

3rd October 2025

Dear Families

We have had a good week at St. Paul's, ending today with a non-uniform day to raise money for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. On Monday we began our two week 'Temperature Check' window. It was a real pleasure to visit lessons to 'take the temperature' of the school. I was so impressed by how hard your children are working and rising to the challenge teachers are presenting. Today, Year 7 to 9 have had Flu Vaccinations where parental consent has been given. Sixth Form A level Politics and History students welcomed our MP, Emily Darlington, today for a question and answer session in the Maureen Grant Room. Ms Darlington first gave a brief introduction and then allowed the students to ask her questions. Some of the topics covered included how we can look after vulnerable people in our society, how can we rebuild trust in government, how can we help narrow opportunity gaps for children in Milton Keynes and if modern society is becoming united or divided. We are very proud of the way the students diligently researched Ms Darlington's record to prepare for her visit. Ms Darlington was very complimentary of our students and remarked how enthusiastic and well prepared they were. Students really enjoyed this opportunity to speak truth to power and bring real politics into the classroom. We are hoping to see Ms. Darlington again when our students take a trip to the Houses of Parliament in December. Student Leaders are attending the MK Youth Summit 2025 today.

In netball this week at Glebe Farm Year 10 won 8 – 3, with Year 8 losing 9 – 2 and Year 9 losing 11 – 1 against Ousedale. Our Year 8 boys' football team lost 7 -1 to Watling Academy and the Year 12 boys' basketball team lost to Harlington 69 – 43. Well done to all those taking part.

Next week is jam packed with events. On Monday, Year 11 teachers will begin to record their PC1 assessments. This will provide parents with vital information about how their children are making progress towards GCSE targets. Year 12 & 13 students are going to the Excel Centre in London for a UCAS 'Creating your future' event on Tuesday. Our Belonging & Cohesion Team are visiting St Mary Magdalene Catholic Primary school on Monday and St Bernadette's on Tuesday.. On Monday evening there is a meeting for Parents to launch our Duke of Edinburgh programme. Governors are also meeting for their Curriculum and Teaching meeting. On Tuesday, Year 10 will take part in a 'Broadening Horizons' careers event. On Thursday our Careers team are putting on a STEM X event with Red Bull Racing and MK College. On Friday some of our pupils and staff will be representing our school at the Diocesan Schools Mass and the English Department will be celebrating National Poetry Day with a poetry slam competition and recital.

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On Thursday evening next week, we will hold our annual Year 7 Open Evening. This is an important event in our school year as it is our opportunity to showcase what a wonderful community we have at St Paul's. Thank you to all those pupils who are joining us that evening to guide parents and support them in making such an important choice. If you have a friend or family member with children in Year 6 in Milton Keynes, please do invite them to come along to see what we have on offer. Please note that on Thursday our library will be shutting at 3.35pm to allow us to prepare for the Open Evening.

Next week is Catholic Schools' Week and a leaflet is attached for you.

Our Careers team has prepared a bulletin for October. I hope you will find it useful to see the many activities that are planned to help your children prepare for their careers.

The Mathematics Department would like to remind parents and guardians that pupils in Y7 to 9 need to complete 5 minutes of TT Rockstars each week as part of their homework.

As you can see, there is so much going on at St. Paul's at the moment.

Can we gently remind all families about the importance of not having nuts in school and the impact that this can have on children who suffer with an allergy to nuts. Although we cannot enforce a nut free school, we want to be able to protect students who live with severe nut allergies, which can cause life-threatening reactions even from minimal exposure.

To ensure the safety and well-being of all our students, we encourage you to:

- Avoid packing any nuts or nut-based products (e.g., peanut butter, Nutella, granola bars with nuts) in your child's lunch or snacks.
- Check ingredient labels carefully before sending food to school.
- Remind your child not to share food with classmates.

We understand this may require extra attention and effort, and we appreciate your cooperation in creating a safe environment for every child.

Have a lovely weekend

Yours sincerely



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