

# St Paul's Catholic Primary School

## October 2022

### Attendance

Thank you for ensuring that your child is at school every day they can be. In line with our updated Attendance Policy, please contact the school office by 9am if your child is unable to attend school.

Just a reminder that Head Teachers are unable to authorise holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. All requests for leave of absence must be made at least 2 weeks in advance. Thank you for your co-operation.

We will contact parents directly if we have any concerns about attendance or punctuality. A copy of the Attendance Policy is available on the website.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to October's newsletter which I hope finds you safe and well. It has been a very busy start to the school year with lots going on. Thank you for helping our arrangements and routines work smoothly. It was great to see so many parents and children at our recent 'Meet the Teacher' event. We were also pleased that so many Y2 and Y6 parents could make the meeting to discuss curriculum expectations in more detail. Thank you for your support and partnership.

We have enjoyed some lovely Autumn sunshine this half term to brighten up the days. It has been wonderful to see some of our children having the opportunity to get out and about, joining in with sports competitions. Over the past few weeks some children have been taking part in a scavenger hunt, cross country finals and a Girls' football tournament. Year 4 are also taking part in their fortnight of swimming. Well done and good luck to all those who have taken part, or who will take part shortly! We are very proud of you.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at school if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Many thanks, Sheena Sinclair - Head Teacher



### Congratulations

We were delighted to hear of the safe arrival of Miss Carnaby's baby girl Sienna.

We can't wait to meet her, and we send our love and best wishes to the happy family.

### School Councils

The children have been busy electing new School Council members for our Student Council & Sports' Council. These councils are important in helping us make decisions in school and promote a range of in-school competitions and events. The voices of our children are important and their opinions matter—look out over the coming weeks for more information from these two active groups.



*Please remember that Friday 21st October is a Professional Development Day for staff so children will not be in school.*

*We return to school on Monday 31st October.*

*Friday 25th November is also a Professional Development Days. Children are not in school.*

*Term Dates and holiday dates for 2023-24 are now available on the school website*



### Parking

A letter was sent home to all families last week to stress the importance of parking safely and legally in the vicinity of the school. Please ensure that all requests are followed.

There are still some parents and carers parking on the edge of Wolviston Mill Lane and also along the lane. Please allow more time for your journey so you do not need to do this.

We will be requesting the support of the local authority traffic enforcement team to help us ensure the safety of our families and residents.



Department  
for Education

### Building project

In July 2021, we were informed by the Department for Education that St Paul's has been named as one of the next 50 schools in the country to have their buildings replaced as part of the School Rebuilding Programme.

For the last 15 months there have been many meetings, surveys, feasibility studies, and discussions about possible contractors for the work. The DfE and contractors are now in discussions about who will get the tender for the contract. I look forward to being able to update you in the near future.



### Mobile Phones

If your child needs to bring a mobile phone to school they must hand it into the school office at the start of the day.

### Mini Vinnies and Faith in Action

Our Mini Vinnies' motto is "Turning Concern into Action" - the children in Y5 who have chosen to become Mini Vinnies are part of the Parish St Vincent de Paul (SVP) group.

This half term the children have helped lead the CAFOD Harvest appeal. Thank you for your generosity to help support the World Food Crisis campaign.

We are able to donate over £220 to CAFOD and have also been able to make a much needed donation to the Billingham Food Bank.

We also look forward to launching our Faith in Action group with our Y6 children after half-term.

### Winter Uniform and Lost Property

When we return to school after the half-term holiday, all children from Reception to Year 6 will need to wear their winter uniform. This includes a shirt/blouse and tie (no polo shirts please). Please ensure that tights and socks are plain black, grey, red or white. Hair accessories should be practical and minimal and there should be no extremes of hair styles. Please ensure that all uniform has your child's name on it.

In line with our Uniform Policy (available on our website) we will be holding a pre-loved uniform event on Monday 17th October in the Childcare facility. Pop in after school if you would like to purchase pre-loved uniform. (More details will come from our "Stewards of Creation" group)

### Dates for your Diary

- Monday 17th October—Pre-loved uniform sale after school.
- Wednesday 19th October—FOSPs Disco
- Tuesday 1st November—Bishop Robert is visiting our Parish (some Y6 pupils will be invited to celebrate Mass at St Michael's)
- Tuesday 8th November—Photographer in School - individual and school family photographs will be taken (no obligation to purchase)
- Tuesday 15th November—Flu vaccine for Reception—Y6 children (letter to follow and parental consent will be required)
- Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th November Parents' consultation meetings (separate letter to follow) 4pm—6pm
- Wednesday 7th December—Year 6 - Level 1 Bikeability training
- Thursday 8th December—Year 5—Level 1 Bikeability training
- Tuesday 6th December - Year 3 & 4 Snappy Christmas at Thornaby Pavilion (Parents can attend to watch the performance 1-2pm)
- Monday 12th and Wednesday 14th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas Performance 2pm
- Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December—Early Years Christmas Performance 9.30am
- Tuesday 13th December—Year 5 and Year 6 Advent Liturgy at Holy Rosary Church at 6pm

FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW

