



Wolviston Mill Lane, Billingham, TS22 5LU



office@stpauls.bhcet.org.uk



(01642) 360022



stpauls.bhcet.org.uk



St Paul's
Catholic Primary School

Head Teacher: Sheena Sinclair

Deputy Head(s): Rachel Miller

BHCET CEO: Stuart McGhee

BHCET Chair of Directors: Yvonne Coates

20th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy half term, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and partnership, and to take the opportunity to share some staffing updates along with a few timely reminders for when we return to school.

Thank you for your generous support of everything we do at St Paul's. Although we have had many dull days weatherwise this half term, the enthusiasm for learning and enrichment in school has remained bright and cheerful. It has been wonderful to welcome families into school for our celebrations of Mass and class Celebrations of the Word. Your children are a credit to you and deserve praise for their active participation and enthusiasm.

Our Fairtrade Breakfast was a great success and continues to help us embed our Jubilee pledge to create a better world. Looking ahead to next half term, we will be supporting CAFOD through our Big Lent Walk—a tremendous act of solidarity that you are warmly invited to join. The date for this event will be shared with you soon.

Staffing Update

Mrs Marie-Louise Peacock will be leaving St Paul's at the end of this academic year to take up full-time employment as Deputy Headteacher at another Trust school, where she has been seconded four days per week since September 2024. Many of you will know that Mrs Peacock has faithfully served as our SENDCo and Deputy Headteacher for many years. We are deeply grateful for the commitment, expertise, and dedication she has brought to her role and wish her success for the future.

Following the advertisement of the Deputy Headteacher post and a rigorous recruitment and selection process led by the Diocese, Trust, and Chair of Governors, I am delighted to announce that Mrs Rachel Miller has been appointed as the permanent Deputy Headteacher of St Paul's from September 2026. Mrs Miller has successfully undertaken the responsibilities of Deputy Headteacher during Mrs Peacock's secondment and is a highly respected and well-established member of our school team. I look forward to continuing to build on the strengths of our school leadership team as we move forward.



In Him we Live and Move and Have our Being

Some previously shared reminders:

Parking and Drop-Off/Collection:

We must insist that parents and anyone dropping off or collecting children **do not use Wolviston Mill Lane, do not park in the staff car park unless they have explicit permission via email from school, and do not stop or park on the entrance to Wolviston Mill Lane.**

The only exception of this is parents dropping off for Breakfast Club and collecting after Wraparound.

We fully appreciate that the ongoing building work is making the situation more challenging; however, everyone must work together to ensure safety and maintain positive relationships within our community.

Punctuality and Attendance:

Please ensure that your child is in school and ready to begin their day promptly.

Thank you for following our attendance procedures if your child is unable to attend school. Please be aware that odd 'one day off' absences can begin to impact on your child's learning and attendance. We understand the importance of following the UKHSA guidance for infectious illnesses and that any bout of sickness or diarrhoea means a 48-hour absence, but minor ailments do not require children to be absent from school.

Please remember you can check your child's attendance on your MCAS app. We are aiming for children to have at least 97% attendance. Any absence lower than 90% is classed as persistent absence and is a cause for concern.

Please avoid booking holidays in term time as these cannot be authorised and may incur a fine in line with Local Authority and Trust policy.

Smart Watches in School

A reminder that **smart watches must not be worn in school**. A simple wristwatch is acceptable, but devices that include any of the following features are not permitted:

- Cameras
- Recording functions
- Messaging or communication features
- Electronic games

These items can cause safeguarding concerns, distractions in lessons, and issues with data protection.



In Him we Live and Move and Have our Being

Personal Items in School

To ensure a calm and focused learning environment, we ask that children do not bring additional personal items from home unless specifically requested by their class teacher. This includes Pokémon cards and other trading cards, toys, and excessive keyrings or attachments on school bags.

These items can easily become lost or damaged and often lead to disagreements or distractions during the school day. Keeping personal belongings at home helps all children to remain focused on their learning and reduces the likelihood of upset.

Birthday Sweets

We know that many families like to mark birthdays by sending in sweets to share with classmates, and while this is a thoughtful gesture, we must ask that sweets are not brought into school. If parents would like to celebrate in this way, it must be arranged outside of school.

Although well-intentioned, bringing in sweets can place unnecessary pressure on other families to do the same and can result in children receiving a large number of sweets over the year. To support children's wellbeing and encourage healthy choices, we ask that birthday treats are not sent into school.

A reminder about previously shared dates:

Thursday 5 th March	All day	World Book Day
Monday 16 th March and Tuesday 24 th March	3.40pm - 6pm	Parent Consultation evenings Letter has been circulated Booking system has opened
Friday 20 th March	2.45pm	Reception Class Celebration of the Word – families welcome
Friday 27 th March	9.00am – please note the change of time	Y3 and Y4 Celebration of the Word – families welcome
Other dates: 23 rd – 27 th February - HALF TERM (We return to school on Monday 2 nd March) 3 rd – 17 th April – EASTER HOLIDAYS (We return to school on Monday 20 th April)		

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support. Have a lovely half term break.

Yours sincerely,
S. Sinclair

Sheena Sinclair
Head Teacher



In Him we Live and Move and Have our Being