

The
St Paul\*

Post

Date: March 2023

School Information

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Dear Parents

We have now come to the end of another busy action-packed term. We want to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support and co-operation. The children have put their best in all they do and continue to make us proud in everything they achieve. Don't forget school breaks up on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

We wish you all a safe and restful Easter break and we look forward to welcoming you all back again on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

Kind Regards

Mrs Ratchford and all the staff at St Paul's School.



Staffing Update

We would like to inform you of some staffing changes that will begin after the holidays.

Mrs Cooper (Pre-School Lead), Mrs Pang (SENCo) and Miss Collett (Year 5) will all be heading off to pastures new. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work and commitment in school and wish them all the best for their future.

After Easter we will be joined by Miss Seton who will be teaching across the school. Miss Seton has been working in one of our CIT Special Schools so is coming with a wealth of experience.

From May half term, Pre-school will have a teacher led provision when we are joined by Miss Gilbert. In the interim the class will be supported by Mrs Bray on a Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Barrington on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Miss Taylor and Mrs Walker continue to do an amazing job in Pre-school to support all the children with consistency as the continued familiar adults.

In the Interim Mrs Ratchford will be taking on the role of SENCo supported by Lead professionals at LEARN Teaching Centre, Mrs Robertson (Deputy Director) and Mrs Fulcher (Strategic Teaching and Learning Lead) who will be working as part of a team to continue to support SEND. Once Miss James (Assistant Headteacher) returns from maternity leave she will be taking on the role as SENCo.



#### <u>Assessment Weeks</u>

#### YEAR 6 SATS:

Tuesday 9th May – Friday 12th May

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May sees the beginning of Year 6 SATs testing. Children in Year 6 will need to arrive in school at 8:20 for this week on the Tuesday to Friday for a prompt 9am start.

#### KS1 SATS:

Year 2 Children During the Month of May

#### YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION CHECK:

Monday 5th June and Friday 16th June.

#### Phonics Screening Check:

Year 1 children and children in Year 2 who did not pass in year 1.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June

Since September the children have been working very hard in class to prepare them for their tests and as a school we very much encourage the children to 'try their very best' and to be resilient in their approach even if they find some aspects of the tests challenging. We talk openly and honestly about why these tests are important to them and to us as a school. It is a time when the children can really show their learning and celebrate their successes in the core areas of Mathematics and English.

As always attendance at school is very important in order for the children to prepare for their everyday learning but attending key times in school during test weeks is crucial.



#### School Uniform

Next term we are hoping the sun will be shining and we can all get out our summer clothes.

I'd like to remind parents that the wearing of school uniform is strongly encouraged and contributes to a feeling of identity and collective pride in our school community.

Children can wear their normal school uniform or alternatively for the summer black or grey shorts or a blue and white checked dress. No open toe sandals please. Socks must be plain black, white or grey only. ALL CHILDREN should be provided with a sun hat during the summer term and should have sunscreen applied before school, please. Water should be provided for your child to drink throughout the day.

Please remember that the summer does not always bring the sunshine we wish so please check the weather and ensure children have coats if needed.

Earrings must be study only and be taken out for any physical activity.

Please see the website for further guidance on our uniform expectations

#### Parking



May we remind parents to be courteous when parking during drop off and collection. Further complaints have been received from the local community concerning inconsiderate parking.

#### Attendance

Good attendance is important because statistics show that pupils with good attendance have higher attainment in school and that children with attendance above 96% make better progress socially and academically. With the focus and development on the curriculum that has taken place at school then children who are absent will find gaps in their sequential knowledge and will find it hard to catch up.

For all our children, both attendance and punctuality are doubly important as first thing in the morning when the children arrive at school they have breakfast and key interventions take place.

The attendance across the school currently looks like this:



Autumn term	Spring Term
84%	86%
88%	90%
89%	92%
88%	93%
93%	93%
93%	94%
90%	94%
89%	92%
	84% 88% 89% 88% 93% 93% 90%

#### Working Together

Our school attendance target is 96% which is in line with national average. We are still some way off achieving this. Children who achieve over 96% this term will get their Spring 2 attendance badge. In order to continue to improve school attendance we want to work with families so please ensure you bring your children to school every day unless they really do need to be off due to illness and please do not book holidays and days off in school time. In the Summer term children take part in Key assessments which will involve lots of transition work so your child has a smooth move to their new year groups in September. Missing key times this term can impact your child's progress next year.

Children are in school for 190 days of the year leaving you with a further 175 days for family time and holidays.

As a school we will be working with you to keep you updated on your child's attendance by sending out letters at key points to inform you of your child's attendance should it go below 95%. We may also invite you in to find ways to work together to support your child's attendance.

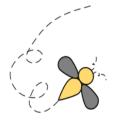


# Is it Bullying?



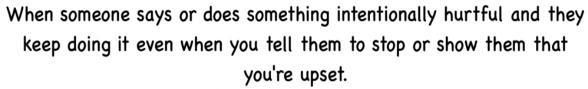
When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once.

### That's RUDE



When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once.

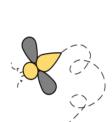
### That's MEAN



## That's BULLYING







#### **Inappropriate Content Online Advice for Parents**

Over the last few months, we have seen an increase in the number of schools reporting that students, while at home, have accessed content which is not always appropriate, some of which has been quite scary or upsetting. We have also had a report of worrying trends on TikTok encouraging nudity from its users. This can have legal implications for our children and young people that they often aren't aware of.

While there is no perfect way to eliminate this risk, we feel that there are things parents and carers can do to support their children online, reduce the risk or manage it after the fact. Remember to keep lines of Communication open with your children and young people. Just like we ask them how their day was at school and what they got up to it is equally important to have this conversation about their Online lives. If you can keep technology out of the bedrooms and private spaces this is also an effective tool in safeguarding our children.

Here are some more practical steps parents and carers can follow:

- Contact their Internet Service Provider (ISP): Companies that provide broadband such as BT, Sky and Virgin, offer free protection for parents and carers. They can filter your internet connection directly, without having to install anything. Guide on how to use this can be found here:
   <a href="https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/">https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/</a>
- YouTube is a fantastic resource, but not all the content is appropriate for children and not all YouTube channels are made for young audiences. YouTube has an app just for children YouTube Kids but many people don't realise that the main YouTube app has a restricted mode. Check out more about how it works here: <a href="https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-app/">https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-app/</a>
- Parental Controls for Devices <a href="https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/">https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/</a>
- Games consoles have features that can limit what games they can play based on the age ratings and can even turn off certain features to allow gaming to be a little safer. To learn more about these features visit <a href="https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/">https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/</a>
- Games are also rated based on the content; not how difficult they are. 18 rated games can have very graphic violence, adult language and themes, sexual content, and horror elements. Learn a bit more about appropriate games by visiting <a href="https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child/">https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child/</a> or visit this site for more about game ratings <a href="https://parentzone.org.uk/article/pegi-games-ratings-explained">https://parentzone.org.uk/article/pegi-games-ratings-explained</a>
- Social Media privacy guide <a href="https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/">https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/</a>

Have you heard about Tik Tok Family Pairing <a href="https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/tiktok-introduces-family-pairing">https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/tiktok-introduces-family-pairing</a> Family pairing allows adults to link their accounts to their teenagers account so you can customise their safety settings such as content, privacy and well being settings.

It's important to remember that no filters or controls are 100% effective so make sure your child knows that they can, and should, talk to someone if they see or hear anything upsetting online so we can offer them some reassurance. This information from Thinkuknow might be useful

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Im-worried-my-primary-aged-child-might-see-something-inappropriate-online/