



# ST PAUL'S NEWS

Newsletter 7 - 14.11.25

## A note from Mr Varney:



Hello everyone,

This week for our staff meeting, we were joined by James Aston who works in the Transforming Care team at the Local Authority. James was invited in to speak to staff about his lived experience of school as a neurodivergent learner. Now as an adult, James provides talks to professionals and children about his neurodivergence and his desire to see more inclusive practice within schools. This was the perfect way to start our CPD this half term, allowing my team to consider and reflect on the importance of how the decisions schools make can positively or negatively impact the experiences and learning of children. Following his talk, we then spent time as a team talking about what we feel we mean by inclusion here at St Paul's and our principles for upholding effective inclusion for all children. I will be sharing with you all shortly our work on this as we continue to shine a spotlight on our inclusive practices, ensuring we attempt to provide the very best education and experiences for our pupils. We are looking forward to next week's staff meeting which will be all about providing sensory circuits to support children's regulation.

During the week, leaders took time to visit English and Maths lessons and look at pupil's books, evaluating the quality of teaching and learning within the school. As I have come to expect, we saw some incredibly strong teaching and learning within the classrooms, with children across the school acquiring the essential skills needed to become proficient in reading, writing and maths. It was also once again an opportunity to see how engaged your children are and how much they genuinely enjoy their time at school.

On Sunday, some St Paul's children, families and myself attend a really poignant Remembrance Service at the memorial and in the church. The whole service was really thought provoking and helps us all to remember how lucky we are to be living the lives we have now. The children who had a role in the service shone and there were so many compliments about their contributions. Freya and Marlena in Y6 performed a beautiful poem which they and others had written. Rafferty in Y3 did an amazing job reading the names of those in Chipperfield who fought in the war. Archie and Eliza in Y5 did a wonderful job helping me lay the wreath and presenting the spray at the alter and Elliott in Y6 once again was fantastic, parading the RBL flag through the church. We are incredibly proud of you all!

Have an amazing weekend!

## Upcoming events:

PTA Christmas Movie Night -  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November - details  
to follow

Occasional Day - School closed to  
children - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

INSET Day - School Closed to  
children - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December

EYFS Christmas Sing-a-long - Friday  
12<sup>th</sup> December @ 9.00am - details to  
follow

PTA Christmas Fair - Friday 12<sup>th</sup>  
December

KS1 Christmas Production 1 -  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December @ 1.30pm -  
details to follow

KS1 Christmas Production 2 -  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December @  
1.30pm - details to follow

End of term - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
@ 1.30pm

# Achievements this week:



# Stars of the Week

## Headteacher's Trophy

The headteacher's trophy this week goes to ....



### Oliver C - Year 1

Oliver - having spent some time teaching your class myself this week, I can see how hard you are working and how dedicated you are to your learning; I was particularly impressed with your efforts in the maths lesson. I also know what a kind and supportive friend you are. Well done Oliver!

Year R - Archie

Year 1 - Raffy

Year 2 - Daisy

Year 3 - Albie

Year 4 - Phoebe

Year 5 - Eva

Year 6 - Sienna



## Value Superstars

These children have shown our value of Friendship this week:

Indie - Year R Charlotte - Year 1 Noah J - Year 2 Addison - Year 3 Florence - Year 4 Oliver - Year 5 Annabelle - Year 6

## Teacher of the Week

Our 'Teacher of the Week' has been chosen by our pupils and this week it goes to ....

### Mrs Carine

For working hard to help Arlo and being so caring and thoughtful.

## Attendance:

MOMENTS MATTER. ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

### Whole School Target - 97%

Whole School - 95.9%

Nursery - 97.4% - Good

Reception - 95.8% - Good

Year 1 - 98.5% - Great!

Year 2 - 93.1%

Year 3 - 99.1% - Great!

Year 4 - 96.5% - Good

Year 5 - 98.2% - Great!

Year 6 - 89.6%

## School Attendance - Every Day Counts

### Good attendance helps with ...



Over half a term missed

### Did you know ...

Pupils whose attendance is between 95-100% are nearly 2x more likely to reach the expected standards by the end of Year 6, compared to those whose attendance is below 90%.

This is the same of pupils in KS4 - pupils are more likely to achieve a Grade 5 in English and Maths when their attendance is good.

Just by improving your attendance by 5% means that pupils are 30% more likely to reach the expected standards for their age.

# Ask us about our learning this week:

**Nursery Class** - ask us about our learning in class this week where we have been exploring the religious festival of Diwali and the symbolism of light - we even made our own diya lamps.

**Reception Class** - ask us about our learning in class this week where we have been reflecting on the meaning of Remembrance Day and what this means to people - we even made our own poppies.

**Year 1** - ask us about our learning in maths this week where we have been using manipulatives to find the difference between two numbers and write the corresponding number sentences.

**Year 2** - ask us about our learning in English this week where we have been exploring our text of 'Claude and the City'. We have been writing post cards from the perspective of Claude, explaining what he gets up to in the city.

**Year 3** - ask us about our learning in art this week where we have been completing observational drawings of leaves, working hard to develop our sketching skills.

**Year 4** - ask us about our learning in PSHE this week where we have been thinking about our first thoughts and views of people and how we should celebrate our differences.

**Year 5** - ask us about our learning in RE this week where we have begun to think about the meaning and qualities of a saviour and how this relates to Christianity.

**Year 6** - ask us about our learning in computing and DT this week where we have been using the programme Tinker Cad to design our own Mayan temples.



## Fresh off the Press



Hi everyone. This is our sports / expressive arts news for this week:

Last Friday, we had children participate in an under 10s football match, with a boys and girls team representing the school. The boys team played incredibly well against tough competition whilst our girls team were victorious, winning the shield for the school.

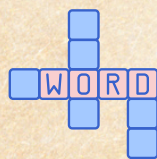
This week, our school's netball team took part in their first match against another local primary school. The team did an incredible job, winning 19-0 with Evie, Annabelle and Milena being named players of the match.

Some of our children took part in 'Can Do' events this week, enjoying a range of activities and games that are now being brought back into school.

A huge well done to all of our children who in the last 2 weeks have represented the school incredibly in a wide range of sporting events.

If you have any sports news that you would like featured in our newsletter, please send it to [sportscommittee@stpauls909.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sportscommittee@stpauls909.herts.sch.uk)

## Milena's Book and Word of the Week .....



**assumption** (noun) - the name of a thought or idea before knowing e.g. We made the assumption that he could not do it.



'Eldest' by Christopher Paolini. This book follows the story of Eragon as he learns to develop and harness his magical abilities linked to him being a dragon rider. This book is great for children in Year 5 and Year 6.