



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

26 March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well.

It has been an incredibly busy half term with so much happening; Year 11 Food, Dance and Drama exams and completion of the core Mock exams. Year 8 options evening, World Book Day, passion services in RE classes and KS3 classes celebrating the stations of the cross. WWI Battlefields Trip, annual faculty Marketplace with our Governing Body and an un-announced Invacuation drill!

With Ash Wednesday falling during half term, on our return to school, we began our Lent preparation by using the CAFOD campaign. Discovering how communities in Bangladesh, struggle to grow crops in flooded and water-logged fields and through collaboration, had begun to plant floating gardens. Our weekly Thursday mass has been prepared by Year 9 Classes with our Year 12's Ceferino and Savio Teams. Our students have led the readings, offertory and written the Bidding Prayers.



Tomorrow is non-uniform day with all donations/monies raised towards our school project, helping to build The Good Shepherd school in Burkina Faso. We ask that parents donate via Arbor or alternatively, children can bring money to school which will be collected during form time. Our Easter raffle draw takes place tomorrow during break, with the lucky winner taking home a 60cm limited edition cuddly Percy Pig and a basket full of easter goodies. Tickets can be purchased on Arbor or in school until 10am Friday morning. Thank you as always for your support with our fundraising project, you are always so generous.

I am happy to share the following updates with you all:

Exams

Exam season is upon us with Years 11 and 13 already having completed most of their practical



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exams; the first written exam is on 1st May. Easter school is running for those students who signed up, on Monday 30th, Tuesday 31st May and Wednesday 1st April 9am-12pm. I have written separately to our Year 11 parents.

We keep all our students sitting their upcoming exams, in our prayers as we wish them all the best. My thanks to all our teachers for preparing them so well and to all our staff, for supporting them. We think also, of all our families; it is a stressful time at home, we know!

Mobile phone/devices rules

I have now received feedback from parents, staff and students and there are three changes to the proposed guidance I had previously shared:

1. The new rules will start from August 2026 as opposed to after Easter
2. On entry to school, phones and devices cannot be used past the grey student gates as opposed to the main school gates, on Spencefield Lane
3. I have added some wording around using phones for medical reasons and I have clarified the timings i.e. the school day finishes at 5pm after which time the rules are not enforced

The new rules are attached in full for your information and they have also been shared with students by email today. They can also be found in Section 5.1 of the Behaviour Policy - [260209-Behaviour-Policy.pdf](#)

Staffing

We welcome back Mrs Godber-Scott who returns from maternity leave this week and say goodbye and thank you to Miss Thomas-Agirbas, Teacher of English. We wish Miss Thomas all the best in whatever lies ahead for her.

Uniform

If you have uniform in good condition to donate to our pre-loved shop, please bring to our reception or send in with your child. We buy back skirts and badged jumpers and pay £5 for jumpers and £10 for skirts. We are opening our pre-loved shop to parents after school, on Friday 22nd May 3:30-4:30pm.

Parking/driving on site

Thank you for your continued support with students being off site by 4.30pm. Staff are on duty at drop off and pick up, asking parents if they have a parking permit to come on site. A high number of parents still seem surprised by this and say they are not aware that only those parents who have been issued with a pass, are permitted to drive onto the school site. The shared driveway and site is very difficult and it is not possible to allow everyone to drive onto the site. We ask that you drop off and pick up outside the school (Spencefield Lane). If you feel that your child meets the criteria for a pass (certified medical evidence is required) then please contact my PA, Mrs. Moss via email CMoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk



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Governors' Voice- Duncan Macdonald – Chair of Governors

“This term, we have welcomed Ann Sebastian and Arvinder Thandi as our new Foundation and Parent Governors, bringing valuable skills and experience to the Local Governing Body and returning it to its full complement of eight members. Governors have undertaken visits focused on English, Maths, Music, Dance, and Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), as well as attending the annual ‘marketplace’ event where staff share highlights from across the curriculum. It was inspiring to hear colleagues speak with such passion about their achievements, the challenges they have overcome, and their ambitions for the year ahead. What comes through strongly is the commitment to not only academic attainment but the holistic development of students. As we look ahead to next term and the upcoming exam season, we keep students and staff in our prayers and wish them every success.”

HPV Vaccination Study/Research

We have been asked to share the attached information from Dr. Postavaru, Project Lead at the University of Leicester; the research study is aimed at helping more children get the HPV vaccine and to help parents and guardians, make informed choices.

Brass Lessons – Leicestershire Music

Please find attached information from Andy Maycock, Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Manager for Leicestershire Music. Andy can offer 1:1 trumpet and trombone lessons starting after Easter. Instrument hire is free for the first 3 months and eligible for fee remission, there is a discounted monthly fee of £5 per month - more information available here <https://leicestershiremusic.org/hire-fee-remission>

If you wish to sign up for lessons, you can do so by opening the link on the attached poster.

Sporting Achievements

It has been a very successful half term for sports with 3 Basketball County Final Wins for Year 8 girls, Year 9 and 11 boys. The Year 11 boys are our most successful basketball team in the last 10 years, winning their 4th County championship. Congratulations also to our Sportshall Athletics students, who performed exceptionally well in the county finals as they faced some very tough competition, with only a few points separating 1st and 2nd place - Year 7 girls – 2nd; Year 7 boys – 2nd; Year 8 girls – 4th and Year 8 boys 1st place.



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My thanks and congratulations to all our amazing students and PE staff, a truly fantastic achievement, well done all!

St. Paul's 50th Golden Jubilee – September 2027.

Please help us to celebrate and promote this milestone on social media for those of you on Facebook, and if not done so already, please join a St. Paul's group. Thank you to those of you who have contributed memorabilia for our 'St. Paul's through the decades' showcase but we need more. Please send any items to Mrs. Moss. We promise to take very good care of everything.

Sustainability

How nice to share the below photos with all of you; spring is here despite the very strange weather we are having:



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- Many more spring flowers are now making an appearance, and our Tulip bed is looking particularly good at the moment.
- Our new Damson tree is starting to blossom, and many of the seeds students have sown in the polytunnel are starting to germinate
- We received a large donation of raspberry canes, so students in year 9 have been hard at working digging a new bed to plant them in.



Mr. Ostler, Sustainability Lead

Free and low cost activities during the Easter holiday

Please find attached a Trust Family Information Sheet and information below from the Leicester City Council, with ideas on things to do during the Easter break that are cost effective. I'm sure you will find of value.

This Easter, enjoy a variety of free or low-cost family activities - from craft sessions at libraries, to railway days at the Abbey Pumping Station, and a K-Pop day at Leicester Guildhall.

Full details of activities and events is available at families.leicester.gov.uk/easter-fun.

SEND Easter activity programme

Children with special needs and disabilities who live in Leicester can take part in free activities over the summer holidays. Siblings are welcome to attend, and parents/carers are required to accompany and support their children during the session.



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A food hamper/voucher will be provided to those families attending where their child is receiving benefits related free school meals. There is also an opportunity for families to sign up for an emotional well-being workshop focused on managing anxiety, low self-esteem and low moods. Full information about the programme is available at families.leicester.gov.uk/disabled-childrens-activity-programme. Alternatively, view the [SEND Easter Programme \(pdf\)](#).

Holiday activities and food programme (HAF) - Easter 2026

There is still time for children who eligible for benefits-related free school meals to register for HAF programme over Easter holiday and they will also receive a healthy lunch each day that they attend.

Full information is available at families.leicester.gov.uk/haf. Alternatively, view the [HAF programme list \(pdf\)](#).

Important Information for Parents and Carers - LCSP

As the school term comes to an end, we want to make sure our students stay safe. Leicester City Council and Leicestershire Police have noticed an increase in risky behaviour, especially on the last day of term. To help prevent this, they are asking families to talk about the risks of antisocial behaviour and how to stay safe.

Please read the attached letter, which has important advice on how to keep your children safe during this time. We encourage you to have a conversation with your child about making positive choices and taking part in safe activities outside of school.

Thank you for your support in keeping our young people safe.

Mrs Nicola Odom
Head of Safer Communities
Leicester City Council

Ryan Ludlam
NPA Commander
Leicestershire Police

Term Dates

Full Term Dates can be found on our website under the 'Parent' tab, Term Dates/School Day [Term Dates / School Day - St Paul's Catholic School](#)

Key dates for your diary

Pentecost Term

School opens for Pentecost term 1	Monday 13th April
Year 10 Mocks week 1	Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th April
Year 11 & 13 Thanksgiving Mass	Friday 1 st May
Year 9 Core Mocks	Tuesday 5 th – Friday 8 th May



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GCSE Written Exams (start)	Monday 11 th May
LGB Pentecost 1	Tuesday 12 th May 4:30pm
Pre-loved uniform shop open	Friday 22 nd May 3:30-4:30pm
School closes for half term –	Friday 22nd May
School opens for Pentecost term 2	Monday 1st June
Year 13 Parents Evening	Wednesday 3 rd June 3:40-6:40pm
Year 7 26-27 Parents Induction Evening	Thursday 11 th June 5-6:30pm
Year 12 Mocks – week 1	Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th June
Year 12 Mocks – week 2	Monday 22 nd – Friday 26 th June
Year 11 Prom	Thursday 18 th June -King Power Stadium
Year 13 Prom	Friday 19 th June – The Belmont Hotel
LGB Pentecost 2	Tuesday 23 rd June – 4:30pm
Yr's 7 & 8 School Awards Evening	Thursday 25 th June 4:30-6pm
Yr's 9 & 10 School Awards Evening	Wednesday 1 st July 4:30-6pm
Feast Day Mass	Friday 3 rd July 10:30am
School Uniform pop-up shop and Summer Fayre	Saturday 4 th July 9:30am-12:30pm

Safeguarding over the half-term break

If you are concerned about the safety or well-being of a child during the Easter 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.

Best wishes for a happy Easter holiday from myself and all the staff at St Paul's

Easter Prayer



S Conaghan

Mrs S Conaghan
Principal



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