



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

## Autumn Term 2 Newsletter- December 2024

### Message from the interim head teacher..

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the old saying goes - time flies when you're having fun!  
I really cannot believe that we have reached the end of another hugely successful term at St Paul's.

It has been an honour and a privilege serving as your headteacher since September and I am delighted to be remaining at this wonderful school as Head of School until the end of the academic year.

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our pupils, staff, parents, and wider community and have honestly felt so at home here.

After the Christmas holiday, we welcome Mr Helliwell-Kenny as our new Headteacher. I know he is really looking forward to joining us, settling in, and leading our great school into an even brighter future. I know he will continue to receive the support and kindness I have been shown since arriving in Wibsey.

On behalf of the governors, staff and pupils, I wish you all a very merry Christmas, and a happy new year.

Warmest regards,

Mr Chapman



### Staffing update....

We are very happy to confirm Mr Murray and Mrs Saghir will be returning to St Paul's after the Christmas break to Year 4 and Year 5.

All other staffing across school remains the same.

#### Update to the school crossing patrol

Mrs Summers left her role as St Paul's crossing patrol officer today. We wish Mrs Summers the very best with her future endeavors.



Please be aware there will be no crossing patrol in front of school after the Christmas break. We will inform families as soon as the council update school with future arrangements. If your child walks unaccompanied to school please speak with them to ensure they are aware of the safest crossing points on St Paul's avenue.

## December events at St Paul's.....

Thank you to everyone who has supported all the events in school this half term- it's been a really busy time! In line with our school vision, our whole school community have had lots of new experiences and have flourished through a range of experiences including the following:

### Christmas market and light switch on

Over 150 people joined us on the 28 November for our first Christmas market and light switch on. The afternoon was a resounding success, and we received an overwhelming amount of positive comments about the event.



### Carols at TESCO

On the 03 December some members of our school choir raised money for Young Lives V Cancer by performing Christmas songs and helping customers pack their shopping at TESCO. The pupils were commended on not only their amazing singing talents but also their politeness and exemplary behaviour, well done to all those involved. In total our pupils raised £185 during this afternoon!



### Parent, coffee chat and wrap

In preparation for our Christmas fayre, parents joined Mrs Moore to help ticket tombola items, wrap gifts for Santa and prepare prizes for the games. Thank you to everyone who helped on the morning with the preparations.



### Christmas Pantomime



We were joined by West Midlands Theatre Company on 10 December who performed the pantomime 'Snow White and the seven dwarves.' There were laughs aplenty and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the show.

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## Christmas discos

PartyMania! Discos joined us in school to provide music, games and entertainment to children in KS1 and KS2 across two discos on the 10 December. Each disco held best dancer competitions, and one teacher also received this prestigious award!



## Christmas dinner

On the 12 December pupils and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas meal prepared by our wonderful catering team. Pupils enjoyed a full roast meal along with delicious ice cream, chocolate sponge or Christmas pudding. Christmas songs played whilst we all ate together and got into the festive spirit.



## Design a decoration competition

Our lunch tables were adorned with a wonderful range of Christmas decorations made by pupils across the classes. After a very difficult decision our catering staff chose two winners and were impressed by all the entries.



## Christmas Fayre

This year's fayre offered a range of games and challenges including the firm favourite chocolate tombola! Delicious refreshments were also on sale along with our new, and very popular, 'Water or Wine' game. All profits from this year's fayre are being donated to GoFundMe to support Mrs Carroll and her family. We were overwhelmed with all the support and offers of help from our school community and raised a total of £1000! Thank you again to everyone who helped make this a success.



## Community

All of our pupils have made Christmas cards and decided where they would like them to be sent. We have now delivered the cards to the local food bank, Salvation Army, Care Homes and given them to families, staff and governors. We are really proud to share our kind thoughts through this gesture at this special time of year.



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### Christmas carol service

On Monday 16 December pupils in Year 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 performed a variety of Christmas songs in St Paul's Church to their families. Despite the large audience at both performances, pupils sang with confidence and we received a lot of complimentary feedback and comments from those who came along to watch.



### Nativity

After many weeks of practicing our Reception class performed the delightful story of a disorganised but lovable angel who is chosen to show the way to Bethlehem-Whoops-a-Daisy Angel. All their hard work paid off and family and friends enjoyed the show.



### Toast time..

We are happy to confirm toast time will resume after the Christmas break. All pupils in receipt of toast this half term will automatically receive toast for the weeks they have missed. We will then send out a new payment link later in January for anyone wishing to renew or join their toast time orders.



### Attendance..

As a school we aim for a whole school attendance figure of 97%, our current whole school attendance is 94.3%.

We understand there are times when you child may be ill and cannot attend and as a school we will support children to miss any work they may have missed out.

Unfortunately, we continue to have families taking their children out of school during term time for holidays and this has a big impact on the children and the other pupils in class.

**Please be reminded any unauthorised leave of absence during term time can lead to a fine being issued, this can also include days off from school where no acceptable reason is provided for the absence.**



The staff at St Paul's wish our whole school community a very happy Christmas and healthy new year! See you all on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.