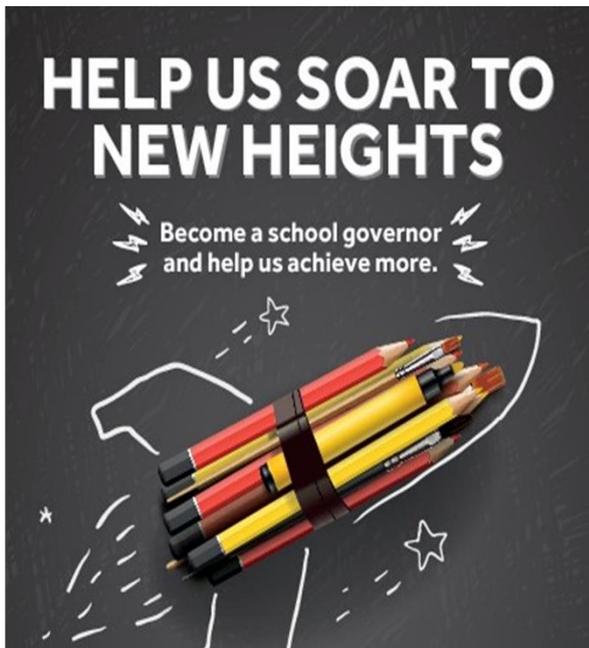


Through the love of God, we protect our school community. Together we trust, hope, persevere and flourish on life's great adventure.

Welcome Back

I would like to begin this first newsletter of the year by welcoming you all to the new school year. An extra special welcome goes to all those new children (and families) who are now part of St Paul's family for the first time!

All information regarding school is available on our website: www.stpaulsceprimary.com and school updates are regularly posted on our ClassDojo app.



We are currently looking for a new Parent Governor and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

- An interest in the school
- A desire to contribute to and represent the community
- An open and enquiring mind
- The ability to look at issues objectively
- The confidence to ask questions and join in debate
- A willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- The ability to work well with others
- Time to spare
- A child or children currently attending the school (or have parental responsibility)

Staffing Update

We have been joined by Miss Coughlan and Miss Naomi Chantry this year who will both be working within our Early Years provision.

Mrs Timms has decided to take a career break, following her maternity leave and we wish her and her family well.

Congratulations also to Miss Riley (our Reception teacher) who got married during the summer break and will now be known as Mrs Riley-Beck.

Toast Time

'Toast Time' enables children to pre-order toast for 30p per day to enjoy at break time, maintaining energy levels for learning until lunchtime.

To pre-order toast for your child please pay half termly in advance via ParentPay indicating the days required and any dietary needs.



School meal price increase

Due to the increasing associated costs of producing school meals we have been notified the daily price will increase to £2.20 per pupil from the 30/10/23.

Can I apply for free school meals? You can apply for free school meals if you receive:

Income Support

Income Based Jobseekers Allowance

Income Related Employment and Support Allowance

Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190, provided they are not receiving Working Tax Credit

the 'Guaranteed' element of the State Pension Credit

Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Universal Credit with an annual net earned income threshold of less than £7,400

Apply online at: <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/free-school-meals/>

Snuggle up with a book

Every Monday we will have our reading-themed worship where we will share stories and one special prize per class will be awarded. If your child has read at home every day in the week preceding the Monday worship, and their reading record has been signed by yourself, then their name will go into the prize draw for the chance to earn the **Snuggle Up Story** bag.

One child a week per class will have the opportunity to bring their class **Snuggle Up Story** bag home. The bag will contain a borrowed book from their new class library, art resources, a book review and small sweet treats. Children will then get to keep this for the full week to enjoy and then return the following Monday, minus the sweet treats, for the next child to enjoy.

Open Morning and Macmillan Fundraiser

All parents/carers are invited to join us on Friday 20th October for our Open Morning. Parents and guardians will be invited to come into school and visit their children in their classrooms to see what they have been learning during this half term.

We will also be selling refreshments during the morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support and would like to invite any keen bakers to bring donations of baked goods on the morning for us to sell. If anyone is able to provide some baked goods for the sale may we please ask a list of ingredients is included with the items for allergy awareness.

Please be reminded we are a nut free school and cannot accept any items which may contain or have been in contact with nuts.

Our 'Singing squad' will also be performing some songs for you to enjoy. They are busy rehearsing for the Young Voices concert at Sheffield Arena next year!



Breakfast Club Price Increase

Due to ongoing price increases we have reviewed our charges for Breakfast club provision and will be introducing new costs from 02 November 2023.

	<i>Curent price</i>	<i>Price from 02/11/23</i>
7.30am start	£3.00	£3.50
8.00am start	£2.50	£3.00

To assist parents with the costs of childcare we have registered our provision so we can now accept payments via Tax Free Childcare.

What is Tax-Free Childcare? Tax-Free Childcare is a government scheme to support working parents with childcare costs. If eligible, you set up an online childcare account which you can use to pay your childcare provider directly. For every £8 you pay in, the government will pay in an extra £2. You can get up to £2,000 per child per year, or £4,000 for children with disabilities.

Am I eligible for Tax-Free Childcare? You will be eligible for Tax-Free Childcare if:

- Your child is under 12 years old, or your child is disabled and under 17 years old for Tax-Free Childcare.
- The child you're applying for usually lives with you – you don't have to be their parent
- You, and any partner, are working, and each earning at least the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage for 16 hours a week

You can also apply for Tax-Free Childcare if you're not working but expect to start a new job in the next 31 days.

You can't get Tax-Free Childcare and tax credits, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers at the same time.

How do I apply?

To check eligibility and to apply visit: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare>

Thank you to everyone who completed our after school childcare questionnaire, we will be updating parents very soon regarding changes to our offer to ensure we continue to support working families.

Textiles and Clothes Collection

We are pleased to announce that we have organised another clothes & shoe collection with Bag2School in order to raise some additional school funds.

By getting involved in our **Bag2School** collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles. This can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details). In addition to raising much needed funds it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.

Bag2School will be collecting from school on Friday 03 November 2023. Please bring your bag (or bags!) to the school playground during morning drop off and help us have a really good collection.

Attendance

As a school we aim for a whole school attendance figure of 97%, our current whole school attendance is 95.1%.

We understand there are times when your child may be ill and cannot attend and as a school we will support children to miss any work they may have missed out.

Unfortunately we continue to have families taking their children out of school during term time for holidays and this has a big impact on the children and the other pupils in class.



Please be reminded any unauthorised leave of absence during term time can lead to a fine being issued, this can also include days off from school where no acceptable reason has been provided.

Non Uniform for Christmas Fayre

We fully appreciate that families are all feeling the extra financial demands of rising fuel, food and heating costs and have considered this when making our plans for the Fayre and making requests for donations.



To prepare for our Christmas Fayre we would like to hold 3 non uniform days during the coming months in exchange for donations towards the Fayre.

All families are reminded there is no expectation to make donations or contribute towards charity collections in school.

We will be holding the first non-uniform day on Friday 06 October 2023. If you are able to contribute, we kindly ask for any donations towards our prize tombola stall e.g unwanted gifts, bottles of toiletries etc.

Secondary School Applications

The online system is now open for Year 7 applications. Families will need to apply to the local authority where your child lives. If your child lives in the Bradford District, you should apply through the online admissions system between 12 September 2023 and 31 October 2023.

If your child is currently in Year 6, but was not born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013, please contact the Admissions Team for a paper application form. You will be unable to apply through the online system.

Some schools require you to fill in a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) directly as well. This may have an earlier closing date than the council application.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) please do not apply through the online system. You will be sent a separate letter and preference form by the SEN team. For further information please contact SEN@bradford.gov.uk.

Class Trips

Classes have been enjoying their trips this month to learn more about the areas of Bradford their classes are named after. We have had visits to Little Germany, Mannigham, Keighley, Haworth and Saltaire.



Dates for your diary

October

- 06 Non uniform day in exchange for tombola prize donations
- 10 Year 6 class presentation 8:45am in the school hall
- 10 Year 3 class presentations 2:45pm in the school hall
- 11 Flu vaccinations
- 17 Year 5 class presentation 8:45am in the school hall
- 17 Year 2 class presentation 2:45pm in the school hall
- 20 School open morning/Macmillan coffee morning
- 20 Our first Rainbow Day of the year
- 20 School closes for half term

November

- 02 School reopens

