

St Paul's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Friday 12th December 2025

'Our school is a place of learning, a place of love'

Dear parents, carers and children,

We are approaching the end of a very busy first half term and the school is full of Christmas festivities. Last week our choir sang at the Waltham Cross Pavillion and the feedback from the community who stopped to listen was fantastic. Videos and photos of this are on our Instagram page. Yesterday our choir took part in the Academy Trust choir service at St Augustine's Church, it was lovely to come together with our other school families and celebrate this special time of the year.

This weekend marks the third Sunday of Advent also known as Gaudete Sunday, which means *"Rejoice!"* We light the rose-coloured candle on our Advent wreath as a reminder that Christmas is very near and that joy is at the heart of our preparation for Jesus' coming. Advent reminds us that even small acts of kindness can bring great light to our families, our school, and our community. Around the school the children have been doing a wonderful job of preparing this Advent and helping one another. Next week we have our EYFS and KS1 nativity performances, they have been working hard learning their lines and singing their songs and it is sounding wonderful.

Finally, just a reminder that on Monday at 2:40pm we have our chaplaincy team Advent service followed by mince pies for all members of our community, we hope to see you then.

Wishing you a lovely weekend. God bless,

Mrs Worton-Geer
Headteacher



Autumn Term Dates 2025

December 2025	
Friday 12 th December 2025	Christmas Fair after school
Monday 15 th December 2025	End of term awards 9:00am (by invite)
Monday 15 th December 2025	2:40pm – Parent and Parish Advent Service led by Chaplaincy Team
Tuesday 16 th December 2025	9:30am– EYFS nativity to parents
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	9:30am and 2:30pm– KS1 nativity to parents
Thursday 18 th December 2025	Christmas Dinner
Friday 19 th December 2025	Last Day of the Autumn Term school finishes at 1.15pm, non-uniform day for a donation towards our building fund

January 2026	
Monday 5 th January 2026	INSET DAY – school closed to children
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	Children return to school

Reminders

No boosters or teacher led clubs next week, these will resume week commencing 12th January and invitations will be sent out in due course

Young Carers

A young carer is a young person aged 5 – 16 who looks after someone who couldn't manage without their help. This could mean looking after a parent, brother or sister, grandparent or family friend who has a disability, long-term illness, or drug and alcohol related issues. As many as one in 12 pupils could be a young carer. **We want to be able to help.**

If you feel that your child may be a young carer, please let Mrs Worton-Geer know via the office. We have a full support program for our young carers including additional support, resources and time in school.

Term Dates 2026-2027

Our dates for 2026-2027 are now on our website [St Paul's Catholic Primary School - Term Dates](#)

Flu Vaccines

If your child missed the in-school flu vaccine and you wish for them to have this, you can book this via the link below

<https://bed.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/book>

Travel initiatives

We have been working hard on our travel plan here at St Paul's to support safe travel to and from school. Last year we achieved the outstanding travel plan award. Below are some ideas that you could do at home with your children to help with safe travel.

- Have a look at 'Tales of the Road' which is a highway code for young road users to help your child improve their road safety skills.
- Here is a link to the Highway Code [The Highway Code - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). There are a few rules in particular to be mindful of around school, rules 191, 200, 242, 243. These rules outline the requirement to drive and park in a safe, considerate manner.

More news and information...

Online Safety

Please find online safety support around managing screentime. If you need any further support, please ask or visit our online safety webpage via our website.

Class Spotlight

Year 2

Year 2 have been working hard to learn their nativity lines and songs. They are very excited to share these with you next week.

Year 3

Year 3 has been learning about non-chronological reports. Our focus was on jobs. By the end of this unit, children will complete a non-chronological report worthy of publishing.

Here is a list of helpful sites that you may be interested in.

- [CEOP Online Safety](#)
- [Net Aware](#) - find out about the games your child is playing online
- [National Literacy Trust](#) - ideas for helping your child's literacy
- [Think! Road Safety](#) - Road Safety information site
- [Barnados](#)
- [ChildLine](#)
- [Rainbow Trust](#) - provides support for children with a life threatening or terminal illness
- [NSPCC](#)
- [NHS Oral Health Advice](#) - oral health and tooth brushing
- [Catholic Church in England and Wales - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#) - Catholic Bishops website



Our Parish Church – St Paul's Mass times

Saturday – 5pm

Sunday – 9am and 11am

<https://parish.rodow.org.uk/cheshunt/>



MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

