



*Through the love of God, we protect our school community. Together we trust, hope, persevere and flourish on life's great adventure.*

# Autumn Term 1 Newsletter- October 2024

## Message from the interim head teacher..

What a fantastic start to the new academic year we've had! It's been wonderful to see our pupils return to school with such enthusiasm and energy following the summer holidays. I'm delighted to report that children across all year groups have settled brilliantly into their new classes and routines, embracing the challenges and opportunities that come with a fresh start.

It's been wonderful to witness the dedication and hard work of our pupils as they strive to learn more and achieve more each and every day. Their eagerness to grow and develop is a testament to the positive learning environment we've cultivated here at St Paul's.

One of the highlights of this half term has been our focus on 'Our Bradford' as part of our curriculum. Every class has had the chance to participate in educational visits linked to this theme, exploring different areas of our wonderful city. These trips have provided our pupils with extended opportunities to delve into Bradford's rich history and heritage, fostering a deeper connection with and appreciation for the place we call home.

As your new interim headteacher, I've thoroughly enjoyed my first half term at St Paul's. It's been a privilege to become part of this vibrant school community and to see first-hand the incredible work that goes on day in, day out. I'd like to extend my thanks to all parents and carers for your ongoing support. Your engagement and encouragement play a crucial role in our children's success, and I'm deeply appreciative of the strong home-school connections we're fostering.

At St Paul's, our commitment remains steadfast: to provide the best possible education and experiences for all our pupils. We believe in nurturing not just academic prowess, but also character, creativity, and a love for learning that will serve our children well beyond their school years.

As we look ahead, I am filled with excitement for the journey we're on together. The enthusiasm I've witnessed, the potential I see in our pupils, and the dedication of our entire school community fill me with confidence that we're on the path to achieving great things.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead, filled with learning, growth, and shared successes!



## Staffing update....

We are very excited to announce Mrs Evans is expecting twins in 2025! Mrs Evans will commence her maternity leave in early 2025 and we will confirm the staffing arrangements for SENDco / Reception Class closer to this time.

Mrs Carroll will remain off work during the next half term whilst caring for her daughter, we continue to keep the family in our prayers.

All other staff within school will remain in their current classes.



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## News around the school...

During this half term pupils have been on various trips around the district to learn more about the areas their classes are named after.



Year 3 also spent the day living as Victorian school children and learned about how different school would have been then.

To mark the Harvest festival we collected donations for the St Paul's Church food bank.



We hosted our annual fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer research and raised a total of £99 to donate towards this worthwhile cause. Our parent governor judged the Bake-Off entries and Miss Beaumont was crowned this year's winner!



## Attendance.....

As a school we aim for an overall attendance figure of 96%, our current whole school attendance is 94.9%.

Since returning in September **17 children have been absent from school due to taking unauthorised holidays. In total these children have missed 79 learning days from school.**

**88 children have also missed a total of 187 learning days due to sickness, many of these days off have been one day absences.** It can be tricky deciding whether to keep your child off school when they're unwell. It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold but if they have a very high temperature, please keep them off school until these eases. The NHS has published updated guidance for parents regarding when a child should be kept off school, this can be accessed here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school>

### Attendance Rules and Penalty Notices

**1**

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

**£160**



**2**

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

**4 children & 1 parent = £640**

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

**10 IN 10**

**5**

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

**1 Day = 2 Sessions**

**3**

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

**4 children & 2 parents = £1280**

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

**4**

**2ND TIME**

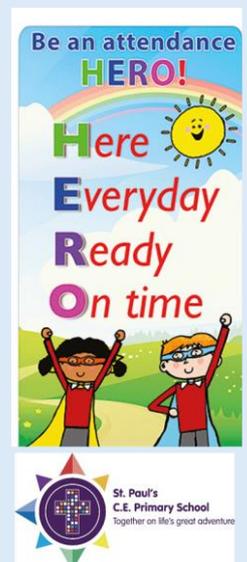
2 parents and  
1 child = £320  
2 children = 640  
3 children = 960  
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



**3RD TIME**

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child  
**1 parent & 4 children = £10,000**  
**2 parents & 4 children = £20,000**



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### *Clean air grant funding...*

Earlier this year we were successful in gaining a grant from The Bradford Clean Air Schools Programme (CASP). CASP is a Bradford Council initiative funded by the Bradford Clean Air Zone (CAZ) to help reductions in pollution outside schools especially those located next to busy main roads.

With the money received we have already bought and installed a bike and scooter storage facility and over the summer we took delivery of our custom-made planters and screens. During the half term break these planters will be filled with soil ready for planting. Over the next few years it is hoped the foliage from the plants will grow and spread across the screens and onto the wire fencing to allow for a natural screening from the road pollution.

In addition to the planters we have also purchased additional seating that will be installed along the church boundary wall away from the main road.

We have lots of exciting events planned for the Spring and Summer terms to get pupils and families involved in the maintenance of the planters and will share further details closer to the time.



### *Twitter/X...*

We will shortly be relaunching our school X account to showcase special events and partnerships within school. If you would like to follow our account please search for St Paul's Primary School Bradford, @StPaulsBradford and send a request to follow.



### *School meal price increase...*

Due to the increasing associated costs of producing school meals we have been notified the daily price will increase to £2.35 per pupil from 04 November 2024.

**Can I apply for free school meals?** You can apply for free school meals if you receive:

Income Support

Income Based Jobseekers Allowance

Income Related Employment and Support Allowance

Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190, provided they are not receiving Working Tax Credit

the 'Guaranteed' element of the State Pension Credit

Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Universal Credit with an annual net earned income threshold of less than £7,400

**Apply online at:** <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/free-school-meals/>

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### PE Kit reminder...

We continue to have some children wearing incorrect uniform for PE.

Please be reminded children are required to wear either black or navy tracksuit bottoms, a family hoodie and a white t-shirt; shorts can be worn in the warmer weather.

If you require any assistance ordering a family hoodie please speak with Mrs Moore; we can also arrange a payment plan to aid with the cost of purchasing a family hoodie if required.

Thank you



### Children In Need...

This year we will once again be supporting Children In Need day by inviting staff and families to come to school dressed in yellow, spots or superhero style. Whatever you choose, wear something that will make your whole class smile!

We will only be collecting donations via ParentPay this year and cannot accept cash into school. This will appear on ParentPay accounts shortly.

**All families are reminded there is no expectation to make donations or contribute towards charity collections in school.**



Is your child registered for  
**SCHOOL MILK?**

Child UNDER 5

Child OVER 5

Every child under the age of five is entitled to free school milk. Simply register your child online.

Every child over the age of five is entitled to milk at a subsidised cost of around £20 per term. Register your child and pay online.

Children in receipt of benefits-based free school meals are eligible for free school milk. Speak to the school for further information.

Free milk for under 5s is funded by The Department of Health and milk for over 5s is subsidised by DEFRA.

**REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY**

Register online  
[www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)

Need help?  
Send us a message  
at [www.coolmilk.com/contact](http://www.coolmilk.com/contact)  
or give us a call on 0800 321 3248

### Dates for your diary...

#### November

- 04 School reopens
- 04 Hand to mouth visiting school
- 05 Reception class 2025 applicant open morning
- 05 Parent consultations
- 06 Individual photographs (please wear full uniform)
- 07 Heights and weights for Year 6
- 07 Parent consultations
- 11 Remembrance service for pupils in Church
- 15 Children In Need Non Uniform
- 18 School nurse visiting Reception class to teach hand hygiene

