



St Paulinus Newsletter



December 2019

A message from Miss Hayes

What an amazing term we have had! As always, I am so proud of all that the children and staff have achieved. We've had some wonderful nativity shows where the children have shone like the stars they are, we have learnt about other faiths and how we should respect each other, we have developed a love of reading, we have had a wonderful fun and buns Christmas fair and we have impressed all our school visitors. I cannot wait to see what next term brings!

In this newsletter you will find: updates on what we have done towards our developmental goals this half term; our all important Paulinus Pings; some information on attendance and some ways in which you can help the school. Thank you for taking the time to read what has been going on and what is to come in the next term!

My thanks go to all the supporters of the school: you help make St Paulinus a wonderful place to be for children and staff alike. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break, that is full of joy and wonder and I look forward to seeing you all again in January.

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

January 2020

Monday 6th - School reopens

Friday 17th - KS2 Celebration Assembly

Friday 24th - KS1 Celebration Assembly

Friday 31st - Candlemas Celebration



February 2020

Friday 14th - Last day of half term

- FofSP KS2 Valentines Disco at School

Good news!

We still have places available in the following year groups:

- Nursery
- Reception
- Year 1
- Year 4
- Year 5

Places available

Do you know anyone who might be interested in one of these places?

Please contact Mrs. Massey for more information.

Staffing

We say goodbye to Mrs. Allerton and Mrs. Scott. We wish them all the best in their new ventures and will miss them dearly.

We say a big hello to Miss Brierley who is our new Year 1 teacher and Miss Duarte who will be joining us until September as Deputy Head. We are so happy to welcome them to our St. Paulinus family and are excited for their future here at St. Paulinus.

Paulinus Pings

Declan@StPaulinus

I have learnt that Stone Age people used rocks and spit to make paint and carved on cave walls.

Isla@StPaulinus

This term I enjoyed learning about World War 2 and reading 'Friend or Foe'.

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
ETU Team Leader & SENDCo

Safeguarding Governor

 Tom Regan

Friends Annual 'Fun and Buns'



The annual 'Fun and Buns' event was a huge success this year. Your support and generosity helped to raise **£1200!**

Throughout the day children from each class had the opportunity to visit the hall where there were many, many stalls to choose from. From a bun stall to a colouring competition, the fun was never ending. We were very lucky that Santa was able to spend the day with us despite the busy preparations he had to do at the North Pole.

Well done to Chloe in EYU and Skye in KS2 for producing two fantastic pictures which won our colouring competition!

The money raised from this event was contributed towards the pantomime and other exciting events in the school.

Paulinus Pings

Kaydee@StPaulinus

We made cave paintings in the dark in our classroom. We put our tables on their sides and pretended they were cave walls.

Nadia@StPaulinus

I have enjoyed learning about World War 2 and when we did it in real life.

New Library

We have been very lucky that our library has had a complete transformation thanks to all the hard work from our fantastic teaching assistants. The library has been transformed into Kings Cross complete with the Hogwarts Express. Paula Sherriff MP officially opened our library on Friday 15th November.



Year 4 Eden Camp Trip

This half term Year 4 visited Eden Camp to learn more about their topic 'World War Two'. The children had a fantastic day and particularly enjoyed seeing the military vehicles.



Meet the Mayor

The School Council were invited to the town hall to go and meet the Mayor. The children walked there and back. When we got there we were taken to the council chambers where we met the Mayor, the Mayoress, the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor's helpers. They talked to us about what their jobs were and what they do. We learnt a lot of facts about Kirklees, how big it is, how many people live in the area and how many schools there are.



Christmas Performances

The children worked very hard on their Christmas performances this year with lots of rehearsing taking place throughout December. We hope that you enjoyed seeing the children shine in their roles.

A big thank you to everyone who came to see the children in their roles and bought DVDs and raffle tickets. Your small contribution will make a big difference.



What happens when I report a concern?

At St. Paulinus we want to help you in any way we can. If you have a concern then please speak with a member of staff. Please find below a flow chart which explains the process of what happens when a concern has been raised.

A concern is raised to the class teacher / member of staff.

Confidentiality is maintained.
Only members of the
Safeguarding team and the class
teacher are able to access this
information.

The concern is logged on CPOMS.

Senior Leadership Team, the Learning Mentor and the child's class teacher are alerted to the concern.

Senior Leadership Team, Learning Mentor or class teacher take action by investigating the concern further where appropriate.

All updates are recorded
confidentially on CPOMS.

SLT / Learning Mentor/ class teachers work to resolve the concern.

Our School Development

In the last newsletter, I shared with you all what we did last year and what are our priorities for this year. I have included a little summary below to let you know how we are getting on with this year's goals. Thank you for taking the time to read it and supporting our school achieve it's goals.

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.

So far - We have worked really hard this term on implementing our learning muscle language and the children meet a new learning muscle every 2 weeks. At the moment, the learning muscle we are working on is "Having self-belief or believing in ourselves". You can help us at home by talking to your child about what this means and when it might come in useful. We have also implemented our virtues assemblies about having patience, or being thankful. Each class has the opportunity to show each virtue and earn a certificate if they do. I have been very impressed at all the virtues I have seen this term.

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 (Continued Personal Development) 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!

So far - We have nearly completed the library now and all our books are sorted into categories – we even had Paula Sheriff in and she officially opened our library. The children report that they love going to the library and they are enjoying reading a range of books. If there are any parents who would like to volunteer as a librarian, please let us know, we hope to develop an electronic system for checking out books and further develop reading for enjoyment. Reading training for staff has been excellent, both staff and children report that they are really enjoying the different activities like wordle and connections. Ask your child about their favourite part of reading, and they will hopefully tell you all about it!

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 Design Technolgy. 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.

So Far - We have now re-organised our timetables to fit all the subjects in. We are using a broad theme, where it fits, to influence what we teach in each subject. Staff have worked extremely hard on developing the progression booklets so we can see what each subject should look like year on year. You can help us in this task at home by talking to your child/ren about their year group subject overview letter that will come out in January. Can your child tell you what they have learnt about in history or art?

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.

So Far - Presentation is looking wonderful across school and children talk about taking pride in their work.

The children can tell me about times they have taken on a challenge and how they have been excited to achieve it. You can continue to help us in this area by encouraging your child/ren to have pride in the things they create at home, including homework, and by praising the beautiful work they produce.

Lastly, 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.

So far - I have attended all meetings relating to joining the BPSCMAT (Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Multi Academy Trust) to ensure that St Paulinus voice is heard – there are no further steps to take until January when all 13 schools will be presented to the board to see if the application has been accepted. I will give you all an update next half term.

**Apply online for
your child’s
school place**

**CLOSING DATE
15 January 2020**

Admissions for September 2020

Reception and Nursery places for September 2020 are filling up fast! Admissions must be completed online at the Kirklees website before 15th January 2020.

A Supplementary Information Form must be filled in. These can be collected from the school office.

Robin Hood Pantomime

On Wednesday 4th December, the children and staff enjoyed a visit to the pantomime ‘Robin Hood’. Everyone had so much fun and the children loved seeing the teachers get up and join in!



Paulinus Pings

Martyna@StPaulinus I have enjoyed learning to multiply and can do it all by myself!

Eva@StPaulinus I liked it when we wrote our own Brave Beast stories.

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.

School Clubs

There are lots of exciting clubs taking place next half term. Make sure you sign your child up using the school app.



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

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%.



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%

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!

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.

GET INVOLVED!

Budget Cuts

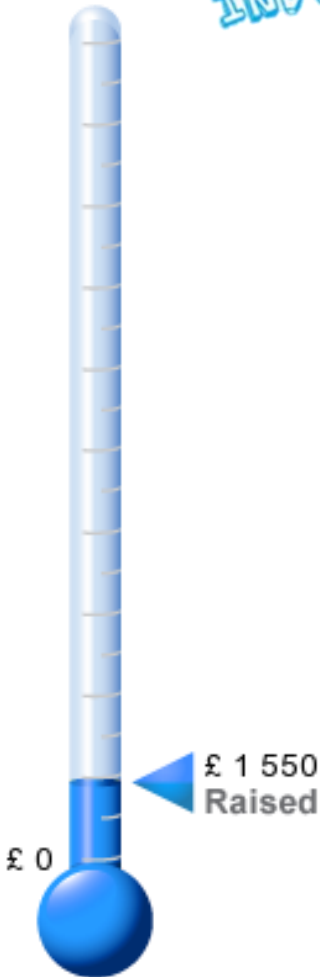
You may have heard in the news that many schools are facing budget cuts this year, unfortunately, we are one of those schools. This has made it very difficult for the school to run effectively and access the resources it needs. The Governors and staff of St. Paulinus are working very hard to make cuts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

We are currently undergoing 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 £1550 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 ParentPay 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 building fund will be gratefully received.

Goal
£ 17 200



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 or Mrs Watt to discuss this further.