



18th May 2026

Dear Parents and families,

As we come to the end of what has been a short yet very busy half term, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and to celebrate the hard work and achievements of all our children. It has been a particularly important week for our Year 6 pupils, who have approached their SATs with great determination, resilience and maturity. We are incredibly proud of the way they have conducted themselves and the effort they have shown throughout.

This half term also provided a wonderful opportunity for our whole school community to shine during our recent Diocesan inspection. We were delighted to be able to share our school with the inspectors, and we now look forward to receiving the final report, which we will share with you as soon as it is available. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to those parents who contributed to the inspection process—your support and engagement are greatly appreciated.

In addition, thank you to everyone who completed our recent parental survey. Your feedback is invaluable in supporting our ongoing self-evaluation and helping us to continue to improve. We are very grateful for your thoughtful responses. As always, if any parents or carers wish to discuss anything further, you are very welcome to contact me at school.

As well as some important pieces of information I hope the contents of this letter helps to keep you fully informed about the many events and opportunities planned for the remainder of the school year.

Attendance

Good attendance remains a key priority for our school. Establishing strong attendance habits from an early age is vital, helping children to feel fully included in school life and ensuring they do not miss important learning. Even small amounts of absence can quickly lead to gaps in knowledge, which can impact on children's confidence and overall progress.

I would like to remind parents and carers that Headteachers are not permitted to authorise holidays during term time. Any unauthorised absence of 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) or more may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued by the Local Authority, in line with Department for Education expectations. If you are unsure about attendance procedures, please refer to the Attendance Policy available on our school website.

Punctuality is also extremely important. Arriving on time ensures that children start the day calmly alongside their peers and do not miss key learning. Similarly, we ask that children are not collected early unless absolutely essential. Early collection causes disruption not only to your child's learning, but also to the wider class and our staff. If you do need to collect your child early for an appointment, please provide evidence of this. Due to an increasing number of requests for early collection, we are now insisting that proof of appointments is provided.



Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high standards of attendance and punctuality for all children.

School Building Project

We are delighted to see that progress on our new school building is continuing at a very positive pace. The project is moving forward well, and it is exciting to begin to see plans becoming a reality for our whole school community. The first phase, with the opening of the new school building, is scheduled for completion in October 2026. This will then be followed by the second phase, which includes the development of the car park, playing fields and landscaping, along with the demolition of the current school building, due for completion by April 2027.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued cooperation and support with the current access arrangements while work is ongoing. We understand that this can sometimes be inconvenient, and your patience is very much appreciated. May I also take this opportunity to remind everyone not to park in the lane, for the safety of all our children and families. The school car park should only be used by those who have permission from the school.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we work towards this very exciting development.

World Music Day

We are delighted to inform you that this year St Paul's will be celebrating World Music Day on Friday 19th June. World Music Day gives children the opportunity to explore and enjoy music from around the world. It encourages creativity, builds confidence, and allows pupils to experience a range of musical styles and cultures in a fun and engaging way. As part of the celebration, each year group will perform a song of their choice, representing different musical genres, and will share these performances in the hall.

We are looking forward to celebrating this special day together as a whole school community. Class teachers will provide more details nearer the time.

Friends of St Paul's Sponsored Event

Did you know that 200 years ago, a Stockton chemist named John Walker accidentally changed the world by inventing the first friction match. In honour of this invention Fran and Claire who lead the Friends of St Paul's have created a sponsored challenge for your child! You will shortly be receiving information from FOSP about their annual sponsored event for this year. We hope your child thoroughly enjoys taking part in the activity provided. If you are looking for some additional half-term fun, Preston Park are holding some special events in the museum and Victorian Street including live science shows and a special museum trail. Find out more [What's on - Preston Park](#)

Thank you, as always, for your generous and continued support of our FOSP events. The funds raised make a significant difference to the opportunities we are able to offer our children. This year, FOSP contributions are enabling us to subsidise educational visits, helping to reduce the cost to families. Further details about how visits have been supported will be shared within the individual visit letters. Staff are currently finalising arrangements for this term's educational visits, and full details will be shared with you shortly



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Dates for the Diary

The following dates are shared to help you plan your busy schedules! Please note that further information regarding several events will be sent closer to the time. We will update the list below as more further arrangements are made.

A special plea: if your child enjoys singing and would like to take part in our First Holy Communion Mass by joining the choir, we would love to hear from them. The Mass will take place on **Saturday 6th June at 10:00am at Holy Rosary Church**, and this opportunity is open to pupils in Years 4–6. If your child would like to be involved, please email the school office to let us know.

Please also note that, due to the limited quality and condition of the field currently available to us, we are unfortunately unable to invite families to attend our sports days this year. We understand that this may be disappointing, but it is not possible to host spectators safely on this occasion. We thank you for your understanding.

Date	Event	Details
Wednesday 20 th May	Y5 and Y6 Athletics Competition at Middlesbrough Sports Village	<i>Separate letter with all the information has been emailed home if your child is involved.</i>
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	HALF TERM	School re-opens on Monday 1 st June
Tuesday 2 nd June	Y4 Rescheduled Parents' Consultations 2-5pm	<i>Separate letter with all the information to follow.</i>
Friday 5 th June	Y4 Visit to Two Tales, Durham	<i>Separate letter with all the information to follow.</i>
Saturday 6 th June	First Holy Communion Day 10am at Holy Rosary Church	<i>Please keep the children making their First Holy Communion in your prayers.</i> <i>**see note above about choir</i>
Wednesday 10 th – Friday 12 th June	Y5 Residential to the Youth Village	<i>Final arrangements will be shared with parents soon.</i>
Wednesday 17 th June	Y5 Visit to St Michael's Children attend school as normal and will travel together to St Michael's.	<i>Separate letter with all the information has been sent from St Michael's</i>
Thursday 18 th June	Friends of St Paul's Disco Reception – Y2 3.15-4.15pm Y3-Y6 - 4.30-5.30pm	FOSP will forward details



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Friday 19 th June	World Music Day	See details above – this is just for children in school, but we will share class performances on Seesaw.
	Y3 and Y4 Football Tournament	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home if your child is involved.</i>
Monday 22 nd June	Y6 visit to the Youth Village for the Primary School Festival	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home</i>
Tuesday 23 rd June	Y5 and Y6 STEM Day at Yarm School	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home</i>
Friday 26 th June	Y6 Enterprise Day for the whole school	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home</i>
Monday 29 th June	School Feast Day Mass at Holy Rosary Church at 10am (Y2 – Y6)	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home</i>
Tuesday 30 th June	Reception New Starters Parents Meeting at 5pm	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home</i>
Tuesday 7 th July	School Transition Morning	<i>The children will move up to their new class for the morning and meet their new class teacher. Nursery children who are joining Reception in September will stay for a school meal.</i>
Friday 10 th July	End of Year School Reports	<i>You will receive your child's end of year report, and test results where appropriate.</i>
Wednesday 15 th July	Y6 Leavers Liturgy at 6pm for families of Y6 pupils	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home</i>
Friday 17 th July	Y6 Performance for Y6 Parents at 9.15am	<i>Separate letter with all the information will be emailed home</i>
<p><i>SUMMER HOLIDAYS BEGIN ON MONDAY 20TH JULY.</i></p> <p><i>CHILDREN RETURN TO ST. PAUL'S FOR THE AUTUMN TERM ON WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2026</i></p> <p><i>TERM DATES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027 ARE AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL PORCH AND ON THE WEBSITE.</i></p> <p><i>TERM DATES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2027-2028 WILL BE APPROVED BY GOVERNORS IN JULY AND WILL BE SHARED WITH PARENTS BEFORE THE END OF THIS TERM.</i></p>		

As we approach the half term break, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your continued support of our school community. Your encouragement, cooperation and engagement make a real difference to the experiences we can provide for our children.



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As a faith community, we are truly blessed to work in partnership with you, and we thank God for the many gifts and talents shared across our school. I hope you and your families enjoy a restful and joyful break, filled with time together and moments of peace. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for another busy and exciting half term.

Yours sincerely,

S. Sinclair

Sheena Sinclair
Head Teacher



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