



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 29th January 2021

Headteacher News.

We have made it through another week and are very nearly at the end of a very strange January. Please can I thank you all for your continued support and kind words. We really do appreciate it and it is a real boost for all our staff. Well done to all of you who are juggling home learning, working from home and providing the best you can for your children. It has been lovely to see the examples of learning which have taken place at home and it has been delightful to walk around school seeing all your children's faces and hearing the sounds of laughter whilst on their Zoom sessions with their class teachers. Please contact your child's class teacher via their class email address if you are still struggling to access the Zoom sessions.

You may be aware that another announcement was made this week to confirm that schools will continue to only remain open to critical worker and vulnerable children families until **8th March at the earliest**. Therefore, our online learning and daily Zoom sessions will continue after the half term break.

It's that time of year... winter weather is upon us, which does bring ice and snow.

Please ensure that when driving and walking in our school grounds that you drive slowly around the ring road and walk with care to prevent you from slipping.

As part of our winter preparation, we regularly check the weather forecast. 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, please note that the decision is never taken lightly.

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.

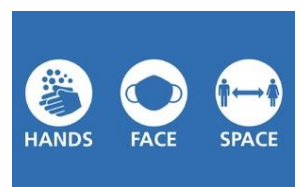
Whilst waiting around our school grounds in your cars we would ask that you turn off your car engines in order to help to keep the air around school cleaner.

Children's Mental Health Week 2021 - Express Yourself

Week: 1st - 7th February is Mental Health Awareness week and the theme is 'Express Yourself'. We will be completing lots of different mindfulness activities throughout the week. **On Friday 5th February we will be holding a 'Dress to Express' day.** We are encouraging children, including the children at home, to express themselves through their clothes. Children can wear their favourite clothes or choose a range of colours that express how they are feeling. Colours can be very personal and mean different things to different people, so this is a great opportunity to encourage self-expression and celebrate a diverse range of emotions.



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Home Learning

Following government guidance, we plan to continue to host our daily check - in via zoom and deliver our learning via our learning grids which will be supplemented by high quality video content such as Oak Academy, White Rose Maths and BBC Schools. In addition to this, we will provide daily learning materials for your child to complete at home. These can be found at <https://stpaulsrawtenstall.co.uk/home-learning-2/>

This week all our staff would like to say a huge WELL DONE to all the parents at home. Whatever your personal circumstances, we think you are doing an amazing job. Please do not worry if your child has stayed up late, if they have played too long on the x-box and not done all their work. That's fine. You have to do what is right for you and your family. Be kind to yourself. The world is hard enough right now. We know our pupils as **safe, loved and cared for** and that is the most important thing at the moment. **Please do not let school work put any extra pressure on you** when you are trying to hold down jobs, earn a living and keep your child/ren safe.

Please be kind to yourselves. We are all facing uncertain times and we are all doing the best we can. We know how difficult it is to work from home and try to home teach children of different ages. **Do what works best for you and your families.**

The little people in our lives are the most important and if they are struggling, please do not feel guilty if you need to switch off. Go for a walk, read a book, listen to music, laugh and try to embrace this time together.

Their happiness, safety and well-being is paramount to us right now.

If you are having difficulties with IT such as one laptop between two/three children or require additional internet please let us know as we can allocate free internet for families who cannot access the internet. We have also been allocated a small number of laptops from the DfE which we can loan to families. Please note, this will be based on your family's circumstances and needs.

If you require access codes or feel your family may be eligible for a laptop, please email school@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk and we will alert your class teacher.



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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

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.

Sports Desk Challenge - #21minutechallenge

Rosendale School Sports Partnership have put together a number of resources to help our children and families stay active during this lockdown. To support this, they have launched the 21 minute challenge. The aim is to take part in at least 21 minutes of continuous exercise every day, whether it is going out for a walk, taking part in a home learning task from school, playing out with siblings or completing a Joe Wicks workout. We are encouraging our school and home learners (and their families) to take part and log their daily activities. Please follow the home learning links on our school website for the activity log. It would be amazing to see as many of our families getting out and being active.

Reflective Friday



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