

St Paul's Catholic Primary School

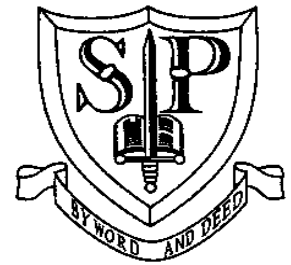
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LIVING OUR FAITH



Newsletter

Friday 8th December 2023

Christmas Productions

Next week we are looking forward to welcoming Parents to school for the Christmas productions when **Early Years and Key Stage 1** children will perform their nativities. Please ensure that you bring your tickets with you to the performances. Prams and buggies need to be left outside the main entrance away from fire exits and doors. We also ask that you remain seated throughout the performance.

There will be a raffle at each of the performances next week so don't forget to bring some money along with you.

****Please note that for all events any photographs or videos taken must be for your own personal use and images of other children must not be posted on any social networking sites. Thank you for your co-operation in relation to this matter.****

Advent - Nativity Scene

This year, to celebrate Advent and prepare for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day, we are asking families to create a nativity scene together. The nativity scene will then be blessed by Father Isidore at our whole school mass on Tuesday 19th December 2023. The hope would be that families will then have a sacred nativity scene to share prayers at home at Christmas time. If possible, we would like to also try and tie in Stewardship and encourage the use of recycled items to make them. Please bring the nativity scene to school by Monday 18th December 2023 labelled with the name of your child or your family name.

Friends of St Paul's – Christmas Mingle

On Tuesday 19th December, the FOSP, will be hosting the Christmas Mingle – there will be a guest appearance from Father Christmas, Refreshments, Stalls and a performance by the school choir. Doors will open at 3.30pm. There will be a super raffle with some amazing prizes to be won including a Smart TV, a £100 Smyth's Toys voucher, Facial/Back Massage, Magnum of Prosecco, Chinese Share Boxes, Chocolate Hamper, Book Tokens, Vouchers for the Stable Gate, Denton, A meal for 2 at the Viceroy and Cup Cake Class vouchers. Tickets will go on sale next week at a cost of £1 per strip.



Cash Payments

As you are aware we are moving towards a cashless office. You can make payments online through School Spider for school trips, ties and bags, school fund and the Reception class fund. From Monday, we will also be able to accept school meal payments through this system. The reason for this change is due to the closure of the local banks. We are not currently able to accept any card payments in the school office.

Caritas Christmas Appeal – Christmas Jumper Appeal

At the beginning of 2023 many in our communities were struggling with high energy prices and the wider cost-of-living crisis which have continued to present great challenges for people's lives and dignity. During this past year Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury has been able to respond and provide vital support for individuals and families in the most vulnerable situations. As we now enter another winter with its uncertainties, Caritas is again seeking to respond to needs in our own Diocese of Shrewsbury. This work brings hope into some desperate situations and with your support Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury can continue to reflect the love of Christ. All donations received from your fundraising will go towards providing food, warm clothes, heating, lighting and toys to those on the poverty line.

Road Safety

We are aware that a number of children ride their bikes to school on a daily basis which is great, but we do ask that if your child is riding their bike to school that they are wearing a helmet every day. It is a known fact that helmets save lives and can prevent serious brain/head injuries.

Reception Places – September 2024

The online portal is now open for applications for Reception 2024. The closing date for application is **15th January 2024**. Please be aware that we require additional evidence such as baptismal certificates to accompany your online application. This should be brought to the school office before the closing date in January. Please promote our lovely school with anyone who may be looking for a school place for September.

Parking

If you are using the visitor's car park off Regency Gardens please ensure that you do not stop at the entrance to the car park near the drop off zone to let your children out of the car as this prevents other families from driving in.



Dinner Debts

We are rather concerned about an increasing number of dinner money debts. In January, we will be introducing a new policy and all debts must be cleared promptly.

If your circumstances have changed and you feel you may be entitled to **Free School Meals** please contact the school office who can check this out for you. Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following: Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190), Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit, Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Kingswood – February 2023

Please can all Parents kindly complete the online forms for Kingswood, so that we can share dietary requirements and any key medical information with Colomendy. If you haven't yet signed and returned the Code of Conduct please do by Wednesday 13th December

Mr Allen will be leading the trip and Miss Smith and Miss Girven will also be accompanying the children, along with two of the Governors, Mr Edwards and Ms Nicholson.

Attendance & Punctuality

Congratulations to Year 2 with the highest attendance for last week and to Reception and Year 3 with no late arrivals.

Attendance & Punctuality for week beginning 27th November 2023									
	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Overall
Attendance	88.89%	93.79%	92.86%	99.2%	93.79%	95.94%	93.1%	97.10%	94.33%
No of Lates	1	0	11	1	0	8	14	3	

Dates for your 2023/2024 Diary	
November	Online applications open for Reception 2024 places
Tuesday 12th December	EYFS Nativity at 9.30am – Parents welcome *Please note doors will not open until 9.15am
Wednesday 13th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity at 2pm – Parents welcome *Please note doors will not open until 1.45pm
Thursday 14th December	Key Stage 1 Dance Presentation at 8.15am – Parents welcome
Friday 15th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity at 9.30am – Parents welcome *Please note doors will not open until 9.15am
Tuesday 19th December	Whole School Mass at 9am – Parents welcome

	FOSP Christmas Mingle – starting at 3.30pm
Wednesday 20th December	Christmas Dinner
	Christmas Jumper Day – Donations for Caritas Christmas Appeal
Thursday 21st December	Key Stage 2 Carol Service at 9.30am in St Paul's Church - Parents welcome
	Break up for Christmas holidays at 3.15pm
Wednesday 3rd January 2024	Back to school – start of the Spring Term
Friday 5th January 2024	Year 5 Swimming starts
Monday 15th January 2024	Closing date for Reception applications
Wednesday 17th January 2024	Year 5 visit to Jodrell Bank
Tuesday 23rd January 2024	Year 3 visit to The Marist Centre
Wednesday 24th January 2024	Year 1 Class Assembly – Parents welcome
Wednesday 7th February 2024	Year 6 Residential to Kingswood – departure at 9.30am
Friday 9th February 2024	Year 6 Return from Kingswood – approx. 3pm
	Break up for half term at 3.15pm
Monday 19th February 2024	Return to School

Community News

SEND Family Christmas Party

With Christmas just around the corner Active Tameside have a variety of Christmas Parties on offer. Don't miss out on the chance to rock around the Christmas tree and enjoy a festive treat with your friends. It's a great occasion to create lasting memories and spread the reindeer dust. So, mark your calendars and make sure to join us at the SEND Christmas Party. It's going to be an unforgettable event that you won't want to miss!

To book please follow the link: <https://eequ.org/experience/5468>

Children's Christmas Parties

Active Medlock

Christmas Party Soft Play

Christmas Party Clip n climb & High Ropes

Tameside Wellness Centre

Christmas Party Soft Play

Christmas Party Bowling

Active Medlock SEND Specific

Christmas Party, Soft Play & Sensory Play

Clip n climb, High Ropes & Sensory play

For more information on our Christmas parties please follow the link, we also have funded spaces available through Fuel4fun. <https://eequ.org/christmasparties> or alternatively please scan the QR code.



December news from Tameside Libraries



Remember this year's Summer Reading Challenge, Ready, Set, Read? The team are back for a **Winter Mini Challenge** perfect for keeping children reading during the Christmas holidays! The challenge is all online so it's easy for children to sign up and read any books they have at home as well as borrowed from the library, and library ebooks and eaudiobooks from Borrowbox count for the challenge too!

All the information is on our website <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/news7> and we've also got some **family activities** in the run up to Christmas to support the Winter Mini

Challenge theme. Attached is a poster with all the details; these activities are free to attend and there's no need to book, just come along on the day.

Children and families can join Tameside Libraries to get a library card at any of our 8 branches, full details are available on our website:

www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/childrens

Christmas Arrangements All libraries will be closed from their usual hours on Saturday 23 December until they open again on Tuesday 2 January 2024 with the current opening hour arrangements from each venue. Open+ is not available during the Christmas break.

