



# ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

17 October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well.

Firstly, thank you for ensuring your child has returned to us so well from the summer. Our new Year 7 and Year 12's have settled so well, it is a joy to have them here with us. It has been an extremely busy half term. We have been devastated at the loss of Harrison, and we prayed for him, his mum, dad, siblings and wider family in our services yesterday. We remember to keep them all in our prayers.

## **Half Term Updates**

There have been some lovely things going on this half-term, including our Open Evening where we saw the highest number of parents and year 6 children visit than ever before; Year 7 Think Days; Sixth Form Induction Day; GCSE and A Level Award evenings; Silver DofE; school Trust Review Day; Year 7 Mass at St. Josephs and the quarter final for Public Speaking and our CSI inspection. I am still awaiting the draft report so cannot share any more information with you at this time.

Today is non-uniform day and as Deacon Seamus shared with you all earlier this week, we have begun our Charity fundraising in support of, Fr. Bertrand and his newly opened school in Burkina Faso, Africa, The Good Shepherd. Currently there is one classroom and one laptop as this is all they can afford with students being taught outside on the field. We have had amazing past success in fundraising for schools in Kumasi and Ghana and we know with your support, we can do the same for the Good Shepherd school. It's a wonderful fundraising project for us to support and an opportunity to make a real difference. Photos and a letter from Fr Bertrand can be found on the Holy Family Cluster of Parishes website [News from Fr Bertrand Sep 17, 2025 - News](#) We will keep you posted on future fundraising; there will be a Halloween hamper raffle the first week back after half term, £1 a strip or 20p per ticket with the draw 'spookily' taking place on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October! Our Christmas Market is on Wednesday 17 December you can read more details on this below.

## **Macmillan and CAFOD Family Fast Day**

Our Senior Sixth Form Leadership Team hosted a wonderful 'cake sale' for Macmillan Coffee morning and raised a total of £231.60! Thank you to all of you, who donated cakes and monetary contributions. Thanks also for your support with raising funds for the CAFOD family fast day. Our aim was to raise £155 in support of the Marvellous Moo Cow [Marvellous moo cow: CAFOD charity gift – CAFOD World Gifts](#) and with your help, we have been able to do this. You can click on the link if you want to know more about how this charity supports communities in need.

## **Christmas Market and Carol Service**

Our school Christmas Market and Carol service takes place on 17<sup>th</sup> December 4:30-7pm. We



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were so thrilled with the response last year; it has become our biggest school fundraising event. Stall holders pay £20, which will go towards our fundraising for the Good Shepherd school and all profits are yours to keep! Several people have already signed up to host a stall so if you want to reserve a stall and not miss out, here is the link to sign up <https://forms.office.com/e/FBaXK0178r> Please share with anyone who you think may want to host a stall. Our Carol service will follow straight after, and you are welcome to join us. It is a lovely way for our school community to get together as we approach the end of the advent term.

## **Remembrance Poppies**

We are selling Poppies again this year, which are a lovely keepsake to bring out to mark Remembrance Day; they are priced at £5 each and can be purchased via Arbor with all monies raised, going towards The Good Shepherd school. They can be collected from the school office or sent home with your child. The poppies are made from hardened plastic and suitable for outdoor use.



## **Holidays in term time**

As you're aware, holidays in term time are not permitted as per the Trust Attendance Policy, which can be found on our website. Consequently, requests for holidays will always be denied. Children who miss school time, as a result of absence, whether this is a holiday or any other, are detrimentally affected in terms of outcomes. Please be aware of this, when planning your next holiday. I appreciate there is a cost implication when you can only take holidays during school holiday time; we all hope for a nationwide move, around the cost of holidays as to not disadvantage families.

## **St Paul's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

We will celebrate our Golden Jubilee in September, 2027 and we are starting to plan and prepare for a wonderful celebration, to mark 50 years of St. Paul's. One of the things we would like to host, is an exhibition. In order to do this, we will need your help. If you have any St. Paul's memorabilia, whether it be a school photo, report, year-book, artwork, fundraising accomplishments, then please bring them into school to give to Mrs. Moss. We promise we will take very good care of them.



## **Food Bank**

We are supporting the Holy Family Cluster of Parishes, Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel, and St Joseph's, with their 'food banks'. It's a sad reality, that Food banks have fast become a reliable resource for many families. If you would like to join us in supporting this, the items listed below, are always in need:

- Breakfast cereals
- Long life UHT Milk
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned soups
- Microwave packet rice
- Bottles of squash



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Please drop donations into the school office or direct to the parish. Thank you.

## **Menphys Catholic School Carol Concert**

St. Paul's and English Martyrs' join forces again, as a choir to perform at the Menphys Catholic School Carol Concert on Friday 5th December, at De Montfort Hall, Leicester. We have 18 students in our half of the choir, with rehearsals starting after half term. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased via their website [Menphys Catholic Schools Carol Concert | Menphys](#)

## **Local Governing Body**

We have two vacancies within our Local Governing Body, a Foundation Governor and a Parent Governor. Further information on the application process will be sent to you, after the half term break. In the meantime, please read the attached guidance documents which will give you an insight into what being a Governor entails.

## **Uniform**

Our pre-loved stock of uniform continues to grow, thanks to your kind generosity. I really appreciate you all donating uniform to our shop as it continues to help so many families. As a reminder skirts are priced at £15, Blazers and badged jumpers at £10 and PE items are £5 each. Our pre-loved shop will be open at our Christmas Market on 17<sup>th</sup> December. In the meantime, you can call the school office to enquire about sizes and stock at any time.

## **Cars on Site**

Whilst I understand this might be inconvenient, I must remind you that the rule about parents not driving onto the school site is still in place. Parents are asked to drop off and pick up outside the school (Spencefield Lane) and to not drive onto the school site. Only those parents who have been issued with a pass, are permitted to drive onto the school site; these passes are only issued upon certified medical evidence. If you feel that your child meets the criteria for a pass, then please contact my PA, Mrs. Moss [cmoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:cmoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk) The number of cars driving through causes a huge safety risk to the students. If a member of staff asks you to move your car off site, then please do so. We really must work together to ensure the safety of our young people. Additionally, when collecting students from after school clubs, after 4pm, parents should not be parking along the kerb outside reception; car park spaces should be available at this time so please use them. All students should be off site by 4.30pm. We cannot have students hanging around the school building unsupervised. Any student waiting for parents after 4:30pm, can do so outside the front of the school, or at the school gates.

## **Parent Forum and PTA - reminder**

We are looking for parents to sign up to the parent forum, a representative group of parents that I can seek feedback from and consult with. Meetings are termly. If you are experienced or just keen to be part of our new PTA, please drop Mrs Moss an email and I'll be in touch with more information [CMoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:CMoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk)



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## School Website and Social Media

Please view/access the school website and social media, as we regularly post news items/updates for you to enjoy! [News - St Paul's Catholic School \(st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk\)](https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk) or scan the QR code to access our Instagram page.



## Discounted Offers/Activities

Please see the information leaflet offering discounted meals and activity suggestions, taking place over the half-term break.

## Advent Term – events and dates

### **Half Term**

**Year 10 Parents Evening -remote**

**Future Choices Fair**

**Public Speaking – Semi Final**

**Briars Retreat – Year 9**

**Sixth Form Open Evening**

**Briars Retreat – Year 7**

**World Kindness Day**

**Public Speaking – Final**

**Year 9 – Parents Evening- in school**

**CMAT Inset Day**

**Year 11 Mock Exams**

**Menphys Music Concert**

**Christmas Movie Evening**

**Christmas Market & Carol Service**

**School Closes for Christmas**

**School reopens for the Lent Term**

School closes Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October and reopens

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 3:40-6:40pm

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October 5-7pm

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at De Lisle College

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November – 4:30-7pm

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November at St. Paul's

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November – 3:40-6:40pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November – school closed to students**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December, De Montfort Hall, Leicester

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 3:30-5pm

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 4:30-6:45pm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – 12:30pm non uniform day

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January

## Term Dates

Full Term Dates for the next 2 years can be found on our website under the 'Parent' tab, Term Dates/School Day <https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/parents/term-dates-3/>. Please note the CMAT Staff inset day for 2025-26 on 21<sup>st</sup> November, students across the Trust are not in school that day.



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## **Safeguarding over the half-term break**

If you are concerned about the safety or well-being of a child during the half-term break, please contact children's social care: Duty and Advice; 0116 454 1004. If you think a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999 or call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 straight away.

From myself and all the staff, we wish you a lovely and peaceful half-term break.

Mrs S Conaghan  
**Principal**