

# St. Paul's Church of England Primary Newsletter

Friday 14th March 2025

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

# Headteacher news

Our school has been filled with budding scientists as we celebrate Science Week. Every class has learnt about a famous scientist and have researched what they are known for and what impact they have had in the modern world. As well as this, there have been lots of experiments and investigations taking place. A special thank you to Miss Cowgill for organising this and for the rest of the staff for planning such an exciting and educational week.

A huge well done to our Year 5/6 dodgeball team who represented St Paul's this week and won the bronze award. We are so proud of you. A huge thank you to Mr Rush for all you do for our pupils and dedicating your time to attend these sporting events. Without you, none of this would be possible.

We are looking forward to welcoming you all into school next week for our Spring term parents' evening. If you have not yet booked an appointment, please do not worry as it is not too late.

Please contact your child's class teacher or email <u>school@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk</u> and an appointment can be organised for you. If you are unable to attend on either Tuesday 18th or Thursday 20th, then please let us know and we will try to arrange another appointment for you. Please arrive for your appointment via the school office and one of our prefects will direct you to your child's classroom.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

# Parent What's App Groups

It has been brought to my attention this week that there have been conversations in certain What's App groups across school which have unsettled some parents and caused some distress from both parents and children. Whilst I appreciate that these groups are useful for reminders and sharing important messages such as non-uniform days, please can I request that individual children or cases involving children are not discussed.

As a school, we pride ourselves on our open-door policy and openly encourage parents/carers to contact us if they have any questions or concerns. This can be done by speaking to your child's class teacher at drop off or pick up, phoning the school office or emailing <a href="mailto:school@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk">school@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk</a> We are always more than happy to discuss things with you and will always try to get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter and thank you for all your continued support.

# Photo Challenge



The sight of those glorious sunsets brought an enormous smile to my face. They whispered promises of spring just around the corner, of longer days, and of the cheerful blooms of snowdrops and daffodils that will soon grace our school grounds. It's these little glimpses of beauty that can make all the difference in our day-to-day lives.

Inspired by Mrs Arthur's keen eye, I'd like to propose a challenge to our entire school family. Let's chase away the winter blues and embrace the changing seasons with our very own photography competition! The theme? 'Our beautiful world around us'. This is an opportunity for all of us - pupils, parents, family members, and staff alike - to get outside, explore our wonderful landscape, and capture those magical springtime moments.

We're putting a fun twist on this competition: it's children versus adults! So, whether you're 7 or 70, grab your camera or phone and start snapping. We want to see the world through your eyes - perhaps it's a budding flower, a scenic view, or a moment of everyday beauty that catches your attention.

To enter, simply email your photograph to school@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk. Don't forget to include the name and age of the photographer, along with a brief note about what inspired your shot. We can't wait to see the world through your lenses and celebrate the beauty that surrounds us every day.

Let's make the most of these lengthening days and the promise of spring.

Who knows? Your photograph might just be the one to brighten someone else's day and remind us all of the wonders waiting just outside our doors.

Happy photographing, everyone!

### PE Kits

We have noticed across school that a number of pupils have the incorrect PE kit on their PE days. PE kit is part of our school uniform so it is imperative that your child has the correct kit. Please also note that long hair must be tied back and any jewellery should be removed prior to the lesson.

- White t shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Blue/black PE shorts/tracksuit trousers
- Suitable footwear (trainers are most ideal. Please note, we cannot allow studs or astroturf trainers)
- Optional- school hoodie/ school jumper

We do have some spare PE kit in school if you would like any items donating. Please email <u>school@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk</u> with the item and size needed and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Unfortunately, we do not have any school hoodies available.

# Community Heroes!

Thank you so much to Freddie, Rupert and Ralph who have dedicated their own time to picking litter up around their local estate to help their local community. What a brilliant job you have done. Thank you, boys!



# Character 'roll' Winners!

Our Reading Champions had such a tricky job this week where they had to vote for their favourite character 'roll' entry following our World Book Day competition. All the entries were amazing and we could see that a lot of time and effort had gone into creating such masterpieces. Congratulations to our chosen winners.



1 - Berries- Theo



2 - Acorns- Hunter



3 - Ashes- Hunter



4 - Sycamores- Bonnie



5 - Alders- Jacob



6 - Elms- Charlotte



7 - Maples- Ethan



8 - Elders- Drew



9 - Willows- Ava



10 - Oaks- Jesscia

### Dates for your diary...



- Parents' Evening- Tuesday 18th March and Thursday 20th March 2025
- PTA 'Wear What you Want' day donations for the PTA Easter Hamper Friday 21st March
- Easter Service at St Paul's Church- Thursday 3rd April- Infants 9:30am Juniors 10:30am
- Closure after school on Friday 4th April 2025 at 1:35pm

# **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. <u>Is my child too ill for school? -</u> <u>NHS (www.nhs.uk)</u>
- 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.



### Holiday list



You should now have received 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 -

- <u>2024-25 Holiday list</u>
- <u>2025-26 holiday list</u>

### Additional information





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-paulsrawtenstall/?utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=pmc&utm\_content=email-1



### This week we have been learning...

#### **Brilliant Berries**

What a fabulous week we have had together in Berries! The children really seem to have grown up over the last couple of weeks and I feel very proud to see this, you should too.

We are absolutely loving our story, 'What the Ladybird Heard' and this week we have been focusing on what a farm is and writing facts about farms to create our own fact files. The children have really impressed us with their wonderful work.

In maths, we have been halving numbers this week and relating this to doubles. For example, we know that half of number 10 is 5 and double 5 is 10. They have worked so hard, and I am so proud of them.

This week has been National Science Week, we have been learning about Florence Nightingale. We have looked at how she knew that hospitals needed to be clean to help those who are sick get better. We have looked at her timeline and did an experiment with glitter to see how germs are spread, I am sure there will be no arguing about washing hands now.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Taylor, Mrs Coleman and Mrs Alvaraz

#### **PE Kits**

A reminder that our PE days this half term are Mondays. As a requirement that PE should be accessed by all, it is essential that every child has a PE kit.

#### Forest School

Our next Forest School session is Wednesday 19th March 2025, please ensure they have suitable kits in school.

#### Dates for your diary

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm

#### Amazing Acorns



Another busy week in Acorns.

We have been continuing our text Dear Zoo. This week, we opened our parcel from the zoo and it was baby elephant. So, we have been learning some facts about elephants and how to look after them. In phonics, we have been learning the trigraph igh and the digraph oa, as well as tricky words: are and like.

In maths we have been practising addition and subtracting to 10. We have been using a partpart whole model to help us.

It has been science week this week and we have been very busy. We have been learning about Jane Goodall who was a Zoologist and anthropologist. She is an expert on chimpanzees after studying their interactions for 60 years. Acorns class wrote a letter to Jane to thank her for her amazing work. We also designed and made our own animals. We had to use our scientific brains when we found some of our sea creatures had been stuck in ice. We had to work together to free them.

#### Dates for your diary

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Thursday 3rd April - Infant Easter service at 9.30am

Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm











Awesome Ashes



This week has been Science week in school. The children have loved learning more about their amazing bodies in our Science unit, and learning about the first woman doctor- Elizabeth Garett Anderson. We have also been conducting science experiments which have been really interesting- please see our photographs!

In English, we have begun to read 'We're going on a Bear Hunt', thinking about adjectives and creating fact files about bears. More to follow next week on this story!

In Maths, we have been using the part, part, whole model in both EYFS and Y1 to answer simple addition sums.

#### **Parents Evening**

We are also looking forward to hosting our Parents Evening in school on Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th March. If you still require an appointment, please return the slip back to school as soon as possible.

#### **Forest School**

We enjoyed our Forest School session this week, finding out about the season of Spring. Our next session takes place on Friday 29th March. Please ensure that kits are in school so your child can access the full session.

#### **Infant Easter service**

Please join us at our Easter service in St Paul's Church on Thursday 3rd April at 9.30am. All parents of Infant children are welcome to attend.

#### Dates for your diary

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Thursday 3rd April - Infant Easter service at 9.30am

Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm

Have a lovely weekend,

**Miss Fielding** 









#### Super Sycamores



Sycamores have loved Science week and learning about the invention of new materials including John MacAdam who designed a new way to construct roads in 1800s. He was so successful that roads were constructed in this way all across the world. We have made our own roads in Forest School and also carried out an investigation into what make a strong road using chocolate, raisons (represent small stones) and biscuits (represent larger stones).

In English we have been writing our own version of Lila and the Secret of the Rain which we have called Max and the Secret of the Sun. Max finds out the secret to stop the rain in Rawtenstall and make it sunshine! I am sure you will enjoy reading these stories at parents evening next week.

In Maths we have been doubling and halving numbers up to ten as well as beginning to use rulers to measure in centimeters. Please practice halving at home as some children have found this new skill quite tricky.

#### **PE Kits**

A reminder that our PE day this half term is Thursday.

As a requirement that PE should be accessed by all, it is essential that every child has a PE kit within school so they are able to access both indoor and outdoor sessions. PE kits must be brought into school every Thursday. Please can your children's PE kits be in a drawstring bag and not a rucksack.

#### Infant Easter service

Please join us at our Easter service in St Paul's Church on Thursday 3rd April at 9.30am. All parents of Infant children are welcome to attend.

#### Dates for your diary

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Tuesday 25th March - Forest School

Thursday 3rd April - Infant Easter service at 9.30am

Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm









#### **Outstanding Alders**



What an amazing week we've had in Alders. It has been science week and the children have loved doing additional science activities. We have learnt all about Rachel Carson, who is a scientist responsible for discovering chemicals were being put into the oceans. We did our own pesticides investigation and watched how rainwater moved our sprinkles into the water.

The children also enjoyed watching the BBC live lesson with real life astronaut Tim Peake. The children learnt all about how to keep their bodies healthy in space and what a good diet is.

At Forest School we also completed a stem activity, the children had to create the tallest tower they could using sticks and string. They absolutely loved it.

#### **PE Kits**

A reminder that our PE days this half term are Tuesday (indoor) and Wednesday (outdoor).

#### **Forest School**

Our next session takes place on Thursday 27th March. Please ensure that kits are in school so your child can access the full session.

#### Infant Easter service

Please join us at our Easter service in St Paul's Church on Thursday 3rd April at 9.30am. All parents of infant children are welcome to attend. If you can help us to walk down, then please let me know.

#### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th March - Parents Evening.

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day. Thursday 3rd April - Junior Easter service at 9.30am Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Cavaney.





#### **Enchanted Elms**



This week has been science week and we have been learning about Mary Anning who is an English fossil collector, dealer, and palaeontologist. She became known internationally for her discoveries in Jurassic marine fossil beds in the cliffs along the English Channel at Lyme Regis in the county of Dorset, Southwest England. The children created their own fossils just like Mary Anning found in the cliffs.

In English we have been continuing our novel 'Escape from Pompeii'. The children wrote a diary entry as if they were Tranio or Livia and described the day that the gentle giant (Vesuvius) erupted. They have also compared Pompeii before and after the eruption.

In maths we have continued with addition and subtraction problem solving and have started to compare fractions – greater than, less than and equal to.

In R.E this week we learnt about the festival 'Raksha Bandhan' which is a celebration of sisterly and brotherly respect and love. 'Raksha' means protection and 'Bandhan', to tie. A sister will wrap a red-and-gold rakhi (sacred thread of love) round her brother's wrist and say a prayer for his wellbeing, as she makes a mark on his forehead with red powder.

#### **PE Kits**

A reminder that our PE days this half term are Tuesday (outdoor) and Wednesday (indoor).

As a requirement that PE should be accessed by all, it is essential that every child has a PE kit within school so the are able to access both indoor and outdoor sessions. PE kits will now be stored in a black box outside the classroom to free up the corridor space. Please can your children's PE kits be in a drawstring bag and not a rucksack.

#### Forest School Dates for after half term

Our next Forest School session is Monday 24th March 2025

#### Dates for your diary

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Thursday 3rd April - Junior Easter service at St Paul's Church – 10:30am

Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm

#### **Class reminders**

- Reading diaries Every day
- New weekly spellings given Each Friday
- Outdoor PE (weather permitting) Tuesday
- Indoor PE Wednesday

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Cowgill













Marvellous Maples



We have had a great week. Maples have enjoyed Science week and have been very enthusiastic scientists.

We have investigated circuits and learnt about voltage and how this can affect a circuit.

The children investigated how they could make their bulb to shine the brightest and also how to make it to shine but at it dimmest. The children worked so well during this investigation and were really keen to investigate. The children have also been learning about the symbols used to represent a circuit and used this knowledge to draw their brightest and dimmest circuit.

The children have also been learning about Thomas Edison and have started to write a biography about him. The children are really working hard on improving their sentence structures and using a range of openers.

In PE, we have continued our gymnastics unit. The children have also been developing their communication and team work skills as they create a sequence including balancing and travelling.

A gentle reminder that PE kits are required on **Tuesday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor).** There are a number of children without kits in school.

### **Forest School**

Our next session takes place on Thursday 20th March. Please ensure that kits are in school so your child can access the full session.

### **Junior Easter service**

Please join us at our Easter service in St Paul's Church on Thursday 3rd April at 10.30am. All parents of Junior children are welcome to attend.

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th March - Parents Evening

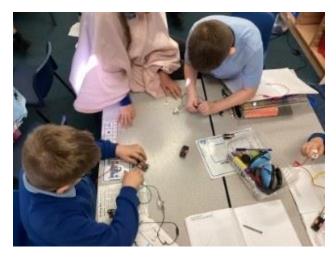
Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Thursday 3rd April - Junior Easter service at 10.30am

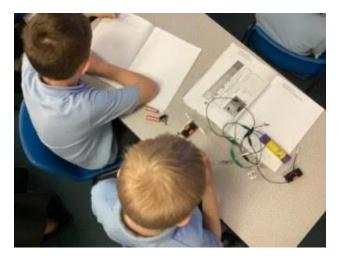
Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm

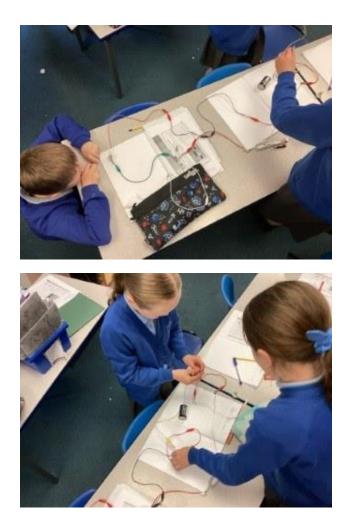
Have a lovely weekend.

# Miss Yates









# **Dazzling Elders**



This week has been science week, we have been learning about Sir Isaac Newton who was an astronomer, mathematician and inventor who lived from 1642 to 1727. He is widely known for his groundbreaking work in physics and mathematics. He discovered the law of gravity, which explains how objects are attracted to each other. According to this law, everything that has mass pulls other things toward it. The reason apples fall from trees, and why the Earth orbits the Sun, is because of gravity. Newton developed three fundamental laws of motion that describe how objects move. These laws are still used today. Isaac Newton's discoveries and ideas had a huge impact on the development of science and are still incredibly important to our understanding of the world today. The children carried out an investigation using a marble run to investigate friction and gravity.

In English, we have continued reading Beowulf, identified and used kennings and written a character description of Beowulf. The children are looking forward to writing their narrative based on Beowulf defeating a beast next week. Our focus in History this half term is Anglo Saxons and this week the children have discussed the push and pull factors that brought the Anglo Saxons to Britain. They have also learnt what Anglo Saxon place names mean and located local towns and villages with Anglo Saxon names to identify where they may have lived locally.

### **PE Kits**

A reminder that our PE days this half term are Monday (indoor) and Friday (outdoor).

As a requirement that PE should be accessed by all, it is essential that every child has a PE kit within school so they are able to access both indoor and outdoor sessions. PE kits will now be stored in a black box outside the classroom to free up the corridor space. Please can your children's PE kits be in a drawstring bag and not a rucksack.

### **Forest School**

Our next Forest School session is Wednesday 26th March 2025

### Dates for your diary

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Thursday 3rd April - Junior Easter service at St Paul's Church – 10:30am

Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm







## Wonderful Willows



It has been another super busy week in Willows with lots of exciting learning taking place.

In our English lessons we have begun our new novel 'Stormbreaker' by Anthony Horowitz. If your child does not yet have their own copy of the book please could they do so as soon as possible. We do have some shared copies in school but obviously all children read at different speeds and it is much easier for text marking and independent work. We have been introduced to the main character of Alex and are looking forward to solving some of the mysteries that have already revealed themselves in the early chapters next week.

In our swimming session we held an in school life saving and water awareness lesson as the pool is still currently closed. The children still managed to have fun despite not being in the water.

We have also celebrated National Science Week this week, learning all about Benjamin Franklin and his experiments regarding electricity. The children had a fabulous time carrying out their own experiments investigating how electricity is made and how it travels.

There is no swimming on Monday 17th March due to the pool still being closed so no need to bring in kits.

**Our next Forest School session will be on the 22nd March.** Please ensure full waterproofs and wellies are in school on that day.

We are now nearly completely booked up for Parents Evening. If you still have not booked your slot please ask at the door and we will let you know what times we have available.

Kind Regards

Mrs Cooper and Mrs Todd







**PE** is unchanged for the next half term and remains on a **Wednesday (Indoor)** with **Swimming** continuing on a **Monday.** 

### **Class reminders**

- Reading diaries at least three reads a week checked each Friday
- New weekly spellings given Each Wednesday
- Indoor PE Wednesday Please ensure kits are in school.
- Swimming Monday Please ensure all girls and pupils with longer hair have swimming hats.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Cooper and Mrs Todd

## Mighty Oaks



We are continuing to work hard in Oaks, preparing for the end of key stage two assessments that will be happening on the week beginning May 12th. Further information will be sent home next week with some top tips to support your child in the run up to these tests. We are also looking forward to hosting our Parents Evening in school on Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th March. If you still require an appointment, please return the slip back to school as soon as possible.

This week in school has been science week and the class have been learning about different microorganisms - bacteria, viruses and fungi. We have looked at the effects of different microorganisms on the body and set up an investigation to grow our own. Results pending next week!

In maths, we have continued to work on our understanding of fractions and being able to recognise fraction representations in different ways when multiplying and dividing. Next week will see us looking at ratio and proportion.

We are continuing with the story of The Arrival in English and consolidating our knowledge of different tenses ready to write a flashback.

### **Forest School**

Our next session takes place on Tuesday 18th March. Please ensure that kits are in school so your child can access the full session.

### Junior Easter service

Please join us at our Easter service in St Paul's Church on Thursday 3rd April at 10.30am. All parents of Junior children are welcome to attend.

#### Dates for your diary

Friday 21st March - PTA Hamper donation and non-uniform day.

Thursday 3rd April - Junior Easter service at 10.30am

Friday 4th April - School closes at 1.35pm

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Lee

St. Paul's PTA



**PTA News** 

Thank you all for your continued support! Our February disco was a success, and I am pleased to say that we were able to raise **£600**.

For our next event, we are organising an 'Easter Hamper' raffle to raise funds for the PTA. We ask for each family to bring a non perishable Easter related item for the hampers (a sell by date of at least 30th April 2025) and as a thank you for hamper donations, the children will be able to "wear what they want" for one day in school on Friday 21st March 2025 (appropriate clothing for the weather please).

Please see our letter that will be sent out by ParentPay on Tuesday of this week. Donations could include items such as Easter eggs, chocolate or Easter themed crafts.

Raffle tickets can be purchased on ParentPay - £1 each.

The draw will take place week on Monday 31st March at around 7pm, and this will be live on our Facebook page. We will contact the winners to arrange the hamper collections before school closes for the Easter holidays on Friday 4th April 2025.

Remember, you can also sign up for our school lottery from as little as £1 per week. It is really easy to join, you just need to go to www.yourschoollottery.co.uk, click "buy a ticket" and search for "St Pauls Rossendale". You then need to click "support" and "buy tickets". There are cash prizes every week!

Bonnie Smith

PTA Chair



# Have your circumstances changed? Apply for free school meals.

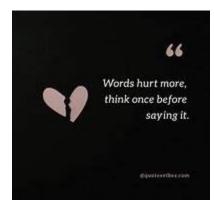


For any parents/carers, **whose circumstances have changed** and think their child(ren) may be entitled to Free School Meals, please can an application form be completed. Parents can apply electronically via the link below:

https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-schoolmeals/?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. Reflective Friday



Hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

