

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a well-rested break with plenty of holiday cheer over the festive period. The children have all returned full of stories from their break. I will continue to be with the class until the end of this term, which will help with transition to another teacher for just the summer term. We will keep you updated when we have more information on who will be taking over in Year 4. This term is a shorter one so we have lots to pack in, including swimming every Thursday. Swimming is such a vital skill for children, please ensure your child is prepared for all our swimming sessions with their kit and arriving on time. Information below about this term and general reminders.

### Curriculum

This term we are looking at School – now and then (Spring 1), All around the world (Spring 2). This half-term is all history focused and will see the children exploring what education was like in chronological order from the Ancient Greeks until now. Spring 2 will be geography focused looking at our globe, features of it and the effects we have on it. For more information, please see the attached Topic map outlining each learning area.

### Swimming

All children must have:

- swimming costume
- towel
- swimming hat
- all items in a bag (separate from the school bag as wet items will go inside after the lesson)

Parkside pool advise:

**JEWELLERY** - As with any sporting activity, jewellery should be removed. If jewellery cannot be removed it should be securely covered with a sticking plaster. We strongly advise that jewellery is not brought into the premises.

**GOGGLES** - Whilst we recognise that goggles can assist the teaching of swimming; they can also provide a distraction. We would encourage you to remove goggles at the appropriate times, when directed.

**ENJOY** - Swimming is an enjoyable activity and a life skill. Enjoy your lessons with us!

### Reading

Reading is vital. Even in KS2! The best way to encourage reading is to read aloud to your child every day. Not only is reading the door to knowledge but it is also the best way to improve spelling and I will be encouraging the children to read at every opportunity. We will be reading lessons daily with your children and there are reading activities in class constantly but there is nothing better than reading to and sharing books with a parent or carer. Please invest this time with your child...it will make all the difference!

The children are able to bring home books from our reading corner to read at home and in school but are also welcome to bring in any book they are reading at home into school as well. Many children have not completed their reading records in Autumn 2. They have been provided new reading records for this term please ensure they are reading daily, completing the 1 task per week.

### Homework

Times tables – continue to practise all your times tables using Times Tables Rockstars. The login will be on the green card in your child's homework folder.

Home Learning Ideas - these activities will provide a menu of possible extensions for your child to carry on with their learning at home. They do not need to be 'handed in' formally, but please do encourage your child to share their efforts with their teacher if they would like to.

# St Paul's C of E Primary School

**Life in all its fullness**

## **PE kit and uniform**

Our P.E. lessons will be outdoor PE on Tuesday afternoon and swimming on Thursday mornings. All children must wear their PE kit to school for the day. Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings removed for health and safety reasons, we are unable to help the children with the removal of earrings so please support them in learning how to remove them, if necessary they can be reinserted by your afterschool. Please ensure as it gets colder that your child's PE kit is clothing that they will be warm in all day long.

P.E. Kit

- plain white t-shirt
- plain navy blue or black shorts or navy blue or black tracksuit bottoms
- trainers or plimsolls

Children should then wear their school jumper on top of these items.

School uniform

- a grey skirt, pinafore dress or trousers or shorts (no leggings, jeans or tracksuit bottoms)
- a royal blue check dress can be worn for the summer
- a white shirt or a white or royal blue polo-shirt
- a royal blue sweatshirt, zip-through, V-neck sweater or cardigan \*preferably with the school logo
- black shoes (no shoes should have high heels)
- white or grey socks or tights

Jewellery and nail varnish must not be worn in school. The only exceptions are watches and studs for pierced ears or medical bracelets. These items must be removed during lessons involving physical exercise. Long hair should be tied back.

**Please ensure that your child's name is on every item of clothing.**

## **Lunches**

It saves lots of time in school if you are able to do your child's lunch choices before school. You are able to do a term's decisions at a time so can log in now and do all the choices until Easter! We are not able to do this and have to instead do them daily which takes time in the mornings. If you have forgotten or misplaced your login details, please contact the office who can provide you with a reminder of your login details.

## **Water Bottles**

Children are all provided with a water bottle in school which is washed regularly. They do not need to bring their own bottle into school.

## **Snack**

Children may bring in a healthy snack at playtimes, which is usually a piece of fruit or vegetable.

## **Parent and staff communication**

Please hand any notes to me in the mornings, these can be passed directly or your child can pass them to me. I must be informed if your child is going home with someone else on a particular day, unless it is a regular arrangement that I am already aware of. I will not allow any child to leave with any other adult, including extended family members, unless you have informed me. Please do speak to me if you have any concerns or queries or contact the office who will forward your message to me or email

[squirrel@stpauls.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:squirrel@stpauls.cambs.sch.uk)

Kind Regards,

Miss Sarah Abrey