



Careers

Meaningful | Aspirational | Relevant



St Paul's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Ministerium Tuum Imple Love | Serve | Do the best that is possible

Newsletter

Lent 2
2026



Welcome to our Lent newsletter

Over a 1000 student encounters in one term !!

During this term we have had two major weeks – National Apprenticeship Week and then National Careers Week. Here at St Paul's, we don't just focus on those weeks, we spread our activities over the whole term to maximise the number of pupils we reach out to.

To achieve this number of encounters we work with many local companies, businesses, alumni, schools and nurseries to deliver a range of excellent opportunities for our students to gain valuable insights into the world of work and help to prepare them for their career journey beyond school.

National Apprenticeship Week

We organised our usual Get That Apprenticeship event and were supported by a range of guests including alumni who are currently doing apprenticeships. Students had the opportunity to go through the application process for an apprenticeship which included a mock interview. The first-hand advice and insight into the process they received will help them with their application to do an apprenticeship.



Natalia from BA



Declan – Network Rail

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Work Experience

Every Year 10 pupil had a two week experience of work. It was quite hybrid this year with some pupils doing a two week placement, some did one week, some did one week at two placements, and a limited number did a virtual WEX. This was very challenging for us as a team, but we have an excellent database of contacts now and just under a third of pupils sourced their own placement.

We held a Thank You breakfast for employers who support our Work Experience programme. We invited existing providers, those new to the programme and employers who take multiple students.

THANK YOU!!!

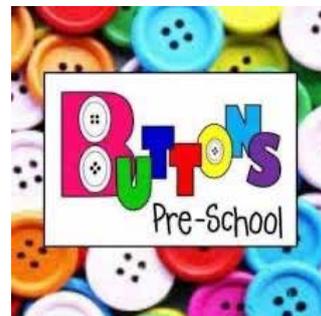
We are always looking for more placements to add to our database, so if you or someone you know would be interested in being involved in WEX, please contact us at workexperience@st-pauls.org.uk



Oxford House
DENTAL PRACTICE



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SCHOOLWEAR
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Gemini
RAIL SERVICES



milton keynes council



**Milton Keynes
University Hospital**
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Broadening Horizons

We held our final two Broadening Horizons sessions for Year 10 during National Careers Week. This time we had guests from Gulliver's Land, Volkswagen, Bucks Fire and Rescue Service, Dufeu IT Solutions as well as members of our alumni network. This was a chance for pupils to find out first-hand about job opportunities locally as well as pathways and qualifications needed. We were delighted that Paul Herbert, our Chair of Governors, attended one of the sessions.



Volkswagen



Army Day



We invited 80 Year 9s to an Army Day where they found out about job opportunities, career pathways and some of the perks of being in the Army. These include learning new sports and gaining coaching qualifications, travelling to jungles, the Arctic and rainforests and gaining qualifications to help their career once they leave the armed forces.





Worktree

Worktree have a long history of working with us. They are a charity and have organised hundreds of thousands of conversations between young people and working people. Through these conversations together they inspire and broaden young people's career aspirations.

Worktree is a 'trunk' of volunteers through which young people can learn, imagine and blossom as workers. They believe that having multiple conversations about work is vital to young people's development as workers. They enable students to ask working people openly what they do, find out how they got there and imagine themselves in that role.



Gulliver's Land

A selection of pupils from Years 8 and 9 participated in a Dragons' Den at Gulliver's Land. They were tasked with coming up with ideas for a new area at the theme park. They then had to present their ideas to a panel from the company. They also got a chance to have a go on a couple of rides. A very enjoyable day for these lucky pupils.





Business Den

A group of Year 12 D & T students visited Accelera to find out about the work they do to help decarbonize businesses with advanced zero-emissions technologies that deliver reliable, sustainable power. They have a broad portfolio of electric and hydrogen technologies including battery systems, fuel cells, ePowertrain systems and electrolyzers to power commercial transportation and industrial applications. The students heard informative talks from employees about Accelera's business operations and the path they had taken to get to their current positions.



Student Ambassadors

We have 12 Student Ambassadors this year. They are actively involved in all our events. So far, they have led interview panels for Get that Job, assisted at Unifrog sessions, organised teas and coffees for our guests and had the chance to develop their networking skills at each event. This has helped the Ambassadors to gain a better understanding of the world of work, the importance of employability skills and to build confidence in talking to new people and to large groups of pupils. We are very grateful for all their help.



Unifrog

This is a platform designed to assist students in making informed decisions about their academic and career paths. It serves as a one-stop hub for exploring opportunities such as universities, apprenticeships, and internships, and aims to level the playing field in access to post-school opportunities.



Unifrog is embedded throughout the careers provision. **Unifrog can be accessed at home too not just in school.**

Networking

Networking for young people at school is a critical, lifelong skill that builds a foundation for career success by unlocking opportunities, enhancing confidence, and providing access to mentorship.

We were told by one guest “Your CV isn’t dead, but networking is your real hack” so we have been actively encouraging our pupils to network with guests at all our events. We have been delighted by the confidence pupils are showing when talking to new people and guests are so complimentary about the questions pupils are asking.

Spinal Injuries association (SIA)– Share a PIE for SCI

We are very excited to be part of a pilot project, known as Share a PIE for SCI. It is part of a new trial for how a work experience project can be delivered to a younger cohort than the traditional Year 10 age group. Year 8 students are all very enthusiastic and are engaging with the project.



All in all, throughout this term we have organised over 1,000 meaningful encounters with employers. This newsletter is a celebration of all the people who support our events and help to develop our pupils’ awareness of career opportunities, pathways and qualifications and the importance of networking.

Contacting Us:

If you would like to become involved in our careers programme, we would love to hear from you.

- To offer work experience placements: workexperience@st-pauls.org.uk
- To become part of the alumni and supporters network: alumniandsupporters@st-pauls.org.uk
- To be involved in any Careers activities or to find out more about what we organise: nicola.parkins@st-pauls.org.uk or laura.palmiero@st-pauls.org.uk