

# St. Paul's Church of England Primary Newsletter

Friday 1st December 2023

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

## Headteacher news

This newsletter is a long one, so grab a mince pie, a warm drink and blanket...

This half term has been very busy, but very special. It has been an absolute pleasure having so many of you in school, attending our parents' evenings, workshops, open evenings... If you had a telephone consultation booked that had to be cancelled due to the work on the mobile phone masts. Please contact your class teacher to rearrange this.

With the final two weeks of term almost upon us there are so many events that we are looking forward to, helping to create lots of wonderful memories for our school family.

## Parking

We seem to have a number of parents who are parking inappropriately and causing hazards for pedestrians. We are very lucky to have the few spaces that we have as many schools do not have this luxury. I know it is busy at pick and drop off, but this does not mean that parking in the accessible parking area without a blue badge, parking on the corner kerb next to the clothes bin, parking on yellow hazard lines, parking in the staff carpark and across neighbour's drives is acceptable. For the few that do

this, please refrain from doing so. We do photograph and send photographs of your registrations and parking to the police and council. If you wish to avoid a fine, please park appropriately.

Any parents who are parking inappropriately and are approached by a member of staff should show the same courtesy and respect our members of staff give to you. Any abusive conversations/reactions will result in a ban from accessing school grounds.

A huge thank you to the majority of parents who set a good example to our children, park appropriately and drive responsibly in our school grounds.

## 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 and 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 24 hours.**

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.

## Winter weather

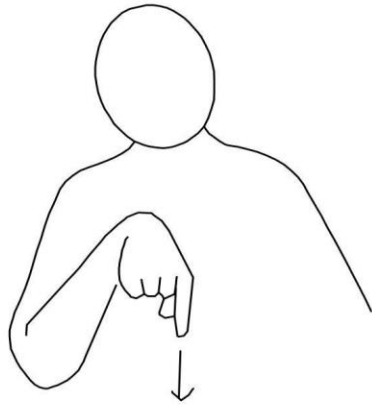
### **It's that time of year...**

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.**

## Word of the week



# here

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 'here.'

## Dates for your diary...

- **Parents evening for Maples class only - Tuesday 5th December & *Wednesday 6th December***
- **Friday 8th December- 3/4 Athletics competition**
- **Tuesday 12th December Infant Nativity 1:30pm & 6pm for parents - Ticketed event only**
- **Wednesday 13th December - KS1 Just Imagine performance and Christmas dinner**
- **Wednesday 13th December - Berries Nativity 2pm**
- **Wednesday 13th December - KS2 Panto**
- **Wednesday 13th December - PTA Hamper raffle drawn live on PTA Facebook**
- **Thursday 14th December- Junior Christmas dinner**
- **Thursday 14th December- Elms and Maples Christmas party**
- **Monday 18th December - Acorns, Berries and Ashes Christmas party**
- **Tuesday 19th December - Sycamores and Alders Christmas party**

- **Tuesday 19th December Junior Carol Service at St Paul's Church 2pm**
- **Wednesday 20th December - Elders, Willows & Oaks Christmas party**
- **Wednesday 20th December - End of term closure at 1.35pm**

## Forest School timetable - Autumn 2

### ***Week starting 4/12/2023***

- **Monday - Alders**
- **Tuesday - Acorns**
- **Wednesday - Ashes**
- **Thursday - Oaks**
- **Friday – Sycamores**

### ***Week starting 11/12/2023***

- **Monday - Alders**
- **Tuesday - Elms**
- **Wednesday - Elders**
- **Thursday - Willows**
- **Friday – Maples**

## PE Timetable - Autumn 2

<u>St. Paul's PE.</u>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Amazing Acorns			Indoor PE		
Awesome Ashes	Indoor PE				
Super Sycamores			Indoor PE & Outdoor PE		
Outstanding Alders				Outdoor PE	Indoor PE
Enchanted Elms	Outdoor PE			Indoor PE	
Marvellous Maples	Indoor PE	Outdoor PE			
Dazzling Elders	Outdoor PE				Indoor PE
Wonderful Willows		Indoor PE with sports coach			Outdoor PE
Mighty Oaks	Swimming	Indoor PE with sports coach			

IF your child has outdoor PE they will need (weather dependant) sunscreen, water bottle, PE hoody.

All classes other than Acorns and Ashes will need to bring their PE kit and leave it in school. Acorns and ashes can come to school for the day in their PE kit which consists of navy blue shorts, tracksuit bottoms, white t-shirt, PE hoody/school jumper and pumps.

## 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.

## Do you want to raise funds for school in a way that does not cost you anything?

Just letting you know that St Paul's CE Primary, Rawtenstall are now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. You can even book your next holiday through them. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-pauls-ce-primary-rawtenstall/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_content=gs-email1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-pauls-ce-primary-rawtenstall/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1) Thank you so much!

## PTA

### **PTA News**

Thank you so much for all the donations last week for non-uniform day. We've made 13 beautiful large hampers for the raffle.

For a chance to win simply visit parent pay and buy raffle tickets before 9am on Monday 11th December. We'll then be drawing the winners on Facebook Live on Wednesday 13th December.

Good luck!

Thank you for your continued support.

Kath McArragher - PTA Chair

This week we have been learning...

Amazing Acorns



The children have been fantastic this week and working really hard, we have been writing about the Duck from our story and how he felt at the end.

In Maths we have been learning all about the number nine. You can explore it at home with this great game: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/todays-number-up-to-20>

In our afternoons we have been exploring light and shadows and doing big jumps in PE.

Brilliant Berries

This week, Berries have been enjoying learning about the first Christmas. We have been exploring the nativity scene and making pictures of baby Jesus. We enjoyed making chocolate rice crispy cakes but the best part was getting to eat them at the end. In maths, the reception children have been looking at the value of number 9. The year1 children been looking at volume and capacity.

## Awesome Ashes



This week in Ashes we have been exploring the cold icy weather and the change from Autumn to Winter. We made little pots of water filled with different scented herbs and let them freeze overnight. We had lots of discussions about how we thought the water might freeze or if we had been able to water turned into ice. The next day we looked, and water had frozen and turned into ice. We observed the ice and could see bubbles, sharp areas and smooth surfaces on the top. We were amazed we could still smell the herbs!!

## Super Sycamores





This week in Sycamores we have finished our money topic in Maths and started working hard on time-measuring short durations of time and sorting the days of the week and months of the year. In English we have begun to innovate our own story based on the Traditional Story of Prince Cinders. We have also begun to design our DT structures. The children are going to be making a structure from a traditional story... this could be a castle from Jack and the Beanstalk, a bridge from the Troll, a chair from Goldilocks. Please could you provide one bag of junk modelling items for your child to use (cardboard kitchen roll tubes, cereal boxes etc).

Angels- please bring in your slippers next week so we can practice for our dress rehearsal!

Speaking camels- please bring in your brown/black or yellow clothes.

### Outstanding Alders



This week we have written our own twisted tale of the 3 little pigs. In maths we have been adding money and bridging across tens. In PE we have been enjoying playing different games which involve throwing and catching. We really enjoyed our fire safety talk on Tuesday, we learnt how to stop, drop and roll and how to get out of our houses safely if they were on fire.

We have an extra forest school slot on Monday 4th December due to not being able to go this week. Please ensure your child has their forest school things with them.

Next week we have our dress rehearsal for the nativity so please could we have all costumes into school by Wednesday 6th December.

## Enchanted Elms



Thank you to all parents, carers for coming to parents evening on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was lovely to see so many of you. :)

The children this week have been working really hard in Geography finding cities and main rivers within the UK. In English they children have been look at a new novel Stone Girl, Bone Girl and learning about the life of Mary Anning.

Elms have a **non-uniform on Tuesday 5th December 2023** for earning an amazing 1000 dojos.

**Christmas dinner** is on **Thursday 14th December 2023**.

**Junior Carol Service** is on **Tuesday 19th December 2023** at **2pm** at church.

## Marvellous Maples



Maples have been busy writing their own adventure stories this week, based on the Firework Maker's Daughter. They have been using all of the features of story writing and different grammar elements, for example fronted adverbials. In History we have been trying to discover who built the pyramids and had to investigate using different clues if it was the slaves, villagers, or farmers. It was great to see the smiles on the children's faces on Thursday and hear all the lovely things said about the children in my absence.

**Maples parents evening will take place on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th December with the same appointment times. If you can no longer make this time, please let me know.**

## Dazzling Elders



Thank you to all parents, carers for coming to parents evening on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was lovely to see so many of you. :)

This week the year 4's have been reading time to the nearest minute using analogue clocks. Please carry on practicing this at home. The year 5's have been identifying acute, obtuse, reflex and right angles and using a protractor to measure angles. In English we have been looking at the features of persuasive letters and have discussed the poem Refugees by Brian Bilston which has a new meaning when read backwards. In Science, we have been investigating sound insulators and the children made ear defenders.

**Christmas dinner** is on **Thursday 14th December 2023**.

**Junior Carol Service** is on **Tuesday 19th December 2023** at **2pm** at church.

## Wonderful Willows



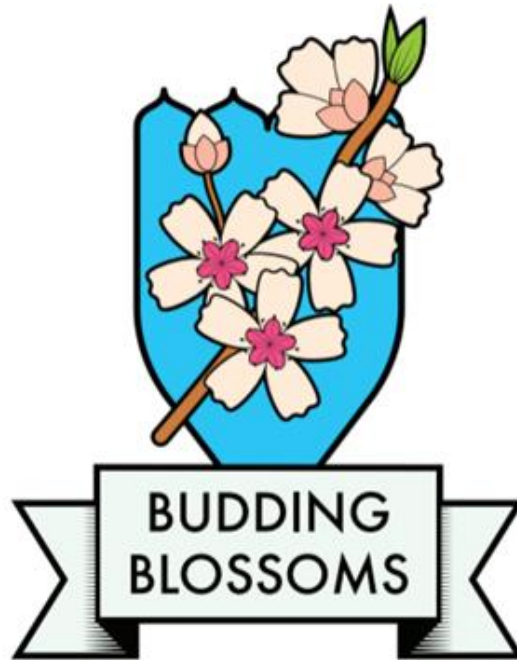
This week in Willow's class we have enjoyed being introduced to the first ghost in The Christmas Carol, we participated in a role play activity as well as a piece of artwork to help us to produce creative vocabulary to use in our writing. In our Science lessons, we have been looking at reversible and irreversible changes. We have had to think about the different processes that can affect materials. At forest school, we enjoyed testing the chemical reaction of adding mentos to coca cola. We look forward to doing more experiments next week.

## Mighty Oaks



This week in Oaks, the children have been planning and writing their own stories based in World War Two. We are looking forward to sharing our stories with each other next week. Our PE session next week has moved to Monday. Please ensure kits are in school, along with swimming kits. Our next Forest School session is also on Thursday. As we move towards the end of term, please look out for further information next week about all the events that will be happening. A busy few weeks ahead.

### Budding Blossoms



Blossoms have had a fantastic week, in English we are enjoying our text 'The true story of the little pig', we are looking at instructions and the different features and looking forward to baking a cake like 'Al' next week. In maths we are becoming very confident with sharing/division and using a chunking method for those bigger numbers. Even though chunking is tricky, the children have really persevered, and I am very proud of them. It was lovely to see some parents at Parents Evening this week, if you didn't get chance to attend and would like to have a chat about your child's progress, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Reading books are changed twice a week, I recommend that your child reads their book several times to help develop their fluency.

Have a great weekend, Mrs Taylor

## Let's celebrate weekly awards

<u>St. Paul's Awards.</u>			
	<u>Learner of the week</u>	<u>Topic award learner of the week</u>	<u>Value winner</u>
Amazing Acorns	Jasper	Nahidul	Rory
Awesome Ashes	Ollie	Charlie	Heidi
Super Sycamores	Declan	Emelia	Eder
Outstanding Alders	Ayaan	James	Ruben
Enchanted Elms	Leuis	Orlando	Luca
Marvellous Maples	Elliot	Eryn	Rina
Dazzling Elders	Willow	Archie	Liam
Wonderful Willows	Thomas	Ben	Joseph
Mighty Oaks	Anabelle & Tabbi	Sebastian	Harper
Brilliant Berries		Myla	
Budding Blossoms		Luca	

## Pupil Leadership

Student Voice arranged a colouring competition for Children in Need. They chose a winner from each class and each received a prize of a colouring book or felt tips.

Winners -

- Acorns - Bonnie
- Ashes - Autumn
- Sycamores - Jacob
- Ashes - Holly Rose
- Elms - John Paul
- Maples - Elise
- Elders - Zayaan
- Willows - Miley
- Oaks - Emma

Thank you to all those who very kindly donated to children in need. You have raised £195.00. A huge Thank you to the children who organised this event across school.



## Every little helps...

Lancashire libraries are helping tackle digital poverty as part of the National Databank scheme.

The National Databank provides free SIM cards from Virgin Media O2, Vodafone and Three.

The SIM cards have mobile data, minutes and text. This scheme works with Good Things Foundation's network of local community partners including our libraries.

You can qualify for data from your local library if you are over 18, are from a low-income household, and:

- have no access or insufficient access to the internet at home
- have no or insufficient access to the internet when away from home
- cannot afford your existing monthly contract or top up

To benefit from the scheme, a recipient's device must either be unlocked or, if locked, be locked to O2, Vodafone or Three.

Ask about the scheme at your [local library](#).

You will need to make an appointment at the library to collect the SIM card.



[National Databank - Lancashire County Council](#)

<https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/databank/>

# Wraparound childcare parental survey

Parents and Carers,  
tell us about childcare  
in Lancashire for your  
school aged children.



Scan the QR code or visit:  
<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/vt08?>

[lancashire.gov.uk/childcare](https://lancashire.gov.uk/childcare)



## 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 will be open until Friday 15th December.

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

## Do Good December

This month, we're encouraging you to carry out small acts of kindness.

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.



## Starting school in 2024...

For families living in the Lancashire area who require a primary school place in September 2023 you can now apply online via Lancashire's online system at:

[www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools)

This is a quick and easy way and offers an email receipt of all submitted applications. **Please ensure that you hit the 'submit' button when you are ready to send in your completed online application.** You must apply even if you have siblings at your preferred school or academy.

**The closing dates for applications for September 2024 are at 11.59pm on:**

**Primary applications – 15th January 2024**

## Holiday list 2024/25



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

**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
<b>Re-open</b>	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>
Mid Term Closure	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October - Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 (inclusive)
<b>Re-open</b>	<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024</b>
Closure after school on	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024
SPRING TERM 2025	
<b>Re-open</b>	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>
Mid Term Closure	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025 (inclusive)
<b>Re-open</b>	<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>
Closure after school on	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
SUMMER TERM 2025	
<b>Re-open on</b>	<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025</b>
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)
<b>Re-open on</b>	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025</b>
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










## Reflective Friday



Hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Charlesworth