon 20th - Thurs 23rd Jan

Thank you for the forms that have been returned. The cut-off date for the last remaining ones is Monday 13th January. Unfortunately, any forms received after this date will not be accepted. This is due to Go Velo organising instructors for the sessions and completing their risk assessments for the activity. Next week, information will go home about the groupings for the week and arrangements for the days that your child will be taking part in the sessions. Parents

are reminded that all pupils need to be able to ride a bike confidently in order to take part in the sessions.

Friendly class reminders

- Reading diaries - Each Friday
- New weekly spellings given - Each Friday
- Indoor PE - Thursday
- Outdoor PE (weather permitting) - Monday
- Forest School session - Tuesday 14th January (please ensure that your child has warm clothing and appropriate footwear)

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Lee

Have your circumstances changed? Apply for free school meals.



For any parents/carers, **whose circumstances have changed** and think their child(ren) may be entitled to Free School Meals, please can an application form be completed. Parents can apply electronically via the link below:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=3>

Registering for the Free School Meal service also means the school will receive additional funding for your child, which is called Pupil Premium.

Please note that younger siblings of pupils who are already entitled will not automatically qualify for Free School Meals. If a family's circumstances have changed and cease to be entitled to qualifying benefits, the elder children will be protected but any new children will not qualify. This is why Pupil Access Team require applications completing so they can properly assess new sibling's entitlement.

St. Paul's Church Worship



Reflective Friday



Hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Charlesworth

