



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

27th January, 2025

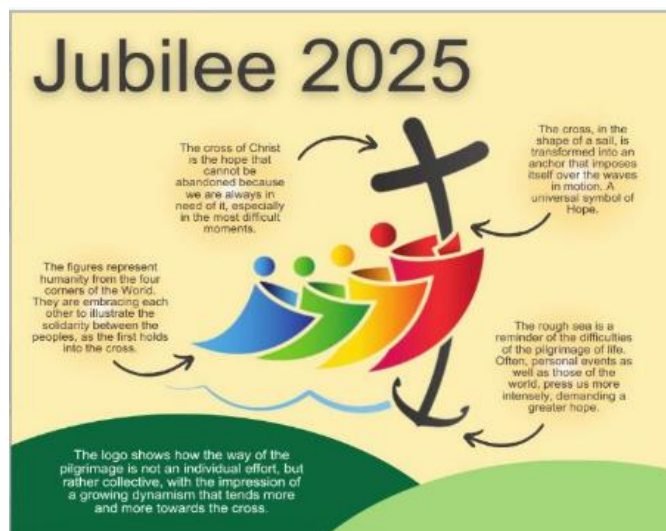
Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership; I hope this information letter helps keep you updated.

You may remember in the Christmas Newsletter, I explained that 2025 is an important year for our school community, our Parish, our Diocese and the Catholic Church worldwide as Pope Francis has declared that this year is a Jubilee year. A Jubilee takes place every 25 years and the theme for this Jubilee is Pilgrims of Hope – hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the pandemic and a climate crisis.

‘In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite not knowing what the future will bring.’ POPE FRANCIS

We have a new display in the main entrance to our school to celebrate, and it includes some quotes to explain this year’s theme. We will be adding to this over the coming weeks. In each classroom prayer space, the theme of ‘hope’ is also shared. You may see the logo around school. You will be invited to share in some whole school events over the coming year too as the whole idea of a Pilgrimage is that we walk together, in solidarity, to grow in faith and create a better world.



Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child attends school every day possible. It is understandable that from time to time your child may not be well enough to attend school. If this is the case, then please ensure that you contact school on the first day of absence to let us know. If your child has been sick or has diarrhoea then they must have 48 hours clear from the last bout of illness before returning to school. We follow UKHSA and NHS guidance for this and all other illnesses.

Any holidays taken during term time will not be authorised if it is deemed that the holiday could have been taken at some point during the annual school holiday period. There are 175 non-term days every school year for holidays and routine appointments. Head Teachers are only permitted to authorise absence during term time for exceptional and unavoidable reasons. Holidays do not fall into this category.

Please see our updated Attendance Policy which is on the website and follows the Government’s expectations. If you have any queries then please don’t hesitate to contact school.



In Him we Live and Move and Have our Being

Attendance at school, on time, every day, helps ensure that all children can get the most out of every school day. Routine is so important to support social, emotional and educational development. Punctuality is also important so please avoid lateness, even by just a few minutes, unless unavoidable. Thank you so much for your support. I will contact you individually if I have concerns about your child's attendance.

Remember, you can monitor your child's attendance on the MCAS app.

Uniform and Equipment

Thank you for ensuring your child comes to school well prepared for the day ahead. The children look so smart in their uniform. From time to time, jumpers and sweatshirts, jogging bottoms and shorts are mislaid. Please help us return them to the rightful owner by LABELLING ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM.

Any mislaid items which are not labelled will be placed in the lost property box in the school porch. If not claimed we will donate them to our pre-loved uniform store.

Mrs Craft and The Stewards of Creation will be running the pre-loved uniform store on the following dates:

***Thursdays – 30th January, 6th March, 10th April, 22nd May, 19th June and 17th July
In the Wraparound Building (Childcare) at 3pm – 3.45pm.***

We have an extensive selection of clothing, all in excellent condition. It would be wonderful to see more families using this facility and fits perfectly with the focus of 'Pilgrims of Hope' where we pledge to care more for our environment. Re-using resources, in this case, clothing, avoids unnecessary waste.

If you need any items of clothing outside of the dates above, please just let the office know and we will help.

Please ensure that only school water bottles are brought to school (Reception -Year 6).

New water bottles can be purchased at the cost of £3 from the school office.

Please also keep bags to a minimal size. We simply do not have the storage space for large bags and many children do not need to bring a bag each day unless they have specific resources to bring in eg: a change of clothes. Your child does not need any additional equipment at school so please leave items at home.

Your child is welcome to bring a piece of fruit into school for morning break but not cereal bars, sweets etc.

Fruit is provided each day for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children.

Nail varnish and jewellery, with the exception of a watch, are not allowed.

Dates for your Diary

w/c 3rd February – Children's Mental Health Week and NSPCC Speak out, Stay Safe assembly for children

11th February – Online Safety Day

21st February – PD Day – Children are not in school

w/c 24th February – HALF TERM

5th March – Ash Wednesday – Fr Adrian will hold a service in school and share ashes (children and staff only)

6th March – World Book Day (letter emailed home)

19th and 26th March – Parent Consultation Evenings 3.40-6pm. You will be invited to book an appointment with your child's class teacher on one of the dates. Details to follow

14th – 25th April – EASTER HOLIDAYS

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at school if you need to.

Yours sincerely,

S. C. Sinclair

Sheena Sinclair
Head Teacher



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