



# St. Paul's Church of England Primary Newsletter

Friday 19th January 2024

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

## Headteacher news

### **Lancashire Devolution**

In November 2023, the Government announced it would be willing to enter into a devolution deal with Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and Blackpool Council. The deal, if given final approval, will transfer new money and powers from central Government to a newly created Combined County Authority, allowing it to tackle key local priorities.

Lancashire County Council want to hear from as many people in Lancashire as possible about the draft devolution proposal. A consultation will run until 26 January 2024. Anyone who lives or works in Lancashire, as well as businesses and other interested parties can give their feedback. The consultation is your chance to learn about the proposal, understand how it could affect the region, and have your say. Gathering your views and ideas is important to us, to make sure the deal meets the aspirations and priorities of the county.

Please can you forward this to your families or young people to complete.

To find out more and take part in the consultation please visit [www.lancashiredevolution.co.uk](http://www.lancashiredevolution.co.uk).

## Winter weather



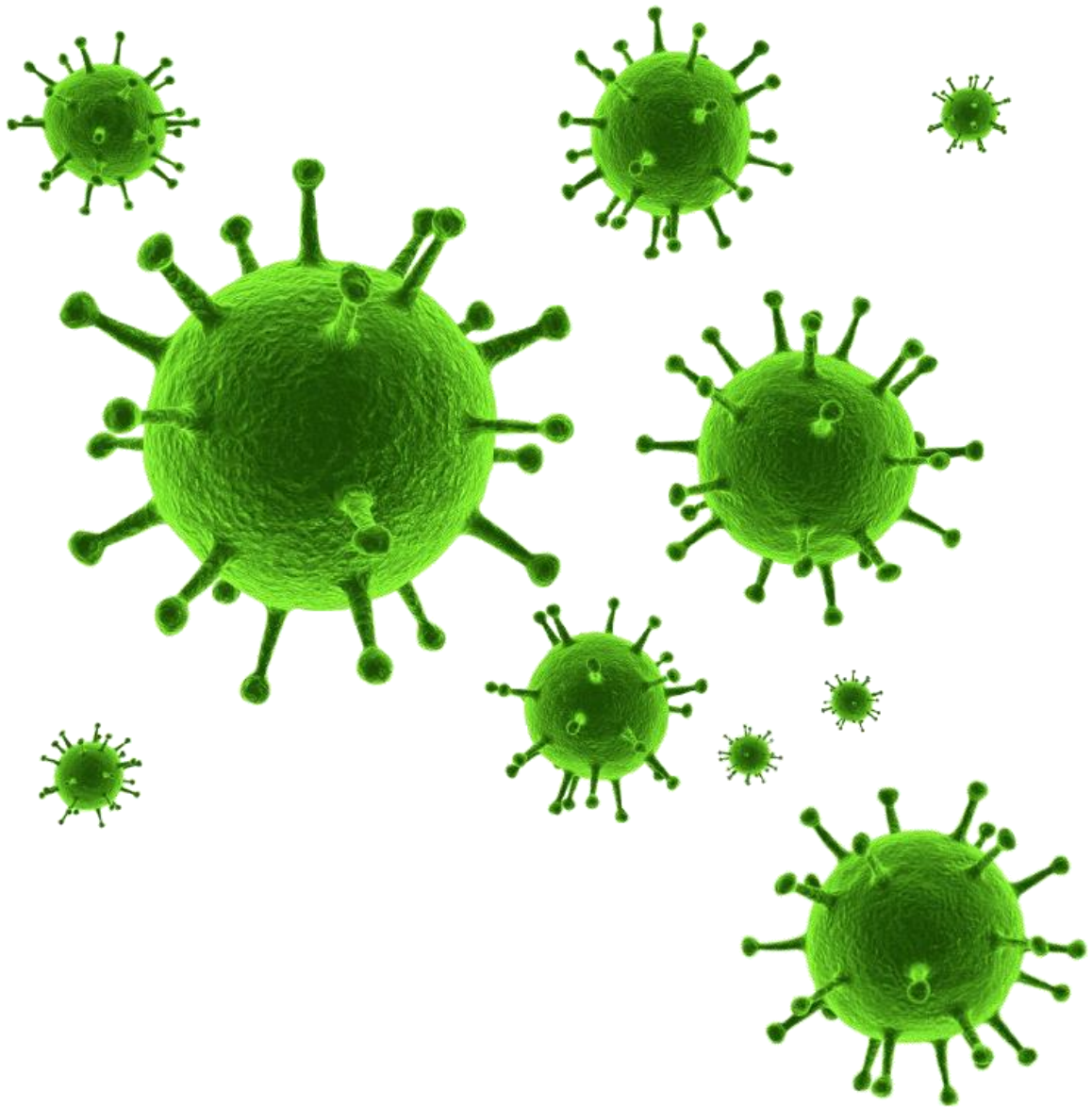
### It's that time of year...

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.**

## Winter virus information



We currently have a high number of pupils and staff who have been off sick with suspected flu-like symptoms. Symptoms of influenza (flu) can include fever, an aching body, dry cough, headache, sore throat, diarrhoea or tummy pain, feeling sick and being sick. 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 and many schools and people across the valley are suffering with the virus.

**To reduce the spread of infection it is important to keep children with any symptoms of flu-like illness away from school until they have fully recovered, are free of symptoms and have not had a fever for at least 48 hours.**

The NHS have a helpful guide should you wish to use this. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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.

## Parents Couch to 5k

Due to the snowy weather this week, we had to postpone our first Couch25K of the year. in order to keep you all safe. Hopefully this week the weather will improve, and we can start our program.

**Our next Couch25K will now start on Thursday 25th January 2024.**

**If you would like to join us, then please meet at our reception area on Thursday at 3.45pm where Mrs Alvarez will greet you.**



Apply for support for with childcare costs.



From 2 January 2024, eligible working parents can apply for 15 hours of childcare for their two-year-old. Parents have until 31 March 2024 to apply for a code, with mid-January to the end of February being the optimum time to apply in case they need to provide further information to support their application.

To apply for a childcare code each parent needs to be working and earning the equivalent of 16 hours a week at national minimum/living wage and under £100,000 adjusted net income per year. This means that each parent needs to earn from just over £8,600 per year to be eligible for 15 hours a week of childcare during term time.

There is more information on the childcare support available to parents on the [Childcare Choices](#) website, where they can explore the early education entitlements and other government help with childcare costs.



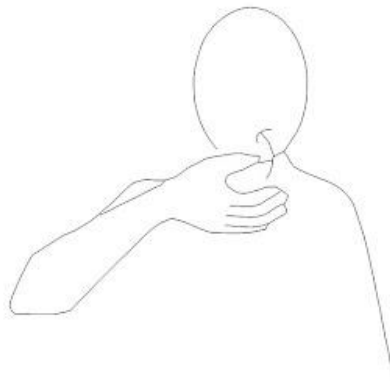
Easy funding for school, with no cost to yourself.



Please use #easyfundraising when you book your holidays and raise big donations for St Paul's CE Primary - Rawtenstall for free! Plus book with TUI in January for a chance to win back the value of your holiday! Sign up to support us on easyfundraising today: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/st-pauls-rawtenstall/lk1ey8/c2s/zYSXMPZI/CE790/facebook/>

## Word of the week

Each week the children in the EYFS & KS1 have been learning a new word in Makaton. We thought it would be lovely if we shared each week's new word on the newsletter so that we can all learn together. This week the infants are learning how to sign the word 'drink.'



# to drink

Dates for your diary...



- Thursday 25th January - Couch 25k starts at 3.45pm from the school office.

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



### *1 - Have your circumstances changed?*

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.**

## PTA

Thank you to the parents and teachers that attended our AGM this week. The minutes from the meeting will be available shortly on the PTA page of the school website.

This years Committee was voted in:

- Chair - Kath McArragher
- Co-Chair - Bonnie Smith
- Vice Chair - Lauren Ward
- Secretary - Kelly Holt
- Co Secretary - Fiona King
- Treasurer - Sarah Harwood
- Events Coordinator - Chloe Butterworth
- Committee Member - Miss Cowgill



👥 Our next event is the February disco on Thursday 8th February. Letters will be going out soon with more details. We need lots of volunteers on the night to make the event possible so if you'd like to help, please contact us via our Facebook page, email address [stpaulsrawtenstallpta@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsrawtenstallpta@gmail.com) or leave your name and contact details at the school office and we will get back to you 👥

😊 Thank you for your support 😊

Kath McArragher - PTA Chair

### PTA Second Hand online uniform shop:

You can access the shop online at the following link

<https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/227>

This week we have been learning...



## Amazing Acorns



Another busy week, we have loved exploring the snow outside this week. We have been snow painting, making slushies and experimenting with frozen bubbles.

In Maths we have been working on number pairs for 5, 6, 7 and 8. A great game is 'Save the Whale'. Make a number pair using the correct pipe and save the whale. <https://ictgames.com/saveTheWhale/>

In English we have been looking at our new story 'One Snowy Night'. We have been exploring hot and cold vocabulary and using our senses.

## Brilliant Berries

The children have enjoyed a very cold and snowy week in Berries class. We have been making snowmen, painting ice, making ice pictures and conducted experiments to see how quickly ice melts when inside. In English we have introduced our new book: Handa's surprise, the children enjoyed talking about the different fruit the animals eat. We have done some amazing work in maths partitioning numbers and adding 10.

## Awesome Ashes



This week in Ashes we have been very busy both in and out of class. We were in wonder of the ice and snow and we went out to explore the seasonal changes we could see. Check out our snowman and our snow ploughs! In class we have been continuing to look at our book Handa's Surprise book and make observations about the setting. We have tried to identify the nouns this week and make them more interesting by adding adjectives!

- **Just a reminder we have Dan the sports coach in for the rest of this term PE is now on a TUESDAY until February half term**
- *Please come dressed in your PE kit on Tuesdays.*

## Super Sycamores



We enjoyed our wintery weather this week, writing snow themed poems on Tuesday and playing in the snow on the field for PE on Wednesday. We have learnt lots this week in our Science work, all about our bodies and how to keep them healthy, including food groups and exercise. We have finished our book 'The Bear and the Piano' and completed some comprehension to explore the story further.

- **Next week is Forest School on Friday.**
- **PE is on a Wednesday for both indoor and outdoor this half term.**
- **Please bring back your reply slips for our Eureka class trip on 24th April.**

## Outstanding Alders



This week we have really enjoyed the colder weather and playing in the snow. Lots of fantastic learning has taken place this week too. In maths we have been measuring mass and capacity and have enjoyed finding different equipment around our classroom to weigh and measure. In English we have carried on reading our book *The Little Hen and the Great War*, we have started to sequence the story and answer questions around the text. We were surprised by the ending of the book, and we didn't want it to end. In history we explored more about why World War 1 started, and we are really interested to learn more. At forest school we had lots of fun in the ice and we're finding lots of ways to melt the ice and make it into new shapes.

- **Our PE days are still Thursdays (outdoor) and Fridays (indoor)**

### Enchanted Elms



This week in Maths the children have been looking at 2-D and 3-D shapes. They have been seeing what 2-D shapes make up a 3-D shape. In English we have wrote a setting description for the market place, I'm so proud of their setting descriptions. In science we have been looking at friction and how it effects a moving object. The children investigated this with cars and different surfaces on ramps e.g. carpet, foam, underlay. In Art we have been learning about mosaics and how they were used in the Roman times. The children then learn how to created mosaic patterns using squared paper.

Just a reminder about Life Education letters need to be returned.



## Marvellous Maples



Maples class have been amazing this week and make me proud with all the learning taking place. As a team they already have over 580 dojos this term! In history we have started our topic about Black history and have been discovering where our clothes come from now and in the past, and finding out what life was like in the cotton mills. In our Geography lessons, we have looked at "Geography in the news" with the recent flooding in the UK and the volcano in Iceland. We are now going to investigate and find more news stories about Geography.

## Dazzling Elders



Elders have started their new history topic and have been looking at the world history timeline. They have been discovering the different historic eras that were happening at the same time. Reminder- PE is Tuesday and Friday. Next forest session- Weds 31st Jan In guided reading, the children have begun reading the text 'Anglo Saxon boy' and we are all hooked. We have made predictions about the text and have read the prologue which was really interesting. The children have been practising their retrieval skills in a retrieval race and have really persevered with this. In RE, Elders have started their new topic Sikhism and in ICT the children have been focussing on internet safety and looking at how we can be SMART when using the internet. The children really enjoyed the snowy conditions at Forest school and built towers or sculptures.

- Just a reminder as we have Dan the sports coach in for the rest of this term PE is now on a Tuesday and Friday until February half term.

## Wonderful Willows



In English this week we have started our new novel, *The Street Child*. We have enjoyed sharing the first part of the book and our class created some fantastic pieces of writing based on the character Jim Jarvis. Due to the weather changing our original plans for Forest School this week, we chose to embrace the weather and attempt to paint ice. We thoroughly enjoyed watching the children's creative flair and everybody was happily focussed on the task. We left our forest school looking picture perfect. Further information has also been sent home with Year 6 children about the upcoming Robinwood residential. All parents will need to return the form about pick up and medication as soon as possible (before the half term holiday at the latest).

Our next Forest School session is next Thursday - 1st February.

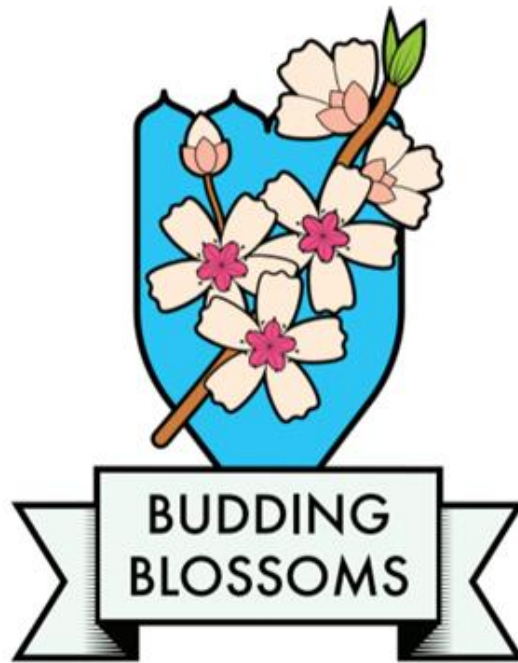
## Mighty Oaks



We have been working hard again this week in Oaks and are really persevering with some tricky concepts. In maths, we have been drawing and measuring angles, using our careful measurement skills with both a ruler and a protractor. We have definitely learnt that accuracy is so important! In English, we have continued our work on the class novel, *Holes* and are really enjoying relating to the key characters within the text. The circulatory system is our science topic and we have been looking at the different systems within the body and how they work together to keep our bodies healthy. Some great work already in science. Further information has also been sent about the upcoming Robinwood residential. All parents will need to return the form about pick up and medication as soon as possible (before the half term holiday at the latest).

- **Our next Forest School session is next Thursday - 25th January.**
- **PE this term will be each Tuesday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor). Please make sure kits are in school for each of the sessions.**

## Budding Blossoms



The children in Blossoms have been working so hard. They have persevered in maths with our tricky fraction of equivalent fractions. In English we are enjoying 'Lights on Cotton Hill', we have written a lost poster for Heather, and we are so pleased that she has been found, thanks to our brilliant descriptions. We have also enjoyed making pancakes this week, making sure we measure out the ingredients carefully. They tasted delicious!

Reading books are changed on a Tuesdays and Fridays, please encourage your child to read frequently.



Have a look at our [X \(twitter.com\)](#) to see photo's of our learning in action.

*Let's* celebrate - Weekly awards



## The Big Ambition – Have your say!

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched The Big Ambition, a national survey of children and young people across England.

The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England.

The Big Ambition survey is open and has now been extended to **Friday 19th January 2024** to allow even more children the chance to have their say.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition/>

## Bright Futures Trustee opportunity

Trustee - Board of Directors, Charitable Status Day Nursery

**Organisation:** Bright Futures Early Learning [Charitable Status Day Nursery] Rossendale

### **Role Overview:**

Bright Futures Early Learning is seeking a dedicated and passionate individual to join our Board of Directors as a Trustee. As a Trustee, you will play a crucial role in guiding the strategic direction of our charitable status day nursery, ensuring the well-being and development of the children in our care. This is an exciting opportunity for someone committed to making a positive impact on the lives of children and families in our community.

### **Responsibilities:**

**Strategic Leadership:** Contribute to the development and implementation of the organization's strategic plan, ensuring alignment with our mission and values.

**Governance:** Provide oversight and governance, ensuring compliance with relevant laws and regulations. Actively participate in board meetings and decision-making processes.

**Financial Stewardship:** Review and approve budgets, financial statements, and fundraising initiatives to ensure the financial sustainability of the organization.

**Advocacy and Networking:** Represent the organization in the community, building relationships with stakeholders, potential donors, and partners to enhance our impact and reach.

**Risk Management:** Identify and address potential risks to the organization, working collaboratively with the board to implement effective risk management strategies.

**Policy Development:** Contribute to the development and review of organizational policies, ensuring they reflect best practices and legal requirements.

**Committee Participation:** Engage actively in committees and working groups, providing expertise and support in specific areas such as finance, HR, or fundraising, as needed.

### **How to Apply:**

- Interested candidates should submit a CV and a cover letter outlining their interest in the role and relevant experience to [manager@bfns.org](mailto:manager@bfns.org) by 31st January 2024. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview.
- Bright Futures Early Learning is an equal opportunity employer, and we encourage candidates from all backgrounds to apply.
- Note: Bright Futures Early Learning is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointment to the role is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

## Happier January

This month, let's start the new year happier.

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.

This month, we're encouraging you to try something new each day!

Trying a new activity can be a great source of happiness. In challenging times, it also helps to take a new perspective or find new ways forward.



## Attendance/Holiday information

Attendance to school is compulsory, all children must attend every day unless they are ill or have symptoms of Covid.

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. A holiday list for this academic year is on our school website. [School-Holidays-23-24.pdf](https://stpaulsrawtenstall.co.uk/School-Holidays-23-24.pdf) ([stpaulsrawtenstall.co.uk](https://stpaulsrawtenstall.co.uk))

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.

## Holiday list 2024/25





ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Calder Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire, BB4 8HW  
Headteacher: Mrs Charlesworth  
[head@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk)  
School Office: 01706 215893

## School Holidays 2024/2025

### AUTUMN TERM 2024

Staff Training Days	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024
Re-open	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Mid Term Closure	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October - Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 (inclusive)
Re-open	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Closure after school on	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024

### SPRING TERM 2025

Re-open	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
Mid Term Closure	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025 (inclusive)
Re-open	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Closure after school on	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025

### SUMMER TERM 2025

Re-open on	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025
Staff Training Day	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025
May Day Closure	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Mid Term Closure	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 (inclusive)
Re-open on	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025
Closure after school on	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025
Staff Training Days	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025





## St Paul's Church news



## My happy mind





## Reflective Friday

(shehzad\_ahmad)

### A WISE MAN ONCE SAID:

- Hate has 4 letters but so does Love.
  - Enemies has 7 letters but so does Friends.
  - Lying has 5 letters but so does Truth.
  - Cry has 3 letters but so does Joy.
  - Negativity has 10 letters but so does Positivity.
- LIFE IS 2 SIDED, SO CHOOSE THE BETTER SIDE OF IT

Hope you all have a wonderful weekend filled with wintery fun.

Mrs Charlesworth