

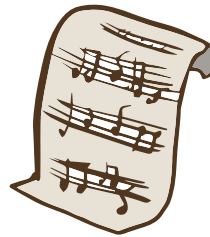


St Paul's News



"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

JANUARY 2025



Happy New Year!

A cold start to January with many dark and wet mornings. We are looking forward to brighter and longer days as Spring approaches.

The Choir had a long and exciting day at the O2 on the 22nd January, rehearsing and singing with over 8,000 children.

Tommy Blaise, from Strictly, led the singing.

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Attendance

"ALWAYS STRIVING TO BE BETTER"

3 classes had their attendance above 95% this month.

Overall school attendance this term is **93.9%** which is below the national average of **94.5%** to date. Please remember that in the event of your child being absent from school, it is your responsibility to let the front office know the reason for this through ringing in using Option 1 or leaving a message via Arbor.

A big well done to all 3 classes that have an attendance above 95% so far this term!

Attendance this term

RLB	91.8%	2JS	92.9%	4AB	91.9%
RBCKC	95.3%	2LG	94.2%	5JM	92.7%
RKS	88.3%	3EL	91.6%	5ER	93.5%
1CD	96.6%	3AY	93.8%	5GH	94.9%
1RM	90.0%	3JB	92.1%	6CW	92.3%
1MCLB	94.9%	4VLTS	93.4%	6KG	93.8%
2HONH	97.7%	4HM	91.9%	6ECM	91.4%

2HONH-
97.7%

Year 4

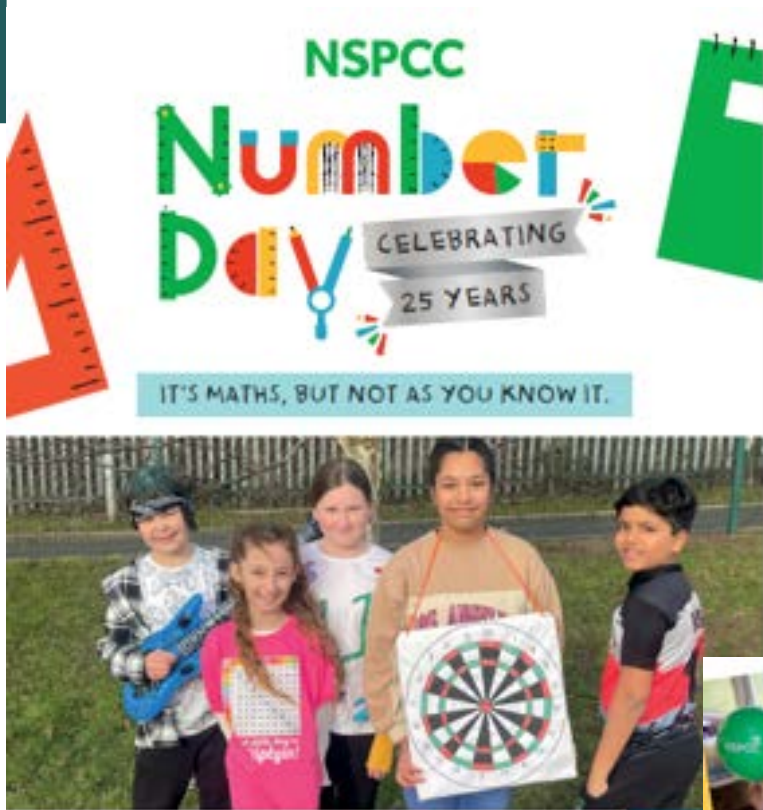


Year 4 have been learning about how we hear sounds.
We investigated how to make String Telephones.



"The sounds get caught in the cup and then the vibrations travel down the strings and then you can hear them on the other end." Eva, 4HM

Maths



On 7th February 2025, we will be taking part in the NSPCC's Number Day.

We will be doing lots of number activities throughout the day and learning about why the NSPCC is important.

Miss Godden

Friday 7 February 2025
#numberday



We will be dressing up as digits on the day so please come to school wearing numbers. This could be as simple as decorating a white T-shirt in numbers and symbols, writing out the times tables on them, wearing a cardboard domino piece, coming as a Numberblock... the possibilities are endless!



How about decorating a plain t-shirt or wearing your favourite sports top with a number?

Number Day

Dress up for Digits 'Be Inspired'



Could you be a human calculator, dice, domino or playing card?



Have fun and Dress up for Digits! #numberday

NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

Reading

Y5 - Young People's Book Prize

Some pupils in Y5 have been selected to judge The Royal Science Association's short-listed books of the year. The Award aims to promote high-quality science books for young people and encourage children to read STEM books. We are very excited we are taking part in this. It is a real privilege that our school has been selected to judge this year's shortlist.



East Sussex Children's Book Award

Our Year 6 pupils are enjoying reading the shortlisted books for this year's Book Award. The selection of books is aimed at children age 8-12 years old and they are an excellent way for children to discover new favourite authors and genres. The books are all available from Hastings Library.



Extended Schools

What a fantastic start to 2025!

We had a visit from drumming club. They gave the children a wonderful drumming recital. Then the children got to dance and clap along to the inspirational music.

During extended schools, the children were able to compete in the Times Table Rock Star Challenges set by Miss Godden and DCAT.

We celebrated Chinese New Year - The Year of the Snake. Learning about how the order of the Zodiac animals was decided. Then the children wanted to know which animal they were.

Light tea was influenced by Chinese New Year: Vegetable Noodles, Chicken noodle soup, Prawn crackers and vegetable sticks

As part of our New Year, New beginnings. The children enjoyed making money boxes to start saving for the year. Some children were able to get their hands dirty and plant some spring flowers, they have been protected from the recent frost but are now showing signs of growing.

At Breakfast Club, the children requested a continental breakfast. So now some mornings we offer French stick or croissants, ham, cheese and tomatoes. Which the children have enjoyed.

Extended schools have started to support children with their homework, We will listen to them read and sign their reading records , allow them to access Times Table Rock Stars .

We look forward to an exciting year at Extended Schools .

Mrs Fairweather

I like how we have so many different choices each day"

"The Food!"

"I enjoy breakfast, when we have croissants "

"I like having waffles or strawberry pancakes and apple juice



Sports @ St Paul's

DCAT Sports Hall Athletics- Thursday 23rd January 2025

An afternoon where three dropped batons were the difference between 1st and 2nd.

A great afternoon of competition with so many new faces (7) taking part for the first time.

We did end up 2nd place, but we have a good chance to change that at the next event in 2 weeks.

Mr McGowan

Hastings & Rother Schools Gymnastics Competition



Wellbeing

Children's Mental Health Week

We will be supporting Children's Mental Health Week this year with all pupils having lessons about this year's theme which is 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself.' The theme aims to help our children to understand themselves so they can be more prepared to deal with their emotions and how they cope with life's up and downs.



5 top tips from Place2Be to support your child

1. **Encourage journaling.** Encourage your child to express their emotions and feelings through journaling
2. **Make space for reflection.** Go for a walk, drive, or try mindful colouring or baking together. Children will find it easier to reflect on their different emotions and also to understand themselves better if they can talk in a relaxed way.
3. **Be visual.** Use imagery, such as emojis or flashcards to help children and young people to recognise and label their feelings.
4. **Practice mindfulness.** Try mindful activities and quiet family time to enjoy being in the present moment.
5. **Communicate.** Feedback is crucial for helping us see our blind spots and gain greater insight into ourselves. Creating safe and supportive ways to share your own experience will help your child to understand themselves.

Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

[Here4you](#)

[Place2Be](#)

If you have concerns about your child's mental health, contact our Senior Mental Health Lead - Miss Watson
lwatson@stpaulsceaacademy.org

Young Voices 2025 at the O2

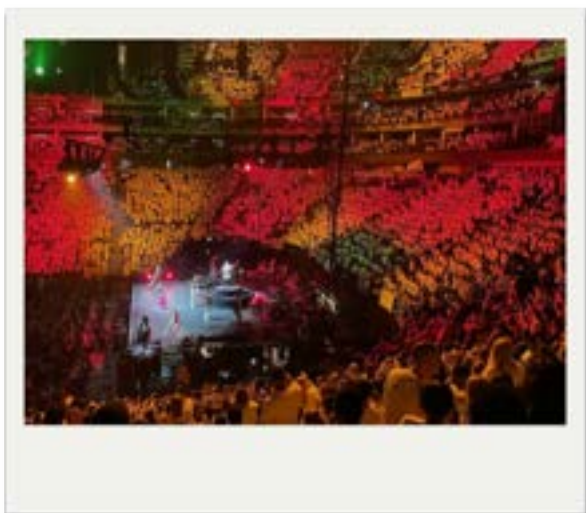


The Choir spent an amazing day up at the O2 Arena in London on 22nd January taking part in the annual Young Voices concert.

Young Voices is the largest children's choir in the world with nearly 10000 children taking part. It is an incredible experience for the children to be part of as well as giving them a chance to sing alongside professional musicians.

They behaved impeccably on what is a very enjoyable but extremely long and tiring day - and they sang beautifully!

Well done St Paul's Academy Choir!



Safeguarding

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straight away.
(01424 424530 ext 4 for safeguarding)

If a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999 or contact Children's Services on 01323 464222









Be Bright Be Seen

www.think.gov/resource/be-bright-be-seen-game

We are all looking forward to Spring and warmer and lighter days but at the moment the evenings are still very dark. The link above is to great game for children to play deciding which clothing is better to be wearing when looking at road safety in the winter.

Good to Know - Minimum ages for Popular apps

-  Facebook (minimum age 13)
-  Instagram (minimum age 13)
-  Snapchat (minimum age 13)
-  TikTok (minimum age 13)
-  WhatsApp (minimum age 13)
-  YouTube (minimum age 13)



We have heard a number of children across the school referring to Squid games. This is from our younger years through to Year 6. We would like to remind all parents that the age recommendation for this programme is 15+ and therefore it's not suitable for any of our children.

Safeguarding

Natonline-What-Parents-and-Carers-need-to-know-about-Squid-Game (2).pdf

What Parents Need to Know about SQUID GAME

AGE RESTRICTION

15+

Suitable only for 15 years and over.

With themes of horror and violence, it's important for parents and carers to understand the potential risks posed to young audiences by the nine-episode Netflix-exclusive TV show, Squid Game. The series, rated 15+, is about a world where contestants who are deeply in debt play children's games in order to win cash prizes. The losers, however, are violently killed. The show's popularity has meant it has spread in various guises across online platforms, with a heightened risk of children and young people potentially viewing unsuitable content. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers understand exactly what Squid Game is all about.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some might argue that Squid Game contains content that might not even be suitable for older teens, let alone young children. Characters are brutally tortured and killed through stabbings or getting shot as a result of rules developed and enforced by a masked game master. The show also features sexual content and threats of sexual violence, as well as a strong theme of gambling that runs throughout the whole show.

APPEAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Whilst the content is very much adult-themed, some features of the show seem to appeal to young children at face-value. The name "Squid Game" may be interpreted as a programme aimed at children rather than adults. The content itself, such as the bright and childish aesthetics, may also appeal to young children, particularly as there's a focus on playground games to go with it.

SIMILAR CONTENT SUGGESTIONS

When using social media and streaming sites, content is recommended based on what is the user has consumed i.e. what they have watched or searched for. Therefore, there is a greater chance of your child being exposed to similar violent or horror-themed content on social media after watching a show like Squid Game.

VIRAL SPIN-OFFS

As well as Netflix, Squid Game has grown in notoriety and prevalence on other platforms, like TikTok and YouTube, with clips of the show going viral. On YouTube Kids, a number of successful channels have taken advantage of the Squid Game trend, creating content such as "How to Draw Squid Game Characters" videos. Its popularity has also led to the creation of app games that put the player in the role of a contestant who is killed if they lose a game.

SCENE RE-ENACTMENTS

Squid Game's pervasive presence on social media has encouraged many content creators to re-enact scenes from the show, which has led to reports of children wanting to also imitate those scenes displayed on social media at home and in school. Much of this content stems from the "Red Light, Green Light" game from the first episode, where contestants attempt to make it past a giant animatronic girl before she shoots them.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Netflix has easily accessible built-in parental controls that allow you to set up a profile for your child with a specific age rating, block them from watching certain shows and even lock their account so it can't be accessed by anyone else. Netflix also allows you to access your child's viewing history to make sure they're not watching anything inappropriate for their age.

MONITOR ONLINE ACTIVITY

Squid Game has become a social media craze and it's possible your child will see some content related to the show on various platforms. Therefore, it's important to be aware of which websites your child has visited on their smartphone, tablet or laptop, and to also keep an eye out for which accounts they are following on social media platforms, such as Instagram and TikTok.

MONITOR BEHAVIOUR

Due to the viral nature of the show, even if your child has not seen Squid Game, it's important to keep an eye on their behaviour. There have been reports from schools of children "playing Squid Game" in the playground and acting aggressively towards the losers as a way to replicate the consequences of losing in the TV show. Viewing content that makes your child feel uncomfortable could also cause them to feel distressed or distracted, so it's important you can easily spot the signs.

CHECK AGE RATINGS

Age ratings on TV shows and films are a way to gauge what is suitable for audiences of different ages. If you are unsure about the content your child is watching, check the age rating to see if the TV show or film is deemed suitable for their age group. If not, try watching the show yourself or talking to other parents who have seen it before to get a better understanding of why it's been rated a certain way.

HAVE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Making sure your child is comfortable telling you about what they see online can go a long way to ensuring you are kept in the loop about their online use. Showing an interest in what your child is doing online gives you the opportunity to discuss what is and is not appropriate for their age group, and how they might recognise their own feelings towards content they see.

WATCH THE SHOW

If you're trying to figure out whether you should let your child watch Squid Game, it might be a good idea to watch the show yourself first. Doing so will allow you to get a better understanding of the show's content and themes, as well as help you decide if this is something you'd feel comfortable with your child being exposed to.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Pace is an experienced and highly respected freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant. Previously the editor of tech blog The INQUIRER, Carly now works as the news editor for Computer Shopper and IT Pro and writes for a number of publications including Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The Metro, iSwitch and WJSD.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH

St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex



St Matthews
**THE ESCAPE FROM
EGYPT
HOLIDAY CLUB**

FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION – YEAR 6 £6 FOR 3 MORNINGS

WED 19TH FEB	9.30-12.00
THURS 20TH FEB	9.30-12.00
FRI 21ST FEB	9.30-12.30

All children in Reception – Year 6 are invited to The Escape from Egypt Holiday Club this February half term.

Each morning we will discover more about God from the bible and how he rescues his people, along with games, crafts, drama and snacks.

The Escape from Egypt Holiday Club will take place at our Church Centre (TN37 6PD), on
Wed 19th Feb: 9.30-12.00,
Thurs 20th Feb: 9.30-12.00
Fri 21st Feb: 9.30-12.30.

Parents are invited to join us for a free lunch on the Friday from 12.00-12.30.
The cost is £6 per child for all 3 mornings.

Don't miss out on the Egyptian fun, book your child a place by clicking [HERE](#)
or visit <https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/NTU1MyOxMw/t>

You are also invited to a special Holiday Club celebration service on Sunday 23rd February at 11am in the Church.

If you have any queries please contact Nicky at nicky@stmatts.co.uk or by ringing the church office on 01424 425863.

Key Dates

Monday 3rd February- Children's Mental Health Week

Week beginning 3rd February- Sierra Leone fun Run

Tuesday 11th February - Safer Internet Day

Friday 14th February- Last day of Term 3

Monday 24th February- Start of Term 4

Tuesday 4th March 3.30-6pm- Parent Consultations

Thursday 6th March 4.30-7pm- Parent Consultations

Thursday 6th March- World Book Day

St Paul's CE Academy,
Horntye Road,
St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex,
TN37 6RT

Tel: 01424 424530

office@stpaulsceaacademy.org

We'd love to hear some feedback from you as well as any new ideas for things we could include in our St Paul's News. Please send any comments to office@stpaulsceaacademy.org