



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

15 October 2026

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 really is a joy to have them here with us. It has been such a busy half term so let me update you all on what's been happening.

Half Term Updates

We have had some lovely events for our Year 7's including, Think Days, welcome Mass at St. Joseph's and the selection of their patron saint, Mother Teresa. We have also had a Sixth Form Induction Day; GCSE and A Level Award evenings, where we welcomed past and current students and families for the celebration. There has also been the Silver DofE and our very first Gold DofE and the start of our annual Public Speaking competition heats.

Mobile Phones

In whole, the law change which is now reflected in our Behaviour policy, with regards to mobile phones/devices in school, has been accepted with the overwhelming majority of students adhering to the new rules. As a reminder, the rules are:

- Phones/listening devices/watches which can send/receive messages or calls are all banned and must not be seen or used from the moment students enter through the grey gates until, the moment they exit them again at the end of the day
- Any devices seen will be confiscated and kept overnight, parents must collect them; they will not be given back to students. If a device is confiscated on a Friday, the phone will not be available to collect until the Monday morning as the school is closed over the weekend. If the Monday is a bank holiday, the phone can be collected on a Tuesday morning. If the school is closed for half term or during Easter/Christmas, the collection date will be advised to parents/guardians.
- For reference, the full Behaviour policy can be viewed on our website under the policy section.
- Students will be given a C4 Isolation if their item is confiscated
- Refusal to hand over an item will result in a suspension and repeated suspensions, should students repeat failure to comply with the rules; this will also result in students having to hand their phones to a member of staff, as they arrive in school each day which will then be returned to them, at the end of the day
- Those with a medical pass, can use their phones to check readings but must then put them away again immediately
- If a confiscated phone has a bus pass/bank card on it, we will call parents to ask how the student is getting home
- Sixth form can use devices in the sixth form study areas only

For reference, the full Behaviour policy can be viewed on our website under the policy section.



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Open Evening

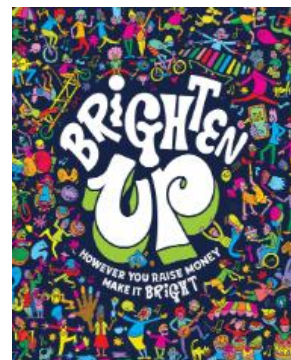
The attendance at Open Evening in September, was truly incredible. We estimate that just short of 800 parents and year 6 children joined us significantly beating the attendance number last year. We received such positive feedback and lovely comments from so many parents; one parent said they had never attended an Open Evening like it and how valuable and beneficial they found it, rewarding feedback indeed.

For those parents with a Year 6 child applying to St. Paul's please be reminded that the deadline for applications is 31st October, 2026. If applying on faith grounds, you must submit a Supplementary Information Form and acceptable evidence of faith direct to St. Paul's, without this, we will not be able to rank as a faith application. You need to do this even if you have a child currently with us. You can download the form on our website here [Home - St Paul's Catholic School](#) Please also submit your application to the Local Authority before 31st October, for ease, here is the link to the Leicester City Council application portal [School admissions | Leicester City Council](#)

Our Sixth Form open evening is on Thursday 5th November, 4:30-6:30pm. You can explore our curriculum, meet staff and our SSLT (Senior Sixth Form Leadership Team). I will deliver a presentation along with the Sixth Form team at 4:45 and 5:45pm. No booking is required.

Charity Fundraising

Tomorrow, is non-uniform day and we will be raising funds in support of CAFOD (the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). The theme for this year's harvest fundraising is '**Brighten Up**'. We invite all students to leave their usual school uniforms at home and come to school dressed in their brightest, most vibrant clothes. Whether it is a neon t-shirt, a colourful jumper, or bright socks, let us work together to flood our school with colour and bring light to those who need it most. In return for wearing non-uniform, we kindly ask for a suggested donation of **£1.00** (or whatever you can comfortably give). Payments can be made via Arbor, and members of the SSLT will be going to forms on Friday morning, to collect cash donations. All proceeds will go directly to CAFOD to support their life-changing work with communities facing extreme poverty and injustice around the world. As always, non-uniform clothing needs to be practical and appropriate, for a normal school day. You can find out more about CAFOD by clicking on the link below.



[How water projects are helping communities in Zimbabwe: Film for children | CAFOD](#)

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Our SSLT, hosted a wonderful 'cake sale' with many treats on sale including, hot chocolate with cream, topped with marshmallows and sprinkles. Thank you to all of you who donated cakes whether home made or shop bought. As always, your generosity on days like this, contributes so much to the amount and we raised an amazing £400.50



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Christmas Market and Carol Service

Our Christmas Market is on Wednesday 16th December, with our annual Carol concert, straight after. The Market start time is 4pm and this has become a lovely tradition and part of the lead up to Christmas. If any of you would like to host a stall or found out more about the market, then please drop my PA, Mrs Moss an email CMoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk or you can sign up here [St. Paul's Christmas Market – Fill in form](#) Please also share with anyone who you think may want to host a stall. Thank you!

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 will be selling Poppies again this year, which are a lovely keepsake to bring out to mark Remembrance Day; they are priced at £3 each and can be purchased via Arbor with all monies raised, going towards Help for Heroes. 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.

Invacuation & Lockdown

Our announced Invacuation drill went well and we plan to have an unannounced Invacuation drill, after half term. We also have a scheduled planned 'lockdown' drill. Just to remind you that we would have an Invacuation should there be a real or perceived danger on the school grounds; this would mean having to "lock down" the whole school. We do have school procedures for this which says parents will get a text alert saying we have a lockdown and ask that you **do not** come to the school. We would then let you know once we are out of the lockdown situation. We also ask that you do not advertise the lockdown on social media, or publicly criticise us for having a lockdown. Everything we would do is for the safety of students and staff. We will conduct a mock Invacuation in the first half term and I will share the date and details with you, nearer the time.



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St Paul's 50th Anniversary

Our Golden Jubilee in September, 2027 is fast approaching. We have received some lovely enquires from past students about the planned open day on Saturday 26th June and their desire to visit the school and remember their time here. We will of course share timings and a full schedule for the day with you all, once the schedule is finalised. Thank you to all who have sent in school memorabilia for our exhibition, St, Paul's through the decades. 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. We will continue to promote this milestone on social media and with staff and parents in termly newsletters.



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 4th December, at De Montfort Hall, Leicester. Letters will be sent home after half term for those students participating, which is in line with when the rehearsals begin. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased via the De Montfort Hall website [Catholic Schools Carol Concert In Aid Of Menphys - De Montfort Hall](#)

Uniform

We have reached out to our school uniform provider with a view to adding school 'branded' shorts as an optional item. Our summers are increasingly hotter year on year and I know so many of the children find the hot weather a struggle. At present, I am sourcing samples and reviewing cost but believe this will be a viable option. I will keep you updated.

As a reminder, how students wear their uniform reflects their attitude to school and our rules. I expect uniform to be worn properly and this means:

1. Shirts tucked in
2. Blazers and/or a badged jumper and **ties** to be worn at all times
3. Tartan school skirts knee length or longer and not rolled up
4. School trousers to be tailored and straight leg
5. No facial piercings other than for religious or cultural reasons; there should be one piercing
6. No excessive make up or false eyelashes
7. No long coloured false nails or polish. Short French manicure is acceptable
8. Footwear should be all black with no visible logos and no boots
9. ID badge/lanyards to be worn
10. No colour hair extensions



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The rule on jumpers and blazers is that students must either wear the v neck badged jumper or the blazer. They can of course be worn together. Students are not permitted to wear a jumper without the badge. You can purchase school badges from Arbor and these can be collected from the school office; these can be sewn onto a plain black v neck jumper. Please place on the left hand side.

Our approach to non-compliance with regards to uniform will be to inform you, issue detentions and then persistent non-compliance will result in isolation and in extreme situations, suspension. Parents can use their Pupil Premium allowance to help pay for uniform where appropriate.

Our pre-loved shop is so well established, thanks to your ongoing donations and 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. You can call the school office at any time to enquire about sizes and stock.

Cars on Site

I appreciate that this is inconvenient, but 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 (there are six of you); these passes are only issued upon certified medical evidence for your child. 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 The number of cars driving through continues to present a huge safety risk to the students. If a member of staff asks you to move your car off site, then please do so. It is not acceptable for a member of staff to be spoken to in a rude manner and we have had some instances where parents have used foul language when they have been asked to move which is unacceptable. Additionally, when collecting students from after school clubs, after 4pm, parents continue to park and line up immediately outside reception; car park spaces are usually available at this time so I would ask that you use them.

Barrier update

Works will commence for the new barrier for both entrance and exit next week, with the road/associated tarmacking being the first step. The barrier should be fully operational by w/c 23rd November. The barrier will support an intercom system which should only be accessed at drop off and pick up, for those parents with a permit.

As a reminder, 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

I would still really like to establish a PTA for fundraising and recruit new parents to the parent



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forum. The parent forum is a representative group of parents that I can seek feedback from and consult with, with meetings happening termly. School budgets have for a long time now, not supported school projects, and my hope is that with some great fundraising we can do so much more in school for the students and our buildings. If you are experienced in fundraising or just keen to be part of our new PTA, please drop Mrs Moss an email and we'll be in touch. CMoss@st-auls.leicester.sch.uk

Communication

Recently, staff including me, have been receiving an increasing amount of AI generated emails from parents; the emails are lengthy and in the most, have a hostile tone and wording. Our first communication preference is to always speak to us however, I appreciate that busy lifestyles with work and parental commitments, can hinder this from happening and email, for so many, has become the first point of communication. We always strive to build successful positive and supportive relationships with our parent community and receiving AI generated emails, are only alienating and a barrier to this. I do need to ask that you refrain from using AI when emailing staff/school. A quick email asking us to contact you with some times, would be preferable.

Buses

Please remember that if you choose for your child to travel in on a Confidence Bus, the contract is between parent and the bus company and all communication should be sent direct to the bus company and not the school.

Flu Immunisation Programme 2026

I have been asked to share the following update and attached consent letter, from the Flu Immunisation Programme Team:

*While consent invitations are issued through our **MAVIS electronic consent system**, we are asking schools to share the attached letter as an additional communication method. This helps to ensure that all parents and carers are aware of the programme and provides an opportunity to capture any families who may not have received, seen, or responded to the electronic consent invitation.*

Thank you,

School Aged Immunisation Service

Families, Young People and Children's Services and Learning Disabilities and Autism
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust
Tel: 0300 3000 007
E-mail: lpt.sais@nhs.net
Website: www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/schoolagedimms



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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 – Trust Family Information Sheet

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

Advent Term – events and dates

Charity non-uniform day–school closes for half term.	16 October
School opens to all students	26 October
Sixth Form Open Evening 4:30-6:30pm	5 November
Future Choices Event Yr's 10-13	12 November
Year 9 Parents Evening in school	19 November
CMAT Inset day – school closed to all students	20 November
Year 7 Parents Evening in school	2 December
Snowcase	8 + 9 December
Christmas Movie hosted by Sixth Form	10 December
Christmas Market 4pm and Carol Concert 5:45pm	16 December
Christmas Non-uniform day - School closes at 12:30pm	18 December

Term Dates

Full Term Dates 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 on 20th November, students across the Trust are not in school that day.

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.



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



A Prayer for Half Term



*Loving God,
We thank you for the weeks of learning,
growing, and hard work that have brought us to
this half-term break.
Grant teachers, support staff, students and
parents, the deep rest and refreshment they
have earned.
Protect our children and young people as they
step away from the classroom, filling their days
with safe adventures, play, and joy.
Bless families with patience, gentle moments,
and time to reconnect with one another.
As we pause and breathe, remind us of your
constant presence and peace.
Amen.*



Yours faithfully,

Mrs. S. Conaghan
Principal
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