



St. Paul's

C of E Primary School

Newsletter

Jesus said,

***'Let the little children
come to me.'***

MATTHEW 19:13-15

We are all equally important, listened to
and loved by God.



Friday 9th January 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome the start of our Spring term. I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break with your families.

During the holidays we had a number of people that came in and helped to look after our school and grounds. Thank you to Mrs Axcell, and her son, who came in to help cut and shape our willow domes. Thank you also to Katy Traynar (Vice Chair and Church Youth Team) who came in to join Mrs Axcell to help with sorting out the clothes in our cloakrooms and the washing and drying of them. Your help and kindness is very much appreciated.

In my newsletter before Christmas I mentioned about no longer bringing in sweets and food items to share on children's birthdays. This is mainly due to the dietary and allergy needs of many of our children. I would like to thank you for your support with this. Could I also ask you to be mindful of snacks that are getting sent in at breaktimes as well. We encourage these snacks to be fruit or vegetables, as is given out in the EYFS and KS1 classes. Please do not send in snacks that could be a potential issue with children with allergies, especially nut allergies and dairy allergies. We ask that you please send in a healthy snack, not chocolate or crisps, and read the labels to ensure there are no nuts or dairy contained within them.

On Tuesday, I led Collective Worship and shared with the children that 2026 is to be a National Year of Reading. This is a UK wide initiative which has been organised by both the Department for Education and the National Literacy Trust. The aim is to encourage people of all ages, young and old, to read for pleasure. We are told that there are many things planned, which I would hope we will be part of throughout the year.

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Also on Tuesday, our Year 5 and 6 classrooms were turned into Victorian classrooms. Many of our children and staff came in Victorian clothes and had a day of role play in which they had an experience of what it would be like to go to school in Victorian times. I'm not sure who enjoyed it the most, the children or Mrs Williams! Thank you very much to the staff for organising and embracing this learning opportunity; and also to the parents for supporting with costumes for their children.

On Wednesday a group of children from Years 4, 5 and 6 travelled to the Pulse Arena in Birmingham to take part in this year's Young Voices Concert. The children had been practicing for many months in preparation and, finally, the event took place this week. I know many parents attended this, and I hope those that did enjoyed their night out watching this incredible concert. Well done to the children who, I know, were a credit to our school and enjoyed this unique opportunity. A huge thank you to Mrs Cooper for organising and leading this, and also to Mrs Lee and Miss Gilbert for their help and support, both in the weekly rehearsals and on the day itself.

Finally, yesterday the office sent an email out to all parents and carers regarding the procedures for if the school needed to be closed. Please read this. The most important place to check is our website first thing in the morning. If we had to close we would post a notice on our website to inform you of this as soon as possible. As it is very cold, could I remind you to send your child into school suitably dressed for this very cold weather. We aim to allow the children outside as much as possible, so scarfs, hats and gloves are a very good idea.

I hope you have a lovely wintery weekend.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Bown
Headteacher



Over the holidays Aperture received numerous emails and messages on their answerphone from families who still wanted to place orders. All images were taken offline on 31st December 2025. Due to the volume of messages received, all images have gone back online as of today - and will expire on Tuesday 31st March 2026.

If access codes have been misplaced please call their office Monday - Friday on 0121 439 3211 from 8.00am - 4.00pm and they will deal with any enquiries.

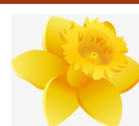
Christian Ethos Group

Spreading Hearts Prayers

You will need: cups with about an inch of water at the bottom; strips of kitchen roll; felt-tip pens (cheap and cheerful are good and definitely not permanent markers - you need the ink to run). Draw a heart about two inches up the strip and colour in with pen. Slightly above and outside of the heart you have drawn, write the initials of someone (or draw a face of someone!) that you would like to get to know Jesus. Put the end of the strip in the water and pray that they will come to know that Jesus loves them. Watch as the water slowly climbs up the strip, and the ink in the heart spreads out to cover and absorb the initials/face



House Points



St Andrew: 332

St David: 196

St Patrick: 290



St George: 345



Parents Prayer Meetings

The next parents prayer meetings for next term will take place on:

Monday 12th January
Thursday 5th February
Monday 2nd March

The meeting will take place in the Breakfast Club room at 9.00am - 9.30am. Everyone welcome!

FOOD BANK

We would like donations of instant mash, squash (smaller bottles), tinned vegetables, and washing up liquid. There is a box outside the school office where you can place your donations.

Thank you.

Lateness

This week there have been **302** minutes late (just over 5 hours lost learning in four days!!!). These minutes do not include those pupils who came into school after registers close at 9.25am - as they have a different code.

We are carefully monitoring each individual pupils' time-keeping, working with Warwickshire County Council's Attendance Officer. Please see the chart below to show how this affects learning.

If in a school year your child is late everyday...	Your child would have lost approximately...	Or they would have missed approximately...
5 minutes	3.5 days from school	20 lessons
10 minutes	7 days from school	41 lessons
15 minutes	10 days from school	55 lessons
20 minutes	14.5 days from school	82 lessons
30 minutes	22 days from school	123 lessons

First Steps... Starting School
APPLICATIONS TO APPLY 01 November 2025
To 15 JANUARY 2026

Parents & Carers of children living in Warwickshire applying for a Reception 2026 place at a Primary/Infant School.

Deciding on a place to learn

- Priority Area Schools – Which schools are in your local area
- Research your schools – Attend open days, ask to visit, Schools Website, Social Media
- Are your preferences practical, travel to and from school, after school clubs...
- Choose as many preferences as possible (6 in total)

Useful Links on the Warwickshire County Council Website – School Admissions

- **I want help to decide a school for my child (LINK)**
 - On this page you will find Schools in your local area using the find a school app.
 - Schools Websites
 - School Guide
 - School Transport
 - How to make an Application
- **The Process – Applying For a Primary/Infant School Place (LINK)**
 - **Applications to apply open 01 November 2025**
 - On this page you will find a full breakdown of dates and instructions of how and where to apply and what happens next.

For more information, please email your enquiry to - admissions@warwickshire.gov.uk



Reporting Pupil Absences or Lateness



Can we please remind parents/carers, once again, that you need to report to the school office if your child is going to be absent or late to school. If we do not receive a reason for their absence - the absence will be unauthorised. You can either email or telephone before 9.00am to report an absence, giving your child's name, class and reason for their absence.

If your child is going to be late into school (arriving after 9.15am) and will require a school lunch, you will need to inform the school office the reason why they will be late and which choice of dinner you want ordering for your child. The office need to be notified before 9.15am.

If your child comes into school late, and arrives after 9.15am, and you have not ordered a school dinner, then they will need to bring in a packed lunch.

Reminders

Monday 12th January - Parents Prayer Meeting - 9.00am

Saturday 17th January - Years 5 & 6 Cross Country - Edmondscote Track - 10.15am - 11.15am

Thursday 5th February - Parents Prayer Meeting - 9.00am

Friday 6th February - PTA Express Yourself

Saturday 7th February - Years 5 & 6 Cross Country - Myton Fields - 9.30am

Monday 9th February - SAT's Parents Meeting - 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Tuesday 10th February - NSPCC Number Day

Friday 13th February - Last Day of the Spring Half-term

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February - Half-term - School Closed

Monday 23rd February - School Re-opens for the second Spring Half-term

ATTACHMENTS AND LINKS TO ONLINE RESOURCES

- * For this week's Family Information Service Newsletter go to <https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/family-information-service-newsletter-1219204-96fqcdqgps-8831582?e=3e5007f40c>
- * Family Information Services Special Edition Newsletter go to <https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/family-information-service-newsletter-8831598?e=3e5007f40c>
- * Link to a padlet put together by EMTAS designed to support newly arrived/EAL families - <https://padlet.com/emtasadmin/warwickshire-support-networks-for-newly-arrived-families-17w1oinhjbndi0yc>.
- * WCC Family Support Drop-Ins leaflets (x3)
- * Children and Family Support flyer
- * Happy News - Issue 118