

From the headteacher



Dear families,

Welcome back to school for the final half-term of the academic year. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting term ahead.

From the PGL residential to the Year 6 performance, our Year 6 pupils have a packed final half term ahead of them. We hope they continue to create special memories at St Paul's that will last a lifetime as they prepare for the next stage of their journey.

With warm wishes,

Helen Darrell

Take One Picture!



THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S

Literacy Tree and our Writing Roots

Mrs Thake had the pleasure of welcoming the CEO's from The Literacy Tree to showcase the progress we have made in writing since taking on the scheme. They could see that our work on revisiting and editing is coming through, our modelling is strong and our planning sequence is successfully implemented. They have taken lots of photos of writing to celebrate and use as examples. We are also being considered as a flagship school and we will be able to share our hard work and success with other schools.

Summer Fair

Planning for the summer fair is well underway. Please put the date in your diary and reach out the PTFA if you can help in anyway!

Curiosity

Collective Worship this week was all about curiosity. Curiosity is a gift from God. When we ask questions and explore, we're discovering more about the wonderful world God has made. We have created an "I wonder...." wall where we can ask some of those big questions we are curious about.



Take One Picture! I am delighted to share with you some exciting news! Last summer, Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 took part in an art experience, organised by the National Gallery. We delivered workshops to the children enabling them to become immersed in A Regatta on the Grand Canal by Canaletto. The children were encouraged to respond to the painting and this resulted in them collaborating and producing their own pieces of artwork. The picture above, shows one of the pieces that the children created and it has been selected by the National Gallery to be display in one of their galleries from 4th June to 31st August. The exhibition includes all the pieces of artwork that selected schools have produced and further information about the event can be found using this link: <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/exhibitions/take-one-picture-2026>

Hedgehog class news

Year 6 PGL Adventure - Our Year 6 pupils have just returned from an incredible few days at PGL, where they took part in a fantastic range of outdoor activities and challenges.

The children threw themselves into action-packed activities including:

Raft building – working together to construct rafts before testing them out on the water
Disc golf – developing coordination and friendly competition
Climbing – pushing themselves to overcome challenges and build confidence
Problem-solving challenges – putting their heads together to tackle tricky tasks as a team
Survival skills – learning to build shelters and make flames, discovering practical outdoor skills



Throughout the trip, the children rose to every challenge they faced. Whether it was conquering their nerves on the climbing wall, persevering with archery, or mastering the techniques needed to create fire, our Year 6 pupils showed determination and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones.

After all that activity, the children certainly worked up an appetite! The food hall was a busy, bustling place at mealtimes, with lots of delicious food available to keep everyone energised for their adventures. The children managed the busy dining environment brilliantly, showing patience and good manners throughout.

What stood out most to staff was the incredible teamwork on display throughout the trip. The children consistently supported one another, whether that was encouraging a nervous classmate up the climbing wall, collaborating to solve problems, or helping each other perfect their shelter-building techniques.

These experiences are invaluable as our Year 6 pupils prepare for their transition to secondary school. They've developed: Resilience – trying new things and persevering when activities were challenging, Independence – managing themselves away from home, Collaboration skills – working effectively with different groups of peers, Confidence – stepping outside their comfort zones and discovering what they're capable of

Residential trips like this create lasting memories and help children develop the personal and social skills that will serve them well throughout their lives. We're incredibly proud of how our Year 6 pupils represented St Paul's CofE VA Primary School, and we know these experiences will stay with them as they move forward to the next exciting chapter of their education.

A huge thank you to the staff who accompanied the children and to PGL for providing such a well-organised and enriching experience.

Useful dates

Summer Term 2026
Tuesday 14th April -
Friday 17th July 2026

Sat 27 Jun - Summer Fair
11-2pm

Thurs 9 July - Year 6
performance, evening

Fri 10 July - Year 6
performance, morning

Wed 15 July - Informal
parent evening

Attendance Matters!

Every Day Counts This Summer Term

As we head into summer, we want to remind you why regular attendance remains so important for your child.

This term is crucial for:

Securing learning – Consolidating the skills needed for next year
End of year assessments – Helping us plan your child's next steps
Special events – Sports days, trips, performances and celebrations
Friendships – Precious final weeks with classmates and teachers

Looking ahead: We know summer can bring temptations to extend holidays or take time off, but every day of learning matters. Missing school now can impact your child's readiness for September.

Need support? If your child feels anxious or worried about attending school, please speak with us. We're here to work with you to put the right support in place.

Good attendance is a partnership. If you have any concerns, please contact me or your child's class teacher.

Let's talk
attendance!

