



ST PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 5



*"It is Mary who will teach us how to be silent, how to listen for the voice of God in the midst of a busy and noisy world. It is Mary who will help us to find time for prayer. Through the Rosary, that great Gospel prayer, she will help us to know Christ. We need to live as she did, in the presence of God, raising our minds and hearts to him in our daily activities and worries."*  
 (Pope St. John Paul II)



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

**INCREASE OUR FAITH**



In Luke 17:5-10, the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith. His response reminds us that faith isn't about grand gestures—even faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains. As we strive to be our best selves, we're called to serve faithfully in the everyday moments, not seeking recognition but simply doing what is asked of us. True growth comes from humble, consistent effort, trusting that God works through our small acts of kindness and dedication.



October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, a beautiful prayer that helps us grow closer to Jesus through Mary. This month, our school will be taking part in the Rosary Challenge, praying one decade of the Rosary together each day. This simple practice will help us reflect on the life of Jesus, strengthen our faith, and unite us as a praying community. We encourage families to join us in this special devotion at home too.

**HEADS UP**

This week we interviewed Ella and Nathaniel from St Andrews. Here's what they said. First off, Nathaniel said that they did handwriting and he said he thought he improved. He also said that his class does maths every day except on Wednesdays. His favourite thing to do in school is have lunchbreak when he plays outside. Nathaniel said that his class learned about the Paddington author, Michael Bond. Next Ella said that they did a split diagram in maths and they also did some phonics. Ella's favourite thing is snack time and her favourite lesson is maths. Both of them gave a really good description of what they did this week!



98% Attendance for St James Class for week ending 3rd October 2025  
 95% Whole School Attendance for week ending 3rd October 2025

### **TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK**

We are supporting approximately 35 households with food and household products, thanks to your very generous donations. This week we are short of weetabix, tinned corned beef/spam; tinned tuna/mackerel, packet soup, oil, coffee, honey, and rice pudding. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Please include as a reference, 'Foodbank'. Many thanks.



### **MASS AT ST JOSEPH'S**

All Yr6 will be attending Mass on Wednesday 15th October at 9.30am. Parents and families are welcome to join them.



### **SAFEGUARDING**

Please see [here](#) for our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

At St Paul's we want every child to feel safe and be happy. Safeguarding is a very important part of what we do. Please do speak to us if you have any concerns.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead(DSL) is Mrs Chambers. Mr Robinson, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Jackson and Miss Hoare are safeguarding deputies.

### **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

We will be celebrating our Harvest Thanksgiving on Tuesday 21st October.

Please send in donations of dry/tinned goods on Monday 20th or Tuesday 21st. These will be distributed to the drop-in centre and food bank at St Joseph's Church.



### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

Preparation sessions for First Holy Communion will commence in January 2026. If your child is in Year 3 or above, please complete and return the enrolment form by Friday, 14th November. An inaugural mass for candidates and parents will take place on Saturday, 6th December at 10:00am, followed by a talk by Fr Henry on key information about the First Holy Communion programme. Sessions will be held at St Joseph's Parish Hall on Saturdays at 10:30am. Forms are available in the church porch, St Paul's office, and on the Parish website. Please return completed forms to the Parish office or St Paul's school office.

### **WELL BEING**

Top tips for supporting children to develop emotional literacy [here](#)

### **DIARY DATES**

#### **OCTOBER**

Tues 14th Open Day 10am for YrR Sept 2026 (please book)  
Yr6 to Mass  
Wed 15th School Council Voting  
Thurs 16th Yr6 Leaders Mass at Church 10am  
Fri 17th PTA AGM at St Joseph's Church small hall 7.30pm  
Tues 21st Harvest Mass in School  
Wed 22nd Judo Assembly  
Thurs 23rd Open Day 2pm for YrR Sept 2026 (please book)  
Fri 24th PTA Cake Sale  
Mon 27–31st HALF TERM

#### **NOVEMBER**

Tues 4th All Saints Mass at School  
Wed 5th St John's Class to Mass  
Parent Consultations 3.40–6pm  
Thurs 6th Parent Consultations 1.30–4.30pm  
Wed 12th St James Class to Mass  
Fri 14th Individual School Photos  
Wed 19th St Andrew's Class to Mass  
Open Day 10am for YrR Sept 2026  
St Philip's Class to Mass

#### **DECEMBER**

Mon 8th Open Day 10am for YrR Sept 2026  
Tues 9th KS1 Nativity to SVP 10am  
EYFS Nativity to Parents 2pm  
Thurs 11th KS1 Nativity to Parents 2pm and 6pm  
Fri 12th Service of Reconciliation  
Mon 15th Advent Service in Church 7pm  
Tues 16th Yr6 Fundraising Day TBC  
Wed 17th Christmas Lunch and Party Day  
Fri 19th End of Term 1pm

### **MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE**

**OFFICE HOURS**—Mon—Thurs 8.00–3.30pm, Fri 8.00–8.30 and 8.50–3.30pm

#### **PARKING**

Please do not park on the pavements, zigzag lines or on the yellow lines around the roundabout. We have had complaints from local residents of parents parking on the yellow lines and making visibility poor for other road users.

Please also DO NOT use the school entrance to drop your child off in the morning. Our gate is in constant use and this also makes it dangerous for pedestrians and other road users.

## Are you a visionary educator ready to make a profound impact on children's learning journey?

St Paul's Catholic Primary School seeks a Full Time Class Teacher for a Fixed Term Contract (Two Terms ) starting January 2026

### WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO:

- Champions our Catholic mission with genuine passion and commitment
- Excels in creating transformational learning experiences for young minds
- Thrives on innovation, reflection, and continuous professional growth
- Sets the highest standards and inspires children to exceed them
- Builds powerful partnerships with families and our school community
- Brings energy, creativity, and pedagogical expertise to everything they do

### WHAT WE OFFER YOU:

"Outstanding Catholic School in *Overall Effectiveness and all aspects of learning*" - Diocesan Section 48 Validation  
"St Paul's has a strong community spirit, pupils enjoy coming to school...providing a calm, friendly and well-ordered environment where pupils make good progress in their learning." - Latest OFSTED Report

An Unparalleled Environment:

- Exceptional children who are eager to learn and grow
- Collaborative, supportive team of dedicated professionals
- Strong Catholic ethos that nurtures the whole child
- Strong professional development opportunities
- Supportive leadership committed to your success

### READY TO JOIN OUR MISSION?

Application Deadline: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 12pm

Interview Date: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

How to Apply:

Contact the school directly for your application pack [sbm@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:sbm@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)

Download online at: [www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)

St Paul's whole school community (all staff, governors, parents and volunteers working in the school) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

An Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure will be sought from the successful candidate. Online search will be carried out as part of the due diligence on the shortlisted candidates.