

Headteacher



Dear Parents & Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year following the summer break. I do hope you have managed to spend some quality time with your family.

After the initial nerves of coming back to school, everyone has settled really well into their new classrooms. We are all particularly proud of our new reception children who have started to pick up the routines so quickly, including carrying their own tray at dinner time. This year we welcome three new pupils who have moved schools over the summer—I know everyone will make them feel welcome and help them settle in quickly.

Worship and Christian values.

This year we will be looking at 6 new values: wisdom, dignity, community, hope, joy & peace. To begin with, we will focus on Jesus' teachings and the **wisdom** he shared with his disciples and followers.



Unfortunately, Father Matthew will be absent from school and the parish as he is on sick leave. We all wish him well and pray for a speedy recovery. In his absence, Mrs Napier and myself will lead worship on Thursday morning at 9:05am to ensure parents/carers can continue to attend. Please do join us for this short service with all the school pupils, sing a familiar hymn and enjoy some reflective time.

Apart from whole school worship, pupils take part in Key stage 1 or Key stage 2 worships and hymn singing every other week and we finish each week with our special celebration assembly at 2:30pm (parents/guardians of winners will be notified in advance).

Picture News is a fantastic resource we use in school for pupils to learn about topical news and **British Values**. Just this morning our pupils joined hundreds of primary schools online to learn about individuality, uniqueness, celebrating our differences and overcoming adversity.



Harvest Festival

This will take place in St. Paul's Church on Friday 4th October at 9:30am and you are all welcome to attend—further details to follow.

Forest School

This term, Year 2 and Year 5 will enjoy taking risks (safely!) and being creative outdoors as they take part in Forest school sessions for an afternoon each week. The Forest school leaders, Mrs Almond and Mrs Parker, will provide weekly updates on the class dojo for the classes involved. After the successes of last year and really positive feedback from parents and children, we will look to further develop the site this academic year.

Robin Wood—Year 6 Residential

This week, from Wednesday to Friday, all our Year 6 pupils will

attend the residential trip to Robinwood in Alston, Cumbria. This is a fantastic trip involving adventurous outdoor activities including canoeing, caving, zip-wire and giant swing. I always attend this trip (mainly because I have to go on the giant swing first!) and in my absence Mrs Napier, our Deputy Headteacher, will be leading the school.

Extra-curricular clubs and reading breakfasts.

Some clubs will be starting this week and further details of the clubs on offer over the autumn term and throughout the year will be sent out soon. These are run by class teachers, the Sports Partnership team and by some of our pupils!

Reading breakfasts will continue as usual and this term we have Year 1 on Friday 27th September and Year 3 on Friday 22nd November. Both run from 9:05-9:30am. Come along and read together whilst enjoying a pastry and a brew!

Refurbishment

As I mentioned through Class Dojo, we have had a lovely refurbishment in school over the holidays. The corridor walls, entrance areas, and toilets have all been freshly painted in either olive green or silver fern. We have picked these colours because they give off a warm calming effect—we shall see! Thank you to Mr Patrick and Myles Flooring for doing such a great job.

New Chair and Vice-chair of Governors

Following the full governing body meeting at the end of last term, Mrs Marginson has taken on the role of Chair of governors and Mrs Bell the Vice-chair. We wish them all the best in their new roles. Mrs Marginson's governor email details are listed below should you need to contact her.

gov-km@st-pauls-farington.lancs.sch.uk

Thankyou to Father Matthew for his role as Chair over the past 12 months.

Staffing update

With our site supervisor finishing at the end of the summer, we have employed two new cleaners: Mrs Ford and Ms Bent will support Mrs Keeling with keeping the school spick and span. These are familiar faces as head cook and assistant in our school kitchen. Mr Patrick will continue to deal with any site maintenance.

Finally, if you have any queries or concerns do please get in touch with the office, your class teacher or myself.

Let us all continue to '**Thrive in the Gift of Life**' at St. Paul's.

Best wishes

Mr J Eccleston

Head Teacher