

Newsletter

Friday 5th September 2025

Welcome Back

What a fantastic start to the new school year. It has been wonderful to see the children settling into their new classes so well, and many have already impressed the staff with their excellent work and super behaviour. The new uniforms look fantastic on everyone. Please remember to name all uniform items to help us return anything that gets lost.

A special welcome to the families joining us in Nursery and Reception for the first time this September. We are looking forward to working in partnership with you to ensure the best possible education for your children. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback regarding your child's education, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher, or contact Miss Flynn, Headteacher, or Mr. Allen, our Deputy Headteacher.

Start of Year Mass

All Parents/Carers are welcome to join us in the school hall at 9am on **Tuesday morning** for the start of year Mass with Father Isidore. This is always a lovely occasion to start the school year. We look forward to seeing you there.

New Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy

We're pleased to share that we have introduced a new **Behaviour Policy** which is currently undergoing a trial during the Autumn Term. This updated policy is part of our ongoing commitment to creating a calm, respectful, and supportive environment where every child can feel safe, thrive and succeed. The new policy clearly outlines:

- Expectations for positive behaviour in and out of the classroom
- A consistent approach to rewards (Golden Tokens) and consequences (Blue Cards - Loss of Breaktime)
- How we support pupils to make good choices
- How we work in partnership with parents and carers when needed

We believe that by working together we can build a culture of mutual respect and high standards that benefit everyone.

New Behaviour Rules Inspired by St Paul

"Let all that you do be done in love." – 1 Corinthians 16:14

At St Paul's Catholic Primary School, we follow the example of **St Paul**, who taught early Christians how to live in love, kindness and peace. His letters guide us in how to treat one another in school and beyond.

1. Speak with Kindness

We use kind, encouraging words. We don't gossip or hurt others with what we say.

"When you talk you should always be kind and wise." – Colossians 4:6

2. Treat Everyone with Respect

We respect everyone, no matter who they are. We include others and celebrate differences.

"Be kind and loving to each other." – Ephesians 4:32

3. Be a Peacemaker

We solve problems calmly and forgive others. We try to make peace, not conflict.

"Live in peace with each other." – 1 Thessalonians 5:13

4. Be Responsible and Ready

We take responsibility for our learning and our actions. We listen, try our best, and are ready to learn.

"Do everything without complaining or arguing." – Philippians 2:14

5. Show Love in Action

We help others, take care of our school, and act with patience and care.

"Love is patient and kind..." – 1 Corinthians 13:4

You'll soon receive a summary of the policy, along with guidance on how you can support your child in understanding it. We value your support and welcome your feedback as we embed this positive change across school. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the policy further, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the staff team.

Thank you to the FOSP

A huge thank you to the FOSP who donated a substantial sum of money to contribute to the new TV Screens that have now been installed in all of the classrooms around school. These screens will make a significant difference to teaching and learning in all year groups.

"Lessons are so much easier and interesting because you can see properly even from far away. Moving the stuff on the board and coming up to write makes you understand more." Mia-Lilly.

"I really love it. It's like really unique and Miss Smith can stand at the front all of the time to change the slides and zoom in more when we can't see" Ivy.



KS2 MFL Competition – European Day of Languages 2025

This year marks the 25th anniversary of **European Day of Languages**, and the theme is:

“Languages open hearts and minds!”

Key Stage 2 classes will be marking the occasion with a variety of language activities in school. We are also holding a **Key Stage 2 Poster Competition**. We would like you to design a colourful, eye-catching poster that advertises this year's theme and shows how learning languages helps us to understand and connect with people from different cultures.

What to include:

- The theme *“Languages open hearts and minds!”*
- Bright, creative designs
- The date - European Day of Languages - Friday 26th September

Prizes will be awarded for the most creative entries, and winning posters will be displayed around school to celebrate European Day of Languages.

Hand in entries to: Mrs Wood by Friday 19th September

Bike Shelter & Outdoor Fencing

During the Summer holiday building work took place to install a very bright and colourful bike shelter and a new bin store. Some of the fencing has also been replaced. We know that these changes have improved the outdoor environment and hopefully next week all of the work will be complete so that children can leave their bikes and scooters on a daily basis. We do ask that if children are riding their bikes/scooters to school that they wear a helmet.



School Communication - Arbor

Moving forward, all school communication will be circulated through the Arbor App/Parent Portal. We have sent out a number of emails this week so if you haven't yet received them, it may be worth checking your junk/spam folders. New Parents will receive their log in details shortly.

PE lessons & Earrings

For health and safety reasons, children **must not wear earrings during PE lessons**. Earrings should be removed at home on PE days to avoid any risk of injury. If your child has recently had their ears pierced and is unable to remove the earrings, please inform the school in writing. In such cases, **earrings may be taped** for a short period (maximum of 6 weeks), but full removal will be expected after that time. Thank you for your support in keeping all children safe during physical activity.

Before & After School Club

Many parents requested an on-site before and after school club. We are delighted that this week Progressive Sports have started working in partnership with St Paul's to provide this service. The hours of operation are from 7.45am to 8.45am and 3.15pm to 5.30pm daily. More information can be found by talking to the play workers. The club is based in the classroom directly opposite the main entrance to school. When dropping off or collecting your child you need to knock on the door and someone will come to you.



All settings parents
guide - wraparound

The poster is for 'Progressive Kids' and features a blue and yellow color scheme. It includes the following text: 'Booking Now for September', 'Childcare vouchers Accepted through Pioncho Play', 'Trusted childcare for your little ones', 'Sibling Discount Available! Code: SIBLING', 'Pricing: Before and After School Club 7.45am - 8.45am - £7, 3.15 - 5.30pm - £13, both - £20', 'Fun Activities: Sports, Outdoor Play, Games, Interactive Play, Wellness, Arts & Crafts, Light breakfast/ Snack Included', 'Contact Us: 01614793511, office@progressive-sports.co.uk', 'BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB', 'St Paul's Catholic Primary School, 7.45am - 8.45am Mon - Fri', and a QR code with the text 'Scan to Book'.

New Catering Provision



This September we are also working with a new catering company, Mellors. We have the same catering staff, however over coming weeks you may notice some changes to the menus on offer. The children have been completing feedback forms during this week about their food likes and dislikes.

Attendance & Punctuality

To ensure that children receive the maximum benefit from their education at St Paul's, maintaining good attendance and punctuality is crucial. These qualities are not only fundamental to academic success but also essential life skills that are highly valued. Recognising the importance of these attributes, we are committed to fostering and encouraging excellent attendance and punctuality. For pupils who may struggle to meet our high expectations, we will implement effective strategies to support and improve their attendance.

| Award | Attendance | Punctuality |
|--------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Gold | Attendance is 100% | Always in school on time |
| Silver | Attendance is 98% or higher | Very rarely late to school |
| Bronze | Attendance is 96% or higher | Very rarely late to school |

If your child arrives late at school, we kindly ask that you come to the office to sign them in and provide a reason for their late arrival. This process helps us ensure accurate attendance records and allows us to support your child effectively throughout the school day. Thank you for your co-operation in helping us maintain a smooth and organised start to the day for all children.

Mobile Phones/Smart Watches

Our School Policy prohibits children from bringing mobile devices or wearing smartwatches to school. Only in exceptional circumstances will **Year 6** children be allowed to apply for permission to bring a mobile phone. Children who are granted permission must adhere strictly to the policy guidelines. Non-compliance will result in the withdrawal of this permission. We appreciate your support in upholding this policy, which is designed to ensure the safety and focus of all our pupils.

Flu Immunisation

Intrahealth will continue to deliver the school-aged flu vaccination programme in autumn this year. This will be offered to all pupils from Reception to Year 6. This week your child should have brought home a Flu Immunisation Consent Form. Please complete and return this form to school no later than Friday 19th September.

Before and After School Clubs

We are excited to let you know that our before and after school sports clubs will be starting next week. If you would like your child to take part, please log in to the **Arbor App** and visit the **Clubs** section to register them for the relevant sports club for their year group. Spaces are limited, so we encourage you to book early to secure your child's place.

| Sport | Staff Member | Year Group | Day | Time |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
| Multi-Skills | Tameside Active | Year 1 and 2 | Monday | 3:15pm – 4:15pm |
| Girls' Football | Mr Allen | Year 5 and 6 | Tuesday | 3:15pm – 4:15pm |
| Dance | Dance Coach | Year 1, 2 and 3 | Thursday | 8:00am – 8:50am |
| Tag Rugby | Tameside Active | Year 3 and 4 | Thursday | 3:15pm – 4:15pm |
| Dance | Dance Coach | Year 4, 5 and 6 | Friday | 8:00am – 8:50am |
| Boys' Football | Mr Allen | Year 5 and 6 | Friday | 8:00am – 8:45am |

Mr Allen's Summer Challenge

This is a reminder that completed **Mr. Allen's Summer Challenge forms** need to be returned by **Friday 12th September 2025**. This will allow us time to prepare the medals and certificates, which will be handed out during our celebration assembly.

Thank you for encouraging your child to take part—we are really looking forward to celebrating their achievements together.



| Dates for your 2024/2025 Diary | |
|---|--|
| Week Beginning Monday 8th September | Before and After School Clubs start – see Arbor emails for further details on how to sign up |
| Tuesday 9th September | Start of Year Mass at 9am – all welcome |
| Friday 12th September | Year 6 Swimming starts |
| | Closing Date for Mr Allen's Summer Challenge |
| Tuesday 16th September | Rock Steady Music Assembly |
| Friday 19th September | Individual Photographs |
| | Final Return Date for Flu Immunisation Consent Forms |
| | Closing date for KS2 European Day of Languages Poster Competition |
| Wednesday 24th September | TCSSA Cross Country Event |
| Friday 26th September | European Day of Languages |
| Tuesday 30th September | Year 3 Visit to Longdendale Environmental Centre |
| Wednesday 8th October | Special Friends Assembly |
| Tuesday 14th October | Whole School Mass led by Year 5 |
| Wednesday 15th October | Year 6 Safe Squad |
| Monday 20th October | Parents Evenings |
| Tuesday 21st October | TCSSA Mixed Tag Rugby Competition |
| Wednesday 22nd October | Year 3 Class Assembly |
| Thursday 23rd October | Parents Evenings |
| Friday 24th October | Break up for Half-term |
| Tuesday 31st October | Closing date for Secondary School applications |
| Monday 3rd November | Return to School |
| Early November | Online applications open for Reception 2026 places |
| Wednesday 12th November | Nasal Flu Immunisations for Reception to Year 6 |
| Friday 19th December | Break up for Christmas holidays |
| Monday 5th January 2025 | Staff INSET Day |
| Tuesday 6th January | Back to school – start of the Spring Term |