

St Paul's Catholic Primary School



FEBRUARY

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

Welcome to February's newsletter. The Spring term is flying by and it seems unbelievable that we are approaching half-term once more. It has been a very busy few weeks with lots going on; as always, the children are working very hard.

This term we have updated our curriculum pages on our school website, so if you ever need any additional information about what your child is learning then this is the place to go. There is a range of information about classes and curriculum subjects. Our evidence based curriculum is carefully designed, giving children lots of opportunities to retrieve prior learning, so that, by remembering more they know more! The homework policy we shared with you before Christmas, was approved by Governors this week. We do hope that our approach to home learning is really helping children embed key knowledge which supports their learning in class. Thank you for your partnership and support. As always, if you have any concerns then please contact me.

Many thanks,

Sheena Sinclair - Head Teacher

Parent Consultation

We will be inviting parents and carers to meet with class teachers to discuss your child's progress on Tuesday 28th March and Wednesday 29th March from 3.45-6pm. We will be opening the booking system so you can book your own appointments from 5pm on Monday 27th February.

We value our partnership with you and know that the support you provide at home enhances your child's all-round development at school. Thank you.



Number Day 2023



Safer Internet Day

No wonder February has been such a busy month so far! We always pride ourselves on our school vision to "Educate the Whole Child" so we look for lots of opportunities to highlight and focus on different themes.

Thank you for your generous support on NSPCC Numbers Day. We always appreciate the work of the NSPCC who provide a range of excellent resources for home and school to help children stay safe. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/>

The themes for Safer Internet Day and Children's Mental Health week both focus on the importance of good relationships by 'being connected'. Good conversations are so important so please never hesitate to chat to us if you need any support. Our website has really useful information about both mental health and well-being, and online safety. Look out for a new monthly Online Safety Newsletter we are going to share with you, to help keep your children safe online.



Friends of St Paul's

Thank you so much for supporting the Friends of St Paul's fundraising initiatives. We are so grateful for your generosity which enriches the children's experiences at school. I know FOSPs will be contacting you with information about events for the coming months.

As part of their enriched curriculum, Year 3 had a wonderful Stone Age Day with Forest School this week. This day was funded by FOSPs who are keen to support an enrichment experience for every child at St Paul's.

Our Sports Council proudly receiving the AfPE Quality Mark.



Congratulations

We were delighted to be awarded the highly prestigious quality mark with distinction from the Association for Physical Education. We are the first primary school in the Tees Valley to receive this award which celebrates our commitment to developing PE, physical activity and school support.

Special thanks to Mrs Tattersdill and Miss Wood for making this happen, our fantastic children, hardworking staff and supportive parents and Governors!



Polite Reminders

Parking: Please remember to park safely and considerately at drop off and pick up time. We are very grateful to families who do this but unfortunately we still have several families who are parking in a dangerous and inconsiderate way. The school car park must not be used unless permission to park there has been agreed. Our Student Council are going to be exploring ways in which we can promote Active Travel which will help reduce congestion around school.

Uniform and Jewellery : A reminder that school shoes should be worn unless your child is wearing PE kit. Jogging bottoms on PE days should be grey, with or without the school logo. Earrings and other jewellery is not allowed for health and safety reasons. Please do not allow your child to have their ears pierced during term time as they are unable to wear them for PE and will therefore be missing out on part of their curriculum.

Attendance: If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please notify school by 9am. A leave of absence form must be completed if your child is going to miss school due to an appointment or holiday. Holidays cannot be authorised and may incur a fine by the Local Authority. Our Attendance Policy is available on the school website.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Parent and Carer Survey

Thank you to the parents and carers who provided feedback for our survey. Your responses were very helpful and form part of our school self-evaluation. We are delighted that 100% of parents and carers who responded agree/strongly agree that their children feel happy and safe at school. We have collated the following results and have provided some responses where we think they are helpful. We are delighted that 95% of parents say they would recommend St Paul's to other parents.

My child is happy at school: 100% agree/strongly agree

My child feels safe at school: 100% agree/strongly agree

The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved: 95% agree/strongly agree

We promote good behaviour, self-discipline and respect. Our code of conduct encourages our children to always be ready, respectful and safe.

My child has been bullied and the school dealt with it quickly and effectively: 75% agree/strongly agree (18/22 parents said their child had not been bullied)

Through a comprehensive PSHE and Relationships curriculum we teach children about what to do if they feel bullied. We know that working with parents and carers is essential to resolve any concerns. We also know that sometimes children do not speak out about concerns at school so we will be reinforcing the message that speaking to an adult in school when something happens is very important.

The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year: 95% agree/strongly agree

When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly: 100% agree/strongly agree

My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed: 100% agree/strongly agree

The school has high expectations for my child: 95% agree/strongly agree

My child does well at this school: 95% agree/strongly agree

The school lets me know how my child is doing: 91% agree/strongly agree

We are delighted that most parents are clear about what their child is learning at school and the high expectations we have. Our communication with you via Seesaw and our detailed curriculum coverage on the website is an excellent way to share learning. We are pleased that the inclusion of all children is recognised and that, as parents, your voice is heard. We share pupil progress with parents at Parent Consultation Meetings and make contact with parents when children have specific needs. We will review our systems for letting parents know how their child is doing to see how we can improve this area.

There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school: 95% agree/strongly agree

My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school: 100% agree/strongly agree

The school supports my child's wider personal development: 91% agree/strongly agree

The Catholic virtues of our school promote outstanding Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Relationships Education. We help our children aspire to achieve their personal best. Please take a look at our PSHE curriculum on the website and class newsletters. We offer enrichment to some subjects like Music and French with subject specialist teachers, and we also offer Forest School in Reception, Year 3 and Year 5. The school also supports the Parish Sacramental programme for Catholic children whose parents request first sacraments.

