



St Paul's Catholic Primary School

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16th December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful term it has been. The children have all been amazing and it has been a pleasure working with the whole St. Paul's family.

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work and passion. They really do make a difference to the lives of all of our children. I feel privileged to work with such a talented and dedicated team.

The Governors of St. Paul's have been excellent too and their commitment to the role is to be commended.

Finally, a massive thank you to you for continuing to support your child's education and the school in general.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Rowe".

Miss Sarah Rowe

(Headteacher)

A Message from Mrs Bray, Chair of Governors

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation for Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. In the Old Testament we read that the Jews waited for the Messiah, Jesus, for hundreds of years. In Advent, we too wait patiently and faithfully to celebrate Christ's birth. We decorate our homes, gather gifts to share and plan a special meal. This week we have watched a beautiful Nativity performance that the children and staff prepared and practiced. We should also spend a moment to remember that the most important thing to prepare is ourselves, to open our hearts and allow Jesus to come in. Just as the Israelites kept faith with God for hundreds of years waiting for the Messiah, God keeps faith with us. He is always there, waiting to welcome us with open arms full of love, but we need to take the first step.

Have a joyful and happy Christmas, may God bless all of the St Paul's family.



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

5pm Vigil Mass at St Paul's

6.30pm Vigil Mass at Holy Redeemer (Carols from 6pm)

Christmas Day

10am Mass at Holy Family

4.30pm Mass at Holy Family

Choir

On Thursday 8th December, members of the St Paul's singing club thoroughly enjoyed performing Christmas carols for the Plymouth and District Disabled Fellowship at our local community centre. Along with the school's pupil chaplains, they have also been invited to the local care home on Thursday 15th December to sing carols and help decorate their Christmas tree, using wooden baubles that the children have designed for them as part of a competition! What wonderful opportunities to spread the Christmas spirit and support our local community.



Their singing was beautiful and it was an absolute joy listening to them.

Magical Christmas Jigsaw

As always the children did themselves and the school incredibly proud.



What a special performance!



Excellent singing throughout!



Thank you for all the kind comments about our magical performance.

Wow! Wow! Wow!



Thank you for making us all smile and get into the Christmas spirit.



Merry Christmas Everyone!



Reception/Year 1

Reception and Year 1 have had an incredibly busy term and we are all looking forward to our Christmas break!

There has been lots of change in our classroom as we said goodbye to Miss Lintern and welcomed Mrs Drew and Mrs Barnes. They have been so amazed at the effort we have put into our learning and how quickly we settled into our new routines.

We have enjoyed learning about different animals and their diets, teeth and body parts.

We look forward to the weather getting warmer and being able to spend even more time in our outdoor environment.



Year 1/2

Year 1/Year 2 have had a busy autumn term. We have been learning lots of new interesting things as well as consolidating our learning from last term. This term in geography we learnt about the United Kingdom and developed our knowledge of the four countries and capital cities. In history this term we have learnt about important kings and queens. We investigated Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria, King George VI and how this led to Queen Elizabeth II and now King Charles III. We have been fortunate enough to take our learning outside the classroom by using the school grounds and going on a trip to Shallowford Farm, which the children loved!



We are looking forward to see what the next term brings. We have been very fortunate to have Miss Hacon with us as well. She has now finished her placement and we are grateful for all the time, effort and the learning she has taught us. We wish her all the best in the future and we will miss her.

Year 3

What a busy term we have had in Year 3! Lots of hard work and lots of learning.

This week, we have done lots of fun activities in our count down for Christmas! We tried our best in our independent writing, we worked really hard to finish our Science assessment and we learned how people celebrate Christmas around the world! Our children made many different Christmas cards and paper chains and even learned how to wish Merry Christmas in French!

What a week, Year 3!

Keep up the good work and have a peaceful Christmas!



Year 4



Year 4 have had a very busy first term. We have been busy consolidating and building upon our Maths knowledge, in particular addition and subtraction - exchanging.

In art we created scratchboards to explore using shape and contrast. Year 4 have been working really hard this term and we are proud of every single one of them.

Miss Wilding has been supporting and teaching the Year 4 class during part of this term. We are grateful for all her support. She will be back for two weeks after the Christmas break.

Have a lovely and restful Christmas break and a happy new year.



Year 5



This term has been jam packed in Year 5 so far! From learning about what life was like for children in Victorian Britain in History to making egg parachutes for our Science unit on Forces. Most recently, we have learned about our Solar System and how earthquakes occur. Did you know there are 3 types of movement of the tectonic plates that can cause an earthquake? We have created dance routines based on a trip to the beach in PE and we've written stories about a toy Gorilla coming to life and taking us to the zoo in English! In Maths, we have been learning how to round numbers, read and draw line graphs and use the column method to add and subtract numbers with 5 or more digits. We have also focused on our handwriting skills this term and have made great progress so far with our new Year 5 and 6 Spellings. Our RE learning this term has focused on the promises made in a Marriage, our unique gifts and talents and the symbolism of the candles on an advent wreath.



We have also had an exciting visit from Rachel at the Devon and Somerset Fire Service who taught us what we need to know about preventing fires and what to do in an emergency.

It has been a wonderful first term and we are all very excited to get stuck back into a new term of learning in January!

Year 6

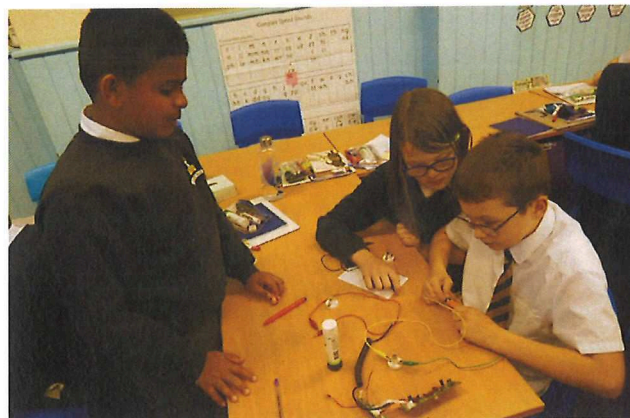
This term for Year 6 has been a very busy and exciting one. There were lots of things to be learnt and lots of fun to be had.

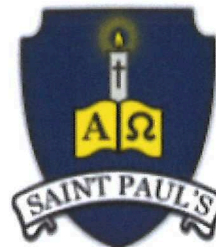
In maths, we have been learning about fractions. We have learnt different ways to subtract and add fractions with the same and different denominators.

In English we have been following a story and adding in some details to make the story more interesting. When we finished our unit, we re-wrote the story in our own way.

Our overall learning has been challenging but fun - it is always teaching us new things. Many of our teachers like to challenge us and encourage us to never to give up. If you don't succeed at first try and try again. St. Paul's is a welcoming school and the staff always give us a helping hand.

(By Willow Y6)





St Paul's Catholic Primary School

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 3rd January 2023 - First day of Spring Term

Tuesday 3rd January - Friday 20th January - Year 5 swimming

Tuesday 10th January - Whole School Mass

Tuesday 17th January - Year R/1 lighting a candle in church

Tuesday 17th January - Year 3 & 4 Class Mass

Tuesday 24th January - Year 1/2 lighting a candle in church

Tuesday 24th January - Year 5 & 6 Class Mass

Tuesday 31st January - Year R/1 lighting a candle in church

Tuesday 31st January - Year 3 & 4 Class Mass

Tuesday 6th February - Year 1/2 lighting a candle in church

Tuesday 6th February - Year 5 & 6 Class Mass

Friday 10th February - Last day of term

Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February - Half term

Monday 20th February - Non pupil day

Tuesday 21st February - First day of term

Any other events that are arranged within the Autumn term, will be updated on Class Dojo.

You can also visit the school's website: <https://www.stpaulsplymouth.com>