



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

Inspiring all to live, learn and love in the light of Jesus.

(cf John 8:12)



ST PAULINUS NEWS

SPRING B 2020 EDITION

A welcome from Miss Hayes

What a strange time we find ourselves in during Spring 2020. Little did we know that there would be a National crisis where schools closed and we found ourselves on lockdown in order to prevent the spread of a virus.



I want to start by taking this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of the NHS staff, who are working hard to look after us all – this includes those that keep departments running: cleaners, cooks, nurses, doctors, admin staff etc. I want to say a huge thank you to all the critical key workers who are keeping the country running whether it be in the food industry, electricians, bins, gas, phones, transport etc. I want to give a huge thank you to all the parents out there who are balancing working from home and looking after their children (and those that are trying out home learning!) and I want to say a huge thank you to all the St Paulinus staff who are helping home learners and helping critical key workers get to their work. I am sure you have felt panic, stress and anxiety at times during the last 2 weeks – you are not alone, we have felt the same. I would like to draw your attention to our nurture page on the website that has lots of ideas about how you can manage your and your child's feelings during this very difficult time and I reiterate the message in the media – keep talking!

My thoughts and prayers are with all of the St Paulinus community: stay safe and I look forward to the time when I can see you all again and reopen the doors of St Paulinus,

Miss Hayes

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'An outstanding school, which is deeply committed to the Catholic mission... this school inspires all within this faith community to live life to the full.' Ofsted 2017

Safeguarding updates:



During the lockdown, school still has a responsibility to work with families and report any safeguarding concerns. If you have any concerns about the well-being of a child in one of our families, you can still contact the school to report it. You can do this by emailing nurture@stpaulinus.org or by emailing the school office office@stpaulinus.org. We will follow up on any concerns just as we always do. We will also be doing regular check-ins for some families to check that all is ok at home so you may get a call from one of the nurture team at some point to see how you are doing.

If you are concerned that a child is at immediate risk of harm, you must contact the police with your concern.

Online safety:

It is important that with us all using online learning more than before that you regularly remind your child about how to keep themselves safe online. Remind them to never give out any personal details, to only be friends with people they know, that are a similar age to and that you have approved and that we should only be saying kind things to one another and about people when online. It is everyone's responsibility to keep the internet a safe place to be and we all need to play our role in that.

Online safety advice from the Government taken from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>:

6.3 Where can I go to get support to help keep my child safe online?

There is a lot of support available to keep your child safe online. Below are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- [Thinkyouknow](#) (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- [Internet matters](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Parent info](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [LGfL](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Net-aware](#) (support for parents and careers from the NSPCC)



Parent's Evening

Spring Parents Evening Arrangements:

This week would have been our parents evening. If you would like your child's updated half term report with a brief comment to see how they were doing in the spring term before we closed, please email your year group address to let your child's teacher know. Please note, that it may take a week or 2 before you receive a reply depending on the days your child's teacher is working in school.

Because we do not know what will happen in the future yet or how long this lock down will last, your child's teacher will give you some ideas on specific areas to work on over the coming weeks to help your child progress. However, we strongly recommend that you take a 2 week Easter break from Monday as you normally would and come back to that learning after the holidays – this is a tough time for us all and we all need some free time to get away from everything!

Here are the year group addresses for you to request a brief report and update:

nursery@stpaulinus.org

reception@stpaulinus.org

year1@stpaulinus.org

year2@stpaulinus.org

year3@stpaulinus.org

year4@stpaulinus.org

year5@stpaulinus.org

year6@stpaulinus.org

Home learning:



We continue to update the website with new activities for you to access as and when you need to. Just remember that you are at home, you may not be able to get the children to concentrate on learning for the whole day as we do in school and there is no expectation to do that. It is true that we do not want our children to fall behind while school is closed and so it is important we do some

learning but also make time for fun learning e.g. baking, cooking, building with lego, getting outside on a nature hunt, drawing nature, reading a book at bedtime, writing a diary etc. Learning does not always have to be sat at a table; there is no need to create a battle with your child and our advice is to do little and often.

We are all part of History. Years and years from now people will talk about this as being a huge event in history just like the wars and other world events. I suggest you encourage your child to keep a diary where they can record what they got up to, how they felt, and what they thought about or dreamed about that day. When this is all over, you can keep that diary safe and you never know it may become a history book in the future where people pour over the contents and wonder at how people lived in the spring of 2020.

Spring and Easter:

Interesting facts about Spring

- ☑ Spring is one of the four seasons
- ☑ Spring is a symbol of rebirth
- ☑ When it is Spring in the Northern Hemisphere, it is Autumn or Fall in the Southern Hemisphere
- ☑ The Northern Hemisphere is north of the equator. England is in the Northern Hemisphere
- ☑ Spring time begins on March 21st or 22nd
- ☑ The first day of Spring is called the Vernal Equinox
- ☑ Vernal is Latin for Spring
- ☑ Equinox is Latin for equal days
- ☑ On the Vernal Equinox, the sun is directly above the equator
- ☑ During Spring the earth's axis starts to tilt towards the sun
- ☑ Many animals have young, such as cows, sheep, birds
- ☑ Animals such as bears start to wake up from hibernation and become active



On 10th April, Christians around the world will reflect on the events of Good Friday when Jesus died on the cross. Many people wonder why it is known as Good Friday, because someone being flogged and put to death is not a good thing. On Good Friday, Christians remember what Jesus gave up for us so that we could get our friendship back with God. He sacrificed his life for us, because he loves us that much. We then come to Easter Sunday, a huge celebration for all because this is the day that Jesus rose from the dead. The events remind us that, whatever our circumstances, there is

someone out there who loves us very much and who is always there for us. We may not be able to see them, but they are always there to listen. God sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts to help guide us through our lives in both the good times and the bad. This seems particularly poignant given the times we are living in. So on Easter Sunday, take a moment to celebrate, have fun and rejoice that we are all loved.

Leeds cathedral will be live streaming masses for Holy week and Easter, you can find the link here and join the online community in prayer during this very important time of year:

<https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/live-streaming-of-mass-from-leeds-cathedral/>

Staffing updates

Below you will find some of the changes we have had to our staffing this term. We have had a couple of people leave us to pursue new adventures and you can read about them below.

We say goodbye to Mo Taylor this half term who kept our website up and running, ran the papercuts teams, created all our films and DVDs and who ran a very successful movement group in the mornings. She will be missed by all, and we are currently in the process of finding out who will be the new papercuts team leader and who will help run the website and the movement group. Mo is going to use her new found time to tick off all those bucket list items; travel, see family and to look into making DVDs for families that are dealing with Dementia and Alzheimer's. We wish you all the best Mo, we will miss your excellent comparing skills at sports day and you certainly have left some big shoes to fill! Good luck in your future adventures!



We also say goodbye to Miss Johnson, who was one of our lunchtime supervisors. Miss Johnson mainly worked in KS1 playground leading lunchtime games and helping the children at lunchtimes. Miss Johnson was successful in gaining a new role in another career and looks forward to starting that role this Easter. We will miss you Miss Johnson and we wish you every luck in your new career!



On Friday, we will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Garforth who retires this Easter. Mrs Garforth has taught at St Paulinus for over 20 years. She has been part of many children's lives across the school and taught in all age ranges. Mrs Garforth brought her creativity, her love for gardening, her knitting skills and a wealth of knowledge to the school that will be missed. It has been a strange end to her career, so we look forward to welcoming her back in September for a proper send off from the whole school. Mrs Garforth is looking forward to spending lots of time with her family, making some more beautiful knitted creations and having some time to relax. We wish you good fortune and health during the next stage of your life, we hope you keep in touch and come back to visit us often (we are always looking for volunteers!) Good luck in your new adventure!

Now the news you have all been waiting for! We have a new addition to our St Paulinus family, Mrs Bentley has had her baby! She is blessed with a beautiful baby boy, named Taylor, born 23.2.2020, weighing 6.15lbs. Mum and baby are doing really well, Mrs Bentley says she is loving being a Mum and can't wait to bring Taylor in for everyone to meet him. In the meantime, you will have to make do with this gorgeous photograph! We wish Mrs Bentley and Taylor health and happiness and we can't wait to see you!



Free School Meals – National Voucher scheme

The Government have announced that they will be offering a weekly £15 voucher to children who qualify for Free School Meals (please note that this does not include children who are on infant free school meals, which are

given to all children in EYs and KS1). If you qualify for free school meals, and school are aware of that, you will receive an e-mail the week of 20th April with a £15 e-voucher, these will continue to come to your email address each week of the lockdown. We will be confirming your email address when you come to collect your Easter week 1 vouchers from school.

If you believe you are eligible for FSM and do not receive this communication by Friday 24th April, please contact the school office either by phone or email and they will be able to help you.

Please note – the e vouchers will only be given during Term Time, not during the holidays. Kirklees have decided that they will give each child on free school meals a £15 voucher for Asda each week of the Easter holidays. These can be picked up from school from 10.00am on Monday 6th April and Monday 13th April and throughout both weeks.

Please see advice from the Government website below:

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of the above benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2022.

You can apply for free school meals with Kirklees here -

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/free-school-meals.aspx>

Next Newsletter:

I aim to send out another newsletter at the end of Summer A. I would love to put in some examples of the fun home learning that is going on. If you would like to be considered for the newsletter or for the school website, please send your photo or piece of work and a little explanation to paulinuspings@stpaulinus.org.