



# St Paul's News



*"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"*

FEBRUARY 2026



## CONTENTS

**February- p1**  
**Attendance - p2**  
**Extended School- p3**  
**Nursery- p4**  
**Reception- p5**  
**Year 1- p6**  
**Year 2- p7**  
**Year 3- p8**  
**Year 4- p9**  
**Year 5- p10-p11**  
**Year 6- p12**  
**Time to Dance-p13**  
**Year 5 Aspirations project- p14**  
**Young Voices- p15**  
**St Matthew's Church - p16**  
**Key dates - p17**

February has been full of excitement and unforgettable memories at St Paul's. From the incredible experience our school Choir enjoyed performing at the O2, to our younger children learning outdoors despite the winter chill and rain, making the most of our outside learning spaces with curiosity, laughter and teamwork! The Reception children had great fun flipping and eating pancakes!

We look forward to the warmer months ahead and all the exciting opportunities they will bring for learning, exploring, and growing together.



# Attendance

"ALWAYS STRIVING TO BE BETTER"

**Only 5 classes had their attendance at or above 95% this term.**

Overall school attendance this term is **93.9%** which is below the national average of **94.6%** to date; both percentages have fallen over the last month.

We also really appreciate your continued efforts with attendance. Strong routines help the children feel settled, happy, and ready to learn, and we're grateful for your support. We are committed to providing every child with the best possible education. When children attend school consistently, they benefit from the full learning experience, build strong relationships with their peers and teachers, and develop routines that support lifelong success.

**A big well done to all 5 classes that have an attendance at or above 95%!**

## Attendance this term

RLB	92.7%	2MC	92.6%	4AB	93.1%
RBCKC	93.5%	2JS	93.0%	5JM	93.8%
RSM	96.5%	3JB	97.7%	5ER	91.6%
1HI	95.7%	3CR	94.9%	5EY	91.6%
1LG	92.9%	3GH	94.8%	6CW	95.0%
1LBLG	94.8%	4HM	95.5%	6KG	91.0%
2HONH	94.7%	4VLTS	94.6%	6ECM	94.2%

3JB- 97.7%

# Extended Schools

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

The children's imagination came alive this month. They built Greek Titans , birds and the play dough table transformed into a bakery. We have celebrated Chinese New Year - year of the horse .

Well done to all the children that tried the duck wraps .



"I like the baking play dough as my friends were playing with me." Astrid

"Duck wrap was different but tasty." Daisy

" At breakfast club I enjoy the pancakes and waffles. During circle time my favourite games are basket hockey and honey bear." Pearly

# Nursery

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"



Chalk pastels



Stay and play board games

Stay and play - sharing a book with grandparents



Star writers board

This month has been full of creativity, confidence building and joyful learning across the Nursery.

We continued practising our scissor skills by making vibrant Chinese dragons, paper lanterns to celebrate Chinese New Year. The children showed great perseverance as they snipped, curled and assembled their creations.

A real highlight was our Oracy Stay and Play Workshop where the children proudly showed their parents around the Nursery environment. It was wonderful to see them taking the lead, sharing their favourite spaces and demonstrating their growing confidence in speaking and listening.

We also explored chalk pastels in the Art Studio, discovering how colours can blend, smudge and layer to create soft textured effects. The children experimented with pressure, movement and shading, producing beautiful artwork while developing fine motor control and early mark-making skills.

Our younger learners delighted us with their performance of the Little Green Dinosaur, complete with actions and big expressions. Others followed the story map carefully with their fingers, and some even created their own story maps - changing characters and inventing new twists with impressive imagination.

We introduced board games this term, giving the children opportunities to practise turn-taking, patience, early counting and simple rule following. These games sparked lots of laughter and teamwork, and they've quickly become a favourite part of our routine.

A special celebration goes to one of our Nursery children whose work made it all the way to Mr Trimming's Star Writers board. She labelled her drawing by writing all the letters in her name. A fantastic achievement and a moment of real pride for us all.



Innovating - Little Green Dinosaur

Little Green Dinosaur actions



Little Green Dinosaur story map



2 year old - stay and play

# Reception

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"



The adults in Reception acted out the story of 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' for our Term 4 writing hook. The children loved watching Clumsy Cat, Shaky Sheep and Roly-Poly rabbit fall out of the boat!



The children then designed and made their own boats.

"My boat has a net to catch fish"- Anna

"I put on a plank and some portholes"- Oshi

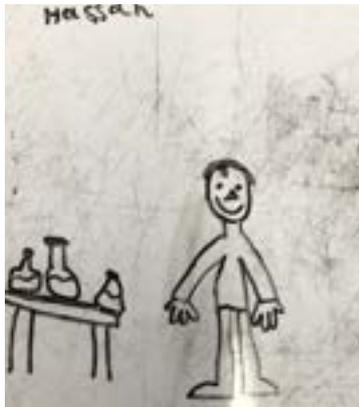
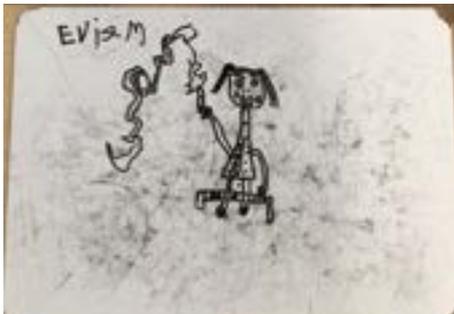


# Year 1

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"



Janine let the children explore her Doctor's kit. They guessed what each bit of equipment might be used for, asked lots of questions and shared stories about their own experiences at the Doctors.  
Before Janine came in, children drew their own pictures to show what they thought a scientist might look like.



# Year 2

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"



In Art, 2JS have been learning how to draw birds and focused on texture and shape. We used different materials to make our own 3D birds and had a lot of fun.



# Year 3

*"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"*

Year 3 have embraced a powerful courageous advocate focus this term, inspired by the remarkable examples of Malala Yousafzai and Mother Teresa. Through exploring Malala's bravery in speaking up for education and Mother Teresa's lifelong commitment to compassion, pupils have been learning what it means to stand up for others, use their voices for good, and show kindness through action. Year 3 have also launched their own Kindness Post Box, a simple but powerful way to brighten someone's day.

Pupils are encouraged to write thoughtful notes to classmates: messages of encouragement, gratitude, or friendship and post them for others to receive. The excitement of sending and receiving these surprise acts of kindness has already created a warm buzz around the classroom, helping children recognise how small, positive words can make a big difference to someone else's week.



# Year 4

## "LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

Year Four had their minds blown by an eco-VR workshop which tied into our Geography learning about sustainability and looking after our environment to protect our future.

"We had to wear VR headsets. Through the headset we could see robots that talked about spirituality."  
Pearly

"It was good! I liked the eco-part system the most because it was very interesting."  
Edie

"It was fun! We learnt not to pollute the sea-we saw the past and the future."  
Holly

"Putting the headsets on was a little scary. The robots move in different directions."  
Lois



# Year 5

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

## VR solar system tour

All Year 5 children experienced a Virtual reality tour of the solar system. They found the factual commentary useful and were very engaged by the quick quizzing of Mr King.

Mr King recommended the Nasa website for more tours (treks) of the planets and moons in our solar system.



A few children from 5EY brought in some of their incredible Home Learning. We had pieces of homework all about space, volcanoes and arithmetic!

The children loved explaining to each other what they had completed and showing off their incredible learning with the class.



# Year 5

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

## Herstmonceux



Khaleem - There was a lot of fun stuff to do there to keep you entertained, especially the water bit. The playpark was really cool and we had to use teamwork to get the ball all the way to the top. Willow - I loved the plasma ball because it was really cool and I still don't understand how it goes to your fingers

Roxy - I found all of the experiments were really interesting, my favourite was the one where you had to suspend the ball in the air and get it through the hoop

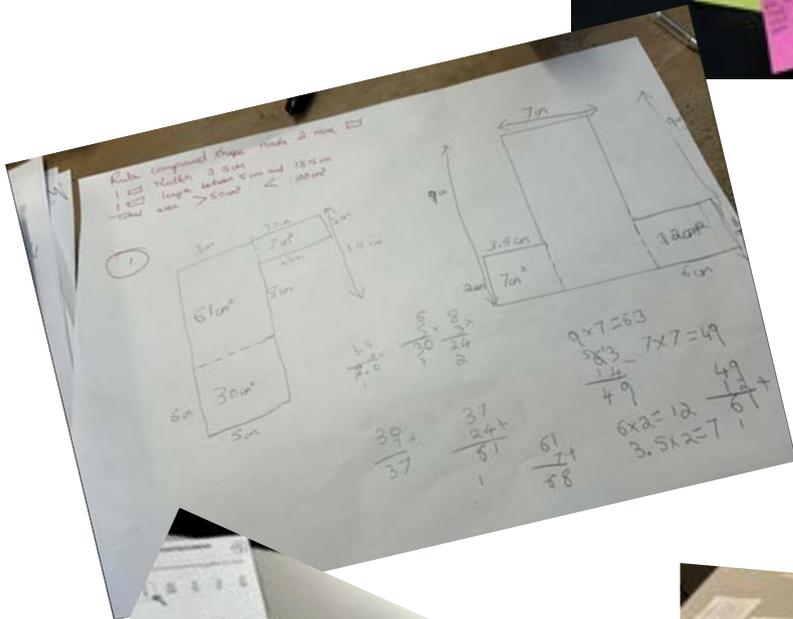
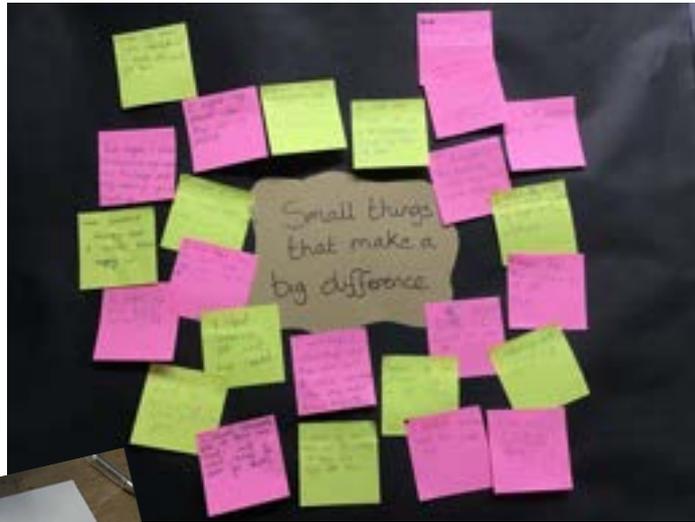
Aurora - I really like the one where we had to try not to get the electric shock to you. I also liked the tornado one.

Angelo - I really liked building the crystal structures with little balls



# Year 6

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"



# Time to Dance

*"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"*

What a fabulous way to end Term 3!

This years Time to Dance theme was The Past, and the children certainly brought it to life.

The week began with the brilliant Funk Fusion Fitness group, who opened Monday's matinee with an energetic rock-and-roll number straight from the 1960s. Their confidence and enthusiasm lit up the stage; well done to every child involved.



Funk Fusion Fitness

On the Wednesday, it was the Dance Club's turn to shine. Years 4 and 5 performed a joyful routine from Hairspray, while Year 6 worked with me to create their own choreography to Beyoncé's End of Time. As always, Dance Club demonstrated superb behaviour, danced beautifully, and made the evening truly special. A heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers, your support makes opportunities like this possible.



Mrs Lawson

# Year 5 Aspirations project

*"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"*



A group of our Year 5 pupils have been meeting different professionals from medical and social care careers. They have quizzed our visitors about their jobs and also enjoyed 'hands-on' activities. Last week, they learnt how to give CPR.



# Young Voices

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

9,000 children- no words needed



# St Matthew's

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

## Matthew Foy – Minister



Matthew has been our minister since September 2019. Matthew trained for ministry at Oak Hill Theological College and served his curacy in North London. He is married to Tracey and has two children. Matthew is also the minister of St Ethelburga's Church in West St. Leonards. Matthew can be contacted at [matthew@stmatts.co.uk](mailto:matthew@stmatts.co.uk).

## Pauline Blythe – Church Administrator



Pauline is our Church Administrator. She keeps us all organised and manages the bookings for the St Matthew's Church Centre. Pauline can be contacted at [office@stmatts.co.uk](mailto:office@stmatts.co.uk).

## Fran Wratten – Assistant Administrator



Fran is our Assistant Church Administrator. She assists with the running of the church office. Fran can be contacted at [office@stmatts.co.uk](mailto:office@stmatts.co.uk).

## Churchwardens

A Hodgkins and B Masters-Stevens

## Parish Safeguarding Officer

Maggie Lloyd

Address: c/o St Matthew's Church Centre, London Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. TN37 6PD.

# Key Dates

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

**Friday 6th March** - St Paul's World Book Day

**Friday 20th March** - Comic Relief

**Friday 20th March** - Reception Spring Concert- 9.30am Main Hall

**Friday 27th March** - Years 4, 5, 6 - Easter Service 10am @ St Matthew's

**Friday 27th March** - End of Term 4

**Monday 13th April** - Start of Term 5

**Monday 11th May** - Year 6 SATs week

**Friday 22nd May** - End of Term 5

**Monday 1st June** - Start of Term 6

**Tuesday 21st July** - Year 6 Prom

**Tuesday 21st July** - End of Term 6

**Wednesday 22nd July** - INSET Day

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from you as well as any new  
ideas for things we could include  
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any comments to  
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