

From the headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final two weeks before the Easter break, I want to take a moment to reflect on the achievements of our pupils this term. It has been a joy to see their hard work and dedication, and I am incredibly proud of each one of them.

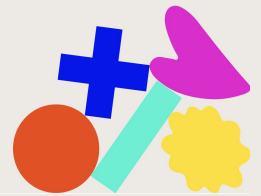
I am particularly looking forward to our Easter service, which promises to be a lovely celebration of our school community. It's a wonderful opportunity for us all to come together. I am also excited to watch our Year 3, 4 & 5 pupils showcasing their talents in the performance of "This Is Me" next week.

Additionally, I would like to remind you about our upcoming Parents' Evening. This is a valuable chance to discuss your child's progress with their teachers and to explore how we can work together to support their learning journey.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm wishes,

Helen Darrell



THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S

- Rabbit, Squirrel and Otter class have been busy rehearsing for their concert 'This is Me!' next week.
- Year 4 went to a concert at West Road to watch the University Wind Orchestra. They performed many different pieces showing us different wind instruments and also some movie theme songs as well!
- The teachers spent time in their staff meeting thinking about classroom organisation and reducing visual overload in the classroom.
- Ms Stenhouse spent time with governors showing them what the children do in their geography lessons across the school.
- Year 3-6 children have enjoyed their penultimate Latin, Code and Chess Club of the term this week. Football, Multi-sports, Gymnastics and choir will continue into the final week of term.



Rabbit class news

We continue to be busy, busy, busy in Rabbit Class! We have begun a new Geography topic all about how extreme planet Earth can be - volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis etc... In maths we are building our knowledge of measures and understanding how to measure mass and capacity. This week, we have begun a new book in English - The Thames and Tide Club. We're part way through chapter 4 but already we are discovering that this story is not only a fantasy but also a mystery! In some of our PE lessons we are having great fun learning Maypole Dancing and we are proving to be very organised and able to work collaboratively. Along with Squirrel and Otter classes, we have been learning and practising songs ready for our performances next week. We had our first run through together this week and it went very well. We're looking forward to entertaining our families. Below are some pictures of some more of our sewing. They're not finished yet but we are extending our skills of sewing with a slightly wider range of stitches to create these celebration themed hanging decorations.



Useful dates

Spring Term 2026
Monday 5th Jan 2026 -
Friday 27th Mar 2026

Dates for your diary



Tues 24 & Thurs 26 Mar -
Parents evenings

Fri 27 Mar - End of term

Attendance Matters!

We know it can sometimes be tricky to decide whether your child is well enough to attend school. To help support everyone's wellbeing and reduce the spread of illness, we've put together some simple guidance below.

Please keep your child at home if they have:

- A high temperature or fever
- Vomiting or diarrhoea (children should stay at home for 48 hours after the last episode)
- A bad cough, sore throat, or feeling generally unwell and unable to take part in normal school activities
- An infectious illness such as chickenpox, measles, or hand, foot and mouth (please follow NHS guidance and inform the school)
- Any condition where they need close adult care or rest to recover

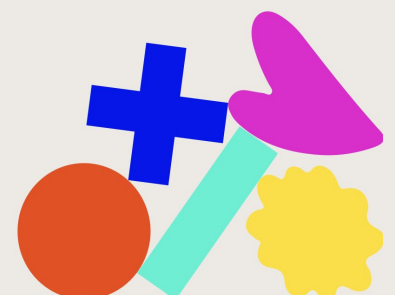
Your child can usually attend school if they have:

- A mild cold or runny nose
- A mild cough with no fever and they feel well in themselves
- Are eating, drinking, and able to take part in lessons and play

If your child becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact you to arrange collection if needed.

If you are ever unsure, please don't hesitate to contact the school office for advice. We really appreciate your support in helping to keep all children and staff healthy.

Let's talk
attendance!



Year of Reading 2026

The National Year of Reading 2026 is the biggest campaign in a generation designed to help more people (re)discover the joy of reading and make it part of their everyday lives. Look out for some of St Paul's reading initiatives throughout the year.

January - Reading Resolutions

National context: New Year focus on habits and wellbeing

February - Storytelling & Oracy

National context: National Storytelling Week

March - World Book Day

National context: World Book Day (UK)

April - Reading Outdoors

National context: Spring renewal / wellbeing focus

May - Libraries & Choice

National context: Libraries Week (May)

June - Reading Aloud

National context: Empathy Day / reading aloud research focus

July - Reading for Pleasure Celebration

National context: End-of-year reflection

August - Summer Reading

National context: Summer Reading Challenge (Libraries)

September - Reading Culture Reset

National context: Start-of-year routines

October - Poetry & Language

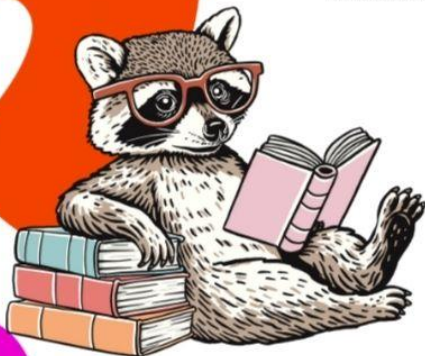
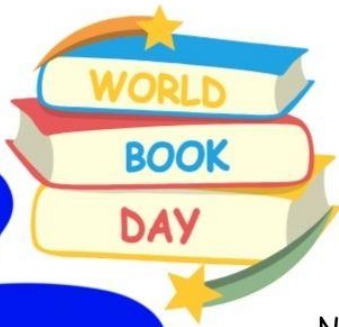
National context: National Poetry Day

November - Reading & Wellbeing

National context: Anti-Bullying Week / wellbeing focus

December - Reading for Joy

National context: End-of-term reflection



Getting your child the right support when needed...

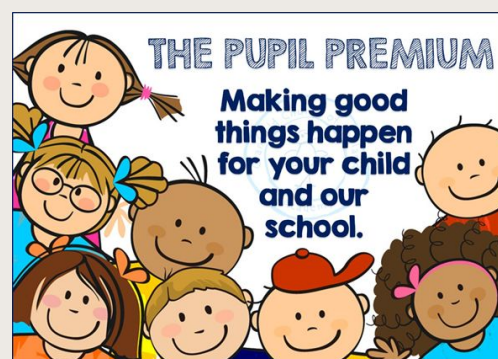
Pupil Premium and Free School Meals.

Checking whether your child is eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) is quick, confidential, and can make a real difference to their education. Even if your child chooses not to take the meal, simply being registered can bring valuable **Pupil Premium funding** into the school. This additional money is used to provide extra support, resources, and opportunities that directly benefit children—such as smaller group work, academic interventions, enrichment activities, and wellbeing support. By taking a moment to apply, you could help unlock funding that strengthens your child's learning and benefits the whole school community.

We encourage you to check your eligibility

here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals>

No matter which year group you are in, this funding can begin to support your child and the school when they first join us. If you are not sure, please either ask or submit an application to see if you are eligible.



Young Carers

Letting your school know that you are a young carer can make a big difference to your wellbeing and success at school. When staff understand the responsibilities you have at home, they can offer the right support—such as extra time for homework, someone to talk to, or flexibility when things become difficult. Schools can also connect you with helpful services, clubs, or young carer groups so you don't feel alone. Sharing your situation doesn't mean you'll be judged; it simply helps the school make sure you're treated fairly, understood, and given the support you need to balance caring with your education and your own wellbeing.

If you believe your child is a young carer, please do reach out to Mrs Thake who can offer support as and when needed.

IS THIS YOU?



"My Mum is sick.
I have to stay home
from school some
days to help her."

"I have to make sure
Dad takes his
medication each
morning and night-
time."

"I need to make sure
my younger brother
and sister get ready
for school"

SIBS

Sibs is a UK charity that supports **siblings of children and adults with disabilities, long-term health conditions, or additional needs**. They provide information, advice, and emotional support for both young siblings and adult siblings, helping them deal with the challenges and responsibilities that can come with having a brother or sister who needs extra care. Sibs also works with schools and professionals to raise awareness and make sure siblings get the understanding and support they need.

If your child has a sibling with disabilities, long term health conditions or additional needs, please do let us know. Mrs Thake would be your first point of contact.