



## St Paul's Post - Issue 3 February 2026



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#### ***TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING IN STRENGTH, GROWING IN WISDOM, GROWING IN FAITH***

The past couple of weeks have been very busy in school, with a wide range of learning and activities taking place across all year groups. It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents to our **Stay and Play** and **Step into Learning** sessions last week. The children greatly enjoyed sharing their work with you, and we hope these visits provided a clearer understanding of how we teach writing and support your children's progress in the classroom.

Our clubs are now fully up and running, providing further opportunities for children to develop new skills and interests beyond the school day. We are particularly pleased that our new **kickboxing club** has already proved to be a great success, and it has been excellent to see the enthusiasm, focus and enjoyment from those taking part; a great way to start the week.

Thank you as well to **Robins class** for their contribution to this week's class spotlight — we always value the opportunity to celebrate the learning taking place across the school and it is lovely to have some direct feedback from the children.

Although the recent grey days have certainly reminded us that we are still in the depths of winter, we are hopeful that February will bring some sunshine and lighter days, giving the children even more opportunities to learn, play and thrive together.

## Attendance Award



**19th January - 26th January**

**1st Place - Swifts**

**2nd Place - Firecrests**

**3rd Place - Robins**

**26th January - 30th January**


**1st Place - Kingfishers**

2nd Place - Sparrows


3rd Place - Firecrests

Huge congratulations to **Swifts class** again, who chose to bring in their favourite cuddly toy for their reward.

## Attendance Information



# Attendance




- Regular attendance is an important factor in a child's academic success.
- When pupils are frequently absent, it is difficult for them to keep up with their schoolwork and this could affect their life chances. Furthermore, the children miss out on the wider life school provides such as social development and play opportunities.
- All parts of the school term are important for your child's development and long-lasting happy memories of their time at St Paul's, for this reason, we take school attendance very seriously.
- We would also like to highlight the impact of a child being late. In order to prepare your child/children for the day it is important they arrive at school on time, have time on the playground with their peers and come into class calm and settled with their peers.
- This picture shows the loss of learning that occurs if your child's attendance is a certain percentage and the impact of lateness on a child's education – see pictures to the right.

### Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?


0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned




**DAILY LATENESS EQUATES TO...**

3 DAYS LOST (5 MINUTES LATE - 15 hours lost to learning)  
6 DAYS LOST (10 MINUTES LATE - 30 hours lost to learning)  
10 DAYS LOST (15 MINUTES LATE - 50 hours lost to learning)

**Remember**  
Your education is important - don't miss out!



# Attendance



**Rewarding Attendance**

Attendance percentages can drop very quickly, and we understand children to become ill and some absence is unavoidable. However, we will be introducing attendance incentives to support and encourage good attendance across the school.

**Term-Time Holidays**

Whilst we understand the cost-of-living difficulties and expense of holidays, no term time holiday will be authorised and will be marked as unauthorised against your child's name. This could lead to Buckinghamshire Council issuing a fine. If we are made aware that the reason for absence is not as originally stated by a parent/guardian e.g. the child has been called in sick but returned to school sharing holiday stories, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised, and you will be asked to complete the absence form.

**Reporting Absence**

If your child is going to be absent from school, it is important that you contact the school on the first day of the absence to inform us of the reasons. If this continues for more than one day, you should make contact with the school on a daily basis to keep us updated.

**Communication & Support**

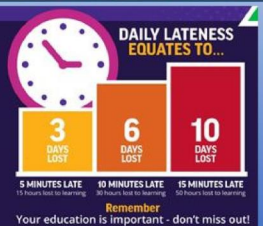
We will be contacting parents if your child/children's attendance has dropped below 95% to make you aware of your child's current attendance. If your child's attendance is below 90% we will be making contact to discuss this with you.

We are keen to work with parents/carers to address any barriers to a child's attendance. If you require any advice or support on this matter, please get in touch with the school to make an appointment to discuss this and we will do our best to help.

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## Calendar Dates



Please see more calendar dates here on our [website](#). Look out for our next newsletter which will have all key dates for Spring Term 2.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Spring 1		
DATE	EVENT	YEAR GROUP
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Building Calm and Confident Children Course for parents of Wrens, Kingfishers and Robins - 9:00-11:00	Wrens, Kingfishers, Robins
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Class Assembly 9:00 - parents welcome	Sparrows
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Wrens Cake Sale	Whole School
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up for Half Term	Whole School

## Writing Wonder of The Week



There once was a girl called Princess Ariadne. She was a kind, intelligent young lady. Her father was a cruel man so Ariadne tried to be kind and helpful and used her intelligence to help Theseus kill the monstrous, fierce Minotaur.

By **Sylvie** in Finches class

One day a handsome prince named Theseus bravely entered the Minotaur's den. Princess Ariadne hated watching Theseus walk into the eerie, dark labyrinth but as she watched him she thought of a great plan. She got the sharpest, silver sword and the brightest ruby red yarn ball...

By **James** in Finches class

## General News



We are looking forward to seeing some of our EYFS & Key Stage 1 parents tomorrow morning at our parent workshop: Building Calm and Confident Children. The workshop is in school from 9:00-11:00am. It is not too late if you have not signed up already as there are places still available.

### **School Parking**

We have sent a number of reminders recently regarding safe and considerate parking at drop-off and pick-up times. Despite this, we are still receiving frequent calls from local residents about parking concerns around the school. Members of the Senior Leadership Team continue to patrol the surrounding area each day, but we need everyone's support to improve the situation.

Please be mindful of our neighbours and the safety of all children by **not parking across driveways, adhering to the one-way system, and walking to school wherever possible**. A few extra minutes of care can make a significant difference. Above all, we ask everyone in our school community to show consideration and kindness to those who live nearby.

## **Mental Health Week - 9th-15th February 2026**

At St Paul's, we consider children's mental health and wellbeing to be a priority all year round and this is something we continually support through our daily routines, curriculum and pastoral care. However, during Children's Mental Health Week, 9th-15th February 2026, we will be spending some focused time on this important area to help children develop their understanding of emotions, resilience and positive coping strategies. This dedicated week allows us to highlight the importance of talking about feelings, looking after ourselves and supporting one another, reinforcing the messages we promote throughout the year. Please do come and join us after school on **Thursday 12th February** to view the Belonging Maps. Please collect your children as normal from their classroom and then make your way into our school hall.

### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and we all play an important role in keeping children safe. In school, we remain vigilant for any signs that a child may need additional support. These can include changes in behaviour, worrying comments, unexplained injuries, or a child appearing unusually withdrawn, anxious or upset.

If you ever have a concern about a child's wellbeing — no matter how small it may seem — please speak to a member of our safeguarding team. Our **Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)** are here to listen and help, and their photographs are displayed on posters around the school for easy identification.

Working together, we can ensure our school remains a safe, supportive environment where all children feel secure and cared for.

## Robins Class Spotlight



Robins have had a fantastic couple of weeks and have been busy producing some amazing writing. We are incredibly proud of the children's efforts, and you can see some of our wonderful Star Writes from last week. It was also a pleasure to welcome family members into Robins for our Stay and Play session. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their work and confidently showing off their writing. It was lovely to see their pride and enthusiasm as they celebrated their achievements together. -Miss Baldwin

### **English**

"We've been doing exciting openers and we've been learning about exclamation marks." - Sophie

"We've been doing "and" to join adjectives." –Carlo

"I've been trying really hard to make my handwriting neat." -Rowan

"I'm trying really hard in my English to get better and better." -Fletcher

"I retold the story, 'If I Had a Polar Bear'. I went to Mrs Dennis because I did great writing." - Ayla M

### **Phonics**

Each week we've been learning new sounds. My favourite sound has been "ph". "-Aditya

### **Maths**

"I've been enjoying doing number bonds to 20." –Flynn

"When you make mistakes, you get better and better." –Arlo

"When you make mistakes, it will make your brain go bigger and bigger." -Rowan

"We've been learning about less than, greater than, and equal to." -Maddison

### **Science**

"We were learning about mammals and mammals don't lay eggs, they give birth to their babies." -Arlo

"Some animals live on land, some live in water, and some live in both." –Aditya

### **RE**

"Some people follow Jesus and some people don't follow Jesus." -Emily

"Some people put Jesus on the cross because Jesus did some good things like calm the sea and stop the waves because he wanted to help people." -Finn B

### **DT**

"We've been making houses by using paper and using things to connect them." –Ammar

"Making the walls really sturdy." –Darcy

"Making houses with four walls, next time I'm going to put more masking tape on mine." - Arlo

"When we made only one wall it was easy, but when we make four walls it was quite tricky. In my mind I said I didn't want to do it but I kept trying. It looked so good and next time I'm going to use masking tape and Sellotape." -Carlo

### **Stay and Play**

"My mummy came in and she really liked the classroom because she liked my writing. I worked really hard on it. She liked that I was learning." -Maddison

"My dad came in and he helped me to do my maths challenge. We did all of the numbers very good and we tidied it up at the end. After my dad helped me, I could do it on my own. - "Ammar

"When my mummy came in, she helped me with my writing. She liked seeing us do the Star Words with actions."-Willow





## FINCHES CLASS ASSEMBLY



*1 - They most certainly have the power in them...*



## Marvellous Manners

We have been focusing on our Marvellous Manners during lunchtimes at school and have introduced an award for those children consistently demonstrating them. As their reward the children will be invited to a 'Top Table' on the stage on a Friday lunchtime. Huge congratulations to these children...



## Community News

**NEW!**

**BOURNE END SPORTS CLUB**  
BES.C.

# DAYTIME ACTIVITIES >>>

We are offering an exciting range of morning activities in our Sports Hall, offering a mix of coached sessions and casual, social sporting activities.

**BADMINTON**

**TABLE TENNIS**

**PICKLEBALL**

**CHAIR YOGA**

**WALKING FOOTBALL**

We are also running some lunchtime activities, so why not step away from your desk for an hour and join us?

Flexible, pay-as-you-go activities  
Book and pay online

Scan here for more info

[www.bejsc.co.uk](http://www.bejsc.co.uk)  
The Sports Hall, New Road, Bourne End SL8 5BS



Buckinghamshire  
Family Learning



# Everyday First Aid

Led by a qualified first aider

For parents and carers of children at  
St Paul's Cof E Combined school

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
9.00-11.30



SCAN ME



To book your FREE place, click on the date above or  
scan the QR code  
Any problems call enrolments on 01296 383582



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# St. Paul's Uniform Flyer 2026

SCHOOL DAYS DIRECT



## ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL UNIFORM

*Available to purchase from School Days Direct:*



### Also available from store:-

- ▶ School Trousers & Shorts
- ▶ Skirts & Pinafores
- ▶ Socks & Tights
- ▶ P.E. Joggers, Shorts & Bags
- ▶ Water Bottles
- ▶ Stationery
- ▶ Hair Accessories
- ▶ School Shoes
- ▶ Stick-On Name Tapes

To purchase uniform,  
visit our website:  
[www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk](http://www schooldaysdirect.co.uk)  
or pop into our store.



\*Additional Hours During Summer Holidays\*

Please buy your uniform EARLY to avoid the queues during the Back-to-School rush\*

\*The Back-to-School rush begins around mid-August, therefore please try to shop before then, where possible.

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