



**ST. PAUL'S**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ENGAGE - INSPIRE - ACHIEVE

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

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### Headteacher news

This year for so many of us has been one like no other. I feel entirely blessed to have a wonderful staff team around me, a supportive governing body and a wonderful school family which all of you are part of.

Today we celebrate two members of staff who won't be returning after the Christmas break. Mrs Todd will be leaving to start her maternity leave and Mrs Jabeen who will be taking the next step of her journey with her family in warmer climates. We wish them both the very best and we all hope that you both come back to see us. We will miss you greatly and thank you for all that you do for our children, families and staff. You are both truly remarkable ladies, and we hope all your dreams come true. Mrs Ormerod will be working in Willow class alongside Mrs Cooper and we have a new member to our staff team - Miss Pounder who will be our Ashes teacher. I am sure you will give her a very warm St. Paul's welcome in January.

We have had a wonderful week in school, the building and forest has been filled with fun, laughter and joy as we spent our Christmas parties in the winter wonderland that Mrs Smith created making magical memories for us all to treasure.

We have also seen our very first virtual nativity, and I must say it is definitely one to remember. A huge thank you to the children, the Key Stage 1 and Mr Rush who has done a magnificent job editing and creating this wonderful production. It certainly brought a smile to all our faces.

I would also like to thank you all as parents too. Thank you for following our school rules, setting a great example to our children and helping to keep every family as safe as possible over the past few months. Thank you also for the wonderful support you have given to our PTA. The members of the PTA do a wonderful job and help to raise very much needed funds that is directly spent on the children in school.

This year more than any other the support and funds have really made such a huge difference in school. The pandemic has meant that as a school we have lost over £22,000. So, every penny that the PTA volunteers have raised has really helped to provide curriculum resources, Christmas celebrations and memories for our children to cherish! Thank you to the two people from our community who have supported the PTA and school with anonymous donations. Your kindness is truly humbling. Thank you for making a difference to the lives of our children here at St. Paul's!

Please continue to inform us if you or member of your family test positive for Covid as we need to continue to track and trace all contacts in school until Christmas Eve. If your child or a member of your family display any symptoms prior to returning to school on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**, please ensure you stay safe, isolate and do not attend school until any symptoms have passed or have a negative result.

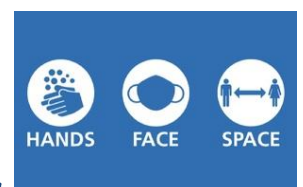
On behalf of the Governors, myself and the staff, we pray that each and every one of you are able to enjoy a relaxing Christmas holiday with loved ones around you. We pray that in turn you will feel refreshed and blessed, ready for all 2021 may bring.

Best wishes to you all.

**Mrs Charlesworth**



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### Race to Lapland

Congratulations to all our pupils who got us to Lapland (with plenty of miles to spare)! Over the last four weeks, St Paul's registered 4121.5 miles, with our school coming first in Rossendale in the total miles covered in school category. This is an amazing result. Congratulations also go to Joe and Jessica, who received a very shiny Rudolph medal for being in the top 30 pupils in Rossendale for completing the most miles out of school. It is wonderful to see so many fit and active pupils.

### Free school meals.



For any parents, whose circumstances have changed and think their child(ren) maybe entitled to Free School Meals, please can an application form be completed. Parents can apply electronically via the link below or can complete a paper application form.

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

[https://lancashire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free\\_school\\_meals\\_and\\_pupil\\_premium](https://lancashire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_school_meals_and_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.

### It's that time of year...

#### Winter weather

As part of our winter preparation, I would like to inform you that we take Health and Safety very seriously in school and in the unfortunate event of extreme weather; we will aim to remain open. If we have to close school due to dangerous weather conditions, we will update our school's **Twitter page @StPaulsCESch at the earliest opportunity**. We will also update our PTA Facebook page, our school website and we will inform BBC Radio Lancashire.

**Whilst waiting around our school grounds in your cars we would ask that you turn off your car engines in order to help to keep the air around school cleaner.**

### PTA News

A massive thank you to everyone who contributed by donating items and buying raffle tickets for our Christmas hampers. We raised an amazing £691!! A draw was done live this week on the PTA Facebook page and all winners have been contacted.

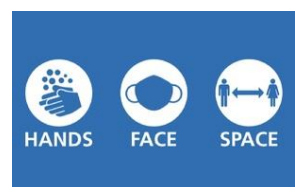
Coming soon - we have a new and exciting school lottery coming in the new year. All details will be on our PTA page soon.

We are truly grateful for your continued support over the past year and on behalf of the PTA committee, I would like to wish all parents, carers and staff a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kath McArragher (PTA Chair)



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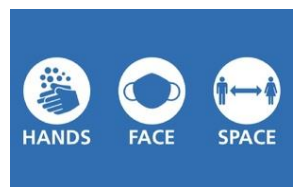


### Acts of Kindness

Across KS2 we have been making Christmas cards and positive affirmation artwork to spread some happiness around our local community. There are being disrupted to local care homes and members of the congregation at St Paul's church. This Christmas is going to be a difficult one for many people so our children wanted to try and help brighten it for others.



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Asda - asked our school if we could make some Christmas cards for some of our local residential homes and of course our children did not disappoint - they wrote truly lovely messages which will hopefully brighten the residents' day.

## Reflective Friday



### Living by our school values.

Each month, as part of our work based on our school values and to inspire practical actions for a happier and more caring society; our classes work through the action for happiness calendars. December is our **Do good Kindness** month.

**2020 has been a difficult year in so many ways.** We have suffered with uncertainty, anxiety, isolation and challenges with our financial situation, health or relationships. One thing that can hold us together and help us get through is **kindness**. Although we can't change our situation, we can choose to respond to others (and ourselves) with kindness. And when we're kind, everything goes better. We help others, we help ourselves and we encourage others to be kinder too. **#DoGoodDecember**

## KINDNESS CALENDAR: DECEMBER 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	<b>1</b> Share the Kindness Calendar with others and spread kindness	<b>2</b> Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	<b>3</b> Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	<b>4</b> Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	<b>5</b> Make a gift for someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	<b>6</b> Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about
<b>7</b> Leave a positive message for someone else to find	<b>8</b> Do something helpful for a friend or family member	<b>9</b> Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	<b>10</b> Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	<b>11</b> Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	<b>12</b> Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank	<b>13</b> See how many different people you can smile at today
<b>14</b> Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one	<b>15</b> Contact an elderly neighbour and brighten up their day	<b>16</b> Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	<b>17</b> Practice gratitude. List the kind things others have done for you	<b>18</b> Give away something that you have been holding on to	<b>19</b> Buy locally and support independent shops near you	<b>20</b> Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated
<b>21</b> Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you	<b>22</b> Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	<b>23</b> Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	<b>24</b> Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	<b>25</b> Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!	<b>26</b> Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	<b>27</b> Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat
<b>28</b> Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy	<b>29</b> Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	<b>30</b> Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	<b>31</b> Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2021	<b>Let's look beyond our differences and help each other. Every act of kindness matters</b>		

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

#DoGoodDecember

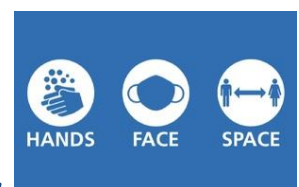
[www.actionforhappiness.org](http://www.actionforhappiness.org)

Learn more about this month's theme at [www.actionforhappiness.org/do-good-december](http://www.actionforhappiness.org/do-good-december)

Keep Calm · Stay Wise · Be Kind



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## Diary Dates

### Dates for your diary...

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens for the Spring term Please remember that our school opening and closing times are still staggered



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