



St Paulinus Newsletter

October 2019



Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to our new look newsletter. Our intention is to send this letter out every half term to celebrate the great things that have been going on across school, give important messages and to publicise important up and coming dates. This first one is a trial and we will evaluate the effectiveness of a half termly newsletter as the year progresses!

What a half term it has been and what a fantastic start to the school year! It is such a privilege to be part of such a fantastic school; the children are a credit to the school and to their families. From our youngest to our eldest, we have welcomed our newest members of our community in early years, who have settled in really quickly and are already loving learning at school and our year 6 made us incredibly proud on their residential trip to London. I can't wait to see what else this year has in store for us!

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the families who have supported the School this term, whether it be by contributing to your child's trip, attending meetings, ensuring your child is in every day or by the donations you have given to our collections – every act, no matter how small, makes a difference to the lives of children and adults in our community. Within this newsletter you will see a couple of school pleas – we would be very grateful if you could help us out with some of these as well.

Lastly, I hope everyone has a wonderful half term holiday; stay safe, get some rest and I look forward to seeing all your smiling faces at 8.45am on Tuesday 5th November 2019.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Hayes

St. Paulinus Church welcomes you to attend Saturday Vigil at 6:30pm and Sunday Mass at 11:15 am.

Dates for the Diary



November

Tues 5th - School reopens / NSPCC Online Safety Workshop for children 9am

Friday 22nd - Fun and Buns EYU & KS1 AM, KS2 -PM

Friday 29th - Advent Day (Non school uniform, chocolate donation)

December

Mon 2nd - Year 3 Advent Assembly 2:40pm-3pm

Tues 3rd - Year 4 Advent Assembly 2:40pm-3pm

Weds 4th - Year 5 Advent Assembly 2:40pm-3pm

Tues 10th - Parents Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm

Weds 11th - Parents Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm

Weds 18th - Mince Pie and Christmas Carols 1:15pm for grandparents and parishioners

Thurs 19th - School closes for Christmas Holidays



School Nativities

Thurs 12th 9:30am Year 2
2:15pm Year 3

Fri 13th 9:30am Year 1
2:15pm Year 4

Mon 16th 2:15pm Year 5

Tues 17th 9:30am EYU
2:00pm Year 6

Good news!

We still have places available in the following year groups:

- Nursery
- Year 1
- Year 4
- Year 5

Do you know anyone who might be interested in one of these places? Please contact Mrs. Massey in the office.

Places available

Paulinus Pings

Pixie@Paulinus Writing about Sunny the Meerkat has been fun.

Daisy@Paulinus I love dressing up!

Poppy@Paulinus I like going swimming with school.

Dylan@Paulinus I've enjoyed learning about woolly mammoths.

St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School
Inspiring all to live, learn and love in the light of Jesus.

If you have any concerns regarding your safety or anyone else's safety, please talk to :


Safeguarding Leads

 Sophie Hayes
Headteacher

 Sharon Davies
Learning Mentor

Deputy Safeguarding Leads

 Carla Bentley
Acting Deputy Headteacher


 Christina Watt
Senior Business Support Officer

 Helen Regan
Acting Assistant Head KS1

 David Hutton
Assistant Head KS2

 Joanne Cooper
EYU Team Leader & SENDCo

Safeguarding Governor

 Tom Regan

Excerpt taken from Holy Spirit Newsletter

I know that at this time of year it is a particularly anxious period for parents of our Year 6 children. The responsibility for choosing the "right school" can weigh heavily on us. With this in mind, I wanted to share the positive experience we have had so far, having chosen St. John Fisher as my son's high school.

I have visited the school on several occasions and spoken to the staff personally and I can't praise them enough for their support and help settling in the new Year 7 children. The school has invested in online support systems such as SIMS and FROG, which allow parents direct interface with the school and the ability to monitor behaviour, attendance and homework amongst other things. You can even check exactly what your child has for their lunch each day! They work hard to ensure the Year 7 children have as seamless a transition as possible and are on hand to help when you need it.

The children are supported by a very committed staff and together their work is paying off. St John Fisher are celebrating an 18% improvement in their GCSEs results this year, which takes them above the national average. The Year 11 students worked incredibly hard and the school is justifiably proud of this achievement. Work now continues into this year and a parental information evening has already been held to ensure families understand what is ahead.

In other year groups the school has seen a great start to the academic year and new CARE values - Commitment, Aspiration, Respect, Excellence - are underpinning all aspects of school life for both students and staff.

St John Fisher has worked hard through difficult circumstances to ensure the standards are being raised and that they become the best school they can be.

Having benefited from a great start to your children's academic journey in our school, I hope that you will take advantage of continuing their Catholic education and bless the high school with your children. It is a great way to support our whole Catholic family by ensuring our high school succeeds in their endeavours to provide the best education and support for our young students on their onward journey in to adulthood whilst upholding the values of our faith.

Thank you

Clare Naughton Foundation Governor at Holy Spirit

Forms for Year 6 Confirmation, Year 4 First Holy Communion and Year 3 Reconciliation are all available from Father Jonathan.

Year 6 Trip to London

Some of our Year 6 children went on a residential trip to London this half term. The children got time to explore London, see Matilda on the West End and visit the Harry Potter Studios! The children had a fantastic time and loved being able to be on a movie set!

Harvest Assembly

We hoped you enjoyed our Harvest assemblies. The children put a lot of time and effort into making them. Thank you for all the food donations we received. The Mini Vinnies visited Care Dewsbury and Batley Food Bank on Thursday and delivered all the donated food.



St. Paulinus Fun Run

We had a fun filled day raising money for our school. Pupils and staff all dressed up and took part in a sponsored fun run. A huge **£1550** was raised! This money will go towards updating the school library books and a bigger and better stage!



Year 2 Great Fire of London

Year 2 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. After designing and building their houses, the West Yorkshire Fire Service came to school and burned them down! The children all got the opportunity to help put the fire out.





If your child is absent from school you must telephone the school office on **01924 488282** on the first day of absence **before 9:30am**.

Wherever possible please arrange appointments after school or in the school holidays.

Children with the highest attendance have the chance to win special treats and every half term pupils with 100% attendance could win a supermarket voucher for their parents!

Your child's attendance target is 97%+

Are you a blue or green attender?

Blue	B1	100%
Green	G1	98% - 99%
	G2	97%
Amber	A1	96%
	A2	95%
	A3	94%
	A4	93%
Red	R1	91% - 92%
	R2	85% - 90%
	R3	Under 85%

Did you know?

When a school is reviewed by OfSTED they look at attendance and if a school has low attendance this can effect their grading!

To be at least good we have to be over 96%. Last year we were 96.3%.

Regular attendance at school is vital to help your child achieve and get the best possible start in life. Even missing one day could mean that they are missing out on an important learning point that might benefit them in the future. School is aware however, that from time to time we can fall ill and that is taken into account in our above system!

What does this look like in days?

There are 30 days in a 6 week term – if your child has 1 ½ days off, their attendance will be 95%. The Government have set high targets for schools to achieve. How will you help your school and your child?



Attendance during 1 school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means the number of lessons missed	Absence over 5 years.
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons	¼ of a year
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons	½ a year
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons	1 year
70%	57 days	11 ½ weeks	288 lessons	1 ¼ years
60%	80 days	16 weeks	400 lessons	2 years
50%	100 days	20 weeks	500 lessons	2 ½ years

Holidays

As you can see above, if you take a term time holiday it can have a huge impact on your child's education. Children only attend school 190 days a year out of the 365 days! There are some great deals to be had during school holidays which can be just as good as the ones you can get during school time. School follows Kirklees policy when it comes to requests for leave of absence, and there are very few cases where it can be authorised. Term time leave of absences can result in penalty notices being issued. Please be aware that school does not get this money, Kirklees does. However, term time holidays do negatively impact our school attendance which could impact our "Good School" status!

Our School Development



Last year, we decided to focus on the following areas:

- Improving overall outcomes at all key stages
- Improve attendance, working towards that 97%
- Develop a love of learning across the school
- Develop EYFS provision areas
- Continue to develop the English curriculum
- To support new to role senior and middle leaders.

I am pleased to report we have made great strides into achieving in many areas and making a positive impact in others. EYFS outcomes were improved last year and they received a glowing review for the work they are doing from visitors to the school. Attendance improved from 96.1% to 96.3%, hopefully we can continue this upward trend. Children could tell me all about the exciting things they had been learning, and staff reported increased enthusiasm for many areas including maths and writing! The English curriculum is now book led and the children are enjoying reading a range of texts. New to role senior and middle leaders have made good impact on standards across the school and have received excellent CPD throughout the year. The one area we have not made as much progress in is improving outcomes at all key stages and this will be a strong focus for this academic year.

This year, OFSTED have released a new framework for inspections, we will be doing a lot of work in school to ensure that we remain good and that we are beginning our journey to outstanding under this new framework. It is our long term vision (5 – 15 years) to create a school where all children leave with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in life, where they are happy to come to school and show a love of learning and where all staff are highly skilled in creating the right learning opportunities that will benefit our pupils and our community. This year we are starting our journey towards achieving that vision and will be focusing on the following areas:

- **We will be implementing character education and virtues to live by.**

These are key skills that every person needs in life to flourish and work for the community and not against it. The children will learn about things like thankfulness, respect and courtesy, patience, perseverance, determination, have a go, to not be afraid to FAIL (first attempt in learning), concentrate, compromise and about win-win situations etc. It is a really exciting time, and these are key character traits that will benefit them for years to come. You can help us by talking to your children about their learning muscles at home, and reinforcing that it is important to have a go even when you think you can't do it.

- **We will be having a real focus on improving outcomes for pupils.**

This will be our second year of focusing on this area, and some of the things we put in place may not have the impact this year but will benefit the children in years to come. We are having a specific focus on reading in particular. We have revamped the library and the way home readers works already. The staff are receiving CPD in new innovative ways to develop comprehension this year. Please support school in it's goal by reading with your children regularly at home – this is both their home reader and reading for fun. A child who reads – succeeds!

- **We will be revamping our foundation subject curriculum.**

We agree with the sentiments coming from OFSTED and the department of education that children should know if they are learning about History, or Geography or DT. At the moment, the school teaches topic which incorporates all the subjects but that doesn't help a child know that they might have a particular love of a specific subject. It is an exciting time to revamp such a big part of our curriculum. You can help us by asking your child what they have been learning about in history etc so they get used to the new language we are using.

- **We will be working on strategies that show that all adults have high expectations of what the children can achieve.**

This area might include things like presentation, for instance pen licences, or it might include reducing worksheets so the children can show more of their thoughts etc. We are also having a big look at how we can challenge all learners. Research shows that children of any ability relish a challenge and prefer "harder" work. So this year, we are beginning that process of how we can live out our vision for a high challenge, but low threat learning opportunity in every lesson. We are at the beginning of this journey. You can help us by encouraging your child to try new things and helping them build their confidence in tackling things they may perceive as scary or too difficult.

- **The last are we are focusing on is engaging with the Bishop's vision for all Catholic Schools to join an Academy Trust.**

A huge thank you to all parents who have sent their questions in or attended any meetings. I will continue to keep you informed as the process moves forward. As Head, I am fully involved with the other Heads (of the 16 schools in total) in making decisions about what is best for our children going forward. If you do have any questions, please do put them in writing and hand them into the office. The Governors will address any questions you may have as soon as the answers become available to us.

Paulinus Pings

Zara@Paulinus I enjoyed our Hinduism lessons because I tasted food, did some special colouring and I enjoyed learning about it!
Oliwia@Paulinus I have great friends and a teacher who makes learning fun (plus he makes me laugh). It's a colourful place with lots to do, I get a great education here and I don't want to leave.
Skye@Paulinus My best thing in year 5 is when I went to sports leaders because I like sports and there was loads of different sports to do

**WE NEED
YOUR HELP!**



Educational Visits

St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School is committed to the continuous raising of achievement of all our pupils. We strive to arrange a variety of trips that will enrich the curriculum and enhance your child's learning experiences.

We rely on parental support to cover the costs and, without sufficient contributions, these trips could potentially have to be cancelled. To ensure trips go ahead as planned we ask for a contribution on ParentPay a minimum of two weeks before the visit takes place.

Each year group has the opportunity to go on **one trip** this year so please make your contribution on time.

Any costs for a trip cover entrance fees, transportation costs and any workshop charges if applicable. St. Paulinus covers the staffing costs and the ParentPay transaction fee of 1.75%.

If you are struggling to make a contribution, please contact Miss Hayes to discuss this further.

School Clubs

There are lots of exciting clubs taking place next half term. Make sure you sign your child up using the school app. These are fantastic opportunities that will enrich your child's education!

School App

Search 'PIOTA' in the app store to download and keep up to date with school life and news!

Click the padlock in the top right corner to register your device with your child to receive personalised news and information. If you require further help, please contact the office.

Thank you!

Thank you for taking the time to read this section of our newsletter. There are a number of things across school that we really need some help on. We thank you in advance for supporting us on these items.

Budget Cuts

You may have heard in the news that many schools are facing budget cuts this year, unfortunately, we are one of those schools. This has made it very difficult for the school to run effectively and access the resources it needs. The Governors and staff of St Paulinus are working very hard to make cuts where we can without impacting the children's education but the shortfall of over £100,000 is making this very difficult.

Next week, the school will start some essential works to the boiler house. In order for us to keep our children and staff safe and warm, we need to replace our boilers and remove some asbestos from the boiler house. These works are costing nearly £176,000. We have managed to get funding for the majority of the works but as a voluntary aided school we are required to pay 10% of the costs.

To pay for these essential works we need to raise a further £17,200. The school's recreational fund is usually used to pay for the 10% but we only have £912 in it at the moment. If you could find it in your hearts to contribute to this fund we ask for £19.50 per child or £39 per family (where there is more than one child who attends the school) per year. If the majority of our parents contributed we could raise £11,700 which would mean that we do not have to use money that is earmarked to pay for things the children need for their learning or to make their learning fun.

If you are willing to support school and your child's education please log on to parent pay to make your contribution to the recreational fund. If you need any help, the office will be available for support. Following these works there will be a further £115,132 worth of works to complete the project (this includes the last part of our roof to be done and the completion of the heating project). School's contribution to this will be £11,513.20. As you can see, these are large amounts so anything you can contribute to the recreational fund will be gratefully received.

**GET
INVOLVED!**

Drop and Go Zone

Members of our staff monitor the 'Drop & Go Zone' and general parking on Temple Road. They are responsible for ensuring that children are led into the school safely. Parents can therefore leave their children with them in the secure knowledge that they will be safely escorted onto school premises.

We ask parents / carers who use this area **not to park here** on a morning. If you need to take your child into school, we ask that you find safe alternate parking.





Baby news

I'd like to invite our whole school community to congratulate Mrs Bentley (our Acting Deputy Head) who is expecting her first child! Mrs Bentley will be starting her maternity leave at some point in the spring term and I for one cannot wait to meet baby Bentley.

Congratulations Mr and Mrs Bentley!

Paulinus Pings

Year6@Paulinus Year 6 went to London and saw all the spectacular things at the National History Museum, Cambridge theatre and Harry Potter World!

Libby@Paulinus we took a journey to London. We went to a natural history museum and we learnt interesting things and had fun. We visited Buckingham palace and watched a play. We are at Pizza planet and loved it! It was the best!

Anonymous@Paulinus I enjoy doing Timestables rockstar in class because it tests how goo you are at Maths!

Esther@Paulinus I have liked RE. We have been learning about Buddhism and creation. I have found it brill!

Uniform Shop!

We wear a uniform to show that we are all part of one team and that we are all equal. Our uniform helps us prepare for the world of work where in many professions there is a dress code you must follow. Thank you to all the parents who donate their old uniforms to school for our Uniform shop. Uniform can be purchased from Rawcliffes in Dewsbury or from Miss Ellis in school.

Our uniform is:

Boys: grey trousers or shorts, pale blue polo shirt with the logo or shirt, school jumper with the logo, all black school shoes, white or grey socks

Girls: As above, but girls can also choose from a grey skirt or blue and white checked dress in the summer, or a grey cardigan with the school logo. Girls must wear sensible, flat, all black shoes (no heels or boots).

PE: Blue or black shorts, white t-shirt, trainers or pumps. If your child is doing outdoor PE in the winter months they can also choose to wear grey, blue or black jogging bottoms for warmth and a grey, blue or black jumper/ hoody to keep them warm outside.

Hair: no lines/ shaved heads, long hair should be tied up for safety reasons and no hair dyes. Our children can save that for when they are older or for the summer holidays.

Jewellery: please ensure that if your child does wear earrings they are a simple stud and these must be removed for PE days for your child's safety. Taking part in PE is a statutory requirement. No other jewellery is needed for school

