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St Paul's
Catholic Primary School

Head Teacher: Sheena Sinclair

Deputy Head(s): Rachel Miller

BHCET CEO: Stuart McGhee

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17th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. It was a pleasure to see so many of you at our recent Parent Consultation meetings; thank you for your attendance, your comments and compliments, and for the feedback many of you provided about the 'Catholic Life' of our school. Your feedback and comments are extremely helpful as part of our self-evaluation.

I would like to thank you all for your co-operation and patience as we embark on the school building project. I am pleased to say that it appears that the new routes in and out of school are working well. Please take note of the parking guidance below as there is still moving traffic in the lane at morning drop off and afternoon pick up times.

To ensure the safety of all children:

- Please **avoid parking on Wolviston Mill Lane** during busy times (morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up).
- Parking is permitted during quieter times such as Breakfast Club, Nursery collection/drop-off, and Wraparound pick-up.
- Please do not park in the staff car park without permission from school or block the entrance to the car park.

Thank you for your anticipated co-operation in helping us keep everyone safe.

As we approach the festive season, as a Catholic community we look to ways in which we can share love, joy and hope with others. Please see two appeals below from our Faith in Action and Mini Vinnie Pupil Leadership Groups.

Our Year 6 Faith in Action Team is working hard to put our faith into action by helping others! Over the next few weeks, we are supporting a special project – the Parish Shoebox Appeal for Seafarers.

Seafarers are people who work on ships to bring us food, clothes and other important things from around the world. They spend many months away from their families, and when they arrive at our local ports, they can feel lonely and often need warm clothes and toiletries.

We would love to make Christmas gift boxes for them to show we care. If every child brought just one item, imagine how many boxes we could make together!

Here are some ideas for what you could donate:

***Hats, scarves, socks, gloves
Toothbrush and toothpaste
Toiletries
Sweets or chocolates
Notepads, pens, a pack of cards or a small game.***



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Please send any donations into school by Tuesday 25th November so we can get the boxes ready for Christmas. Each class has a special donation station where you can put your items.

The Mini Vinnies are excited to announce St Paul's Advent Art Competition 2025!

Theme: "Wise Men travelled following a star"

Entry Fee: £2

Media: Any 2D artwork (A4 size)

Deadline: Friday 28th November (artwork to be completed at home)

Children can collect an entry form from their class teacher if they would like to take part.

Prizes:

Winners receive a Fair-Trade Chocolate Treat and a pack of cards featuring their design. Every participant will get a card made from their artwork!

All money raised will help purchase CAFOD World Gifts.

Upcoming Dates and Reminders – many dates and events have previously been shared.

Celebration of the Word

These events take place in the hall, so please come to the main entrance shortly before the start time. If extended family would like to join, they are more than welcome. It has been wonderful to see so many of our families able to join us for this short time of prayer and worship. For this term, there is just Y5 and Y6 Celebration of the Word remaining!

Year 5 and 6 at 9.15am - Thursday 20th November

Bishop Stephen visits our Parish

Bishop Stephen will be visiting our Parish next weekend (22nd/23rd November) and will be celebrating Mass at St John the Evangelist Church on Saturday at 5.30pm and Holy Rosary Church on Sunday at 10am. It would be lovely to see our families at Mass, especially those who have made their First Holy Communion, or those preparing to make their First Holy Communion. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served after both Masses.

Times Tables Rockstars Day

Friday, 21st November. To celebrate Maths Week, we have organised "**Maths Rockstars Day**". On this day, we encourage the **children to come dressed as a "Maths Rockstar"** as we celebrate their hard work throughout the week. Prizes and awards will be given during a whole school celebration. This is for all children from Nursery to Year 6.

Whole School Mass

You are warmly invited to join us for the Celebration of Mass on Wednesday 26th November at 9.15am. This invitation extends to your wider family so please spread the word. After Mass, some children from our Y6 Faith in Action team will be serving refreshments.

Parents' Evenings:

Year 6: Monday 24th & Thursday 27th November, 3.30–6pm



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FOSP Christmas Fair – Wednesday 3rd December, 3.15–5.30pm

In preparation for our Christmas Fair, on **Friday 28th November**, children are invited to wear one item of Christmassy clothing or an accessory (hair band, hat, glittery tights etc) and in return, bring in a donation for the 'Chocolate Tombola'.

Christmas Events

- **Tuesday 2nd December (afternoon)** – Y3 & Y4 'Snappy Christmas' with Tees Valley Music Service – Letter with information about purchasing tickets has been emailed home.
- **Monday 8th December at 1.30pm** – Nursery & Reception Nativity
- **Tuesday 9th December at 9.30am** – Nursery & Reception Nativity
- **Wednesday 10th December at 1.30pm** – Y1 & Y2 Nativity
- **Thursday 11th December at 9.30am** – Y1 & Y2 Nativity
- **Monday 15th December** –
 - Y1–Y6 Pantomime trip: *Jack and the Beanstalk* at Princess Alexandra Auditorium (details to follow)
 - Early Years Christmas Party (pm)
- **Tuesday 16th December** – Early Years Mix it up Music afternoon
- **Wednesday 17th December** – Christmas Dinner (details to follow)
- **Wednesday 17th December at 6pm** – Y5 & Y6 Carol Service at Holy Rosary Church – *Everyone welcome*

Christmas Holidays

- **Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January** – School closed for Christmas
- **Monday 5th January** – *Professional Development Day* (school closed to pupils)
- **Tuesday 6th January** – School reopens for Spring Term

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

S. C. Sinclair

Sheena Sinclair

Head Teacher



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