

5th December 2025

Dear Families

We have had a lovely week at St Paul's. On Monday we arrived at school and our lovely Grounds Maintenance team had put up Christmas trees in reception, outside my office and in our canteens. That day signalled the beginning of our Advent Charity fundraising events. We began by raising money for CAFOD with a non-uniform day. There are lots of other events planned.

Also this week, Year 11s had some MFL speaking PPEs and Year 12 Functional Skills students had their digital examinations. On Tuesday we participated in the annual Open University Christmas Lecture, this year the focus was on Fractals. Our students had the opportunity to learn about the significance of Fractals within many different real-world applications. It was an excellent opportunity for our Year 12 and 13 mathematicians to experience a lecture and to hear from one of the Open University's professors.

On Wednesday, some year groups attended a Careers Fair in our Sports hall. I'm very grateful to our wonderful Careers team for planning and organising the whole thing for our students. On Thursday, Year 13 Geographers had their Non-Examined Assessment day. It was good to see members of the St Paul's community at our Advent Service on Thursday evening. It was a lovely reflective occasion with beautiful music and mince pies. Well done to all the students who took part and thank you to our Chaplaincy team for organising this event. This week we also began another of our regular 'Temperature Checks' where we visit as many lessons as possible to monitor the quality of education and children's learning.

The Year 7 girls' netball team played Denbigh and were able to gain their first points of the season with the game ending 7-7. It is fantastic to see the improvements the girls are making as a team and hopefully they can build on this and get their first win of the season in their next fixture. Year 9 and Year 11 girls also played Denbigh with Denbigh winning both games. It was a fantastic effort from all the girls this week and, as always, they represented the school in great spirit.

Next week, Year 12 Criminology students have their controlled assessments. Year 10 students have an iWork careers session on Wednesday and in the evening, we have a STEM Lecture on the topic of 'Why are salty environments on Earth relevant to life on Mars?' Everyone is warmly invited to this. On Thursday Year 12 Physics students are visiting Oxford University. On Friday, Year 9 students are visiting Woad Farm and Year 8 have a praise afternoon. In the evening some of our musicians are off to St Augustine's Parish to perform in their Advent Concert.

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On Wednesday we will be serving Christmas dinner in the canteen so please encourage your child to take part in this. On Thursday, Year 11 and 13 have their photos so please expect your bathrooms to be very busy that morning whilst they look in the mirrors!

We had some lovely feedback about students who attended the Network Rail schools' event last week. They said "I wanted to thank you again for your school being able to attend our final day event in The Quadrant:MK on Friday. We hope your students enjoyed it and found it interesting. We were certainly impressed with the behaviours and skills the students demonstrated!".

A poster regarding free Christmas events at Venture Church (formerly Milton Keynes Christian Centre) is attached.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you that from 1<sup>st</sup> February the MK All in 1 card will no longer be valid or accepted on public transport. If you haven't already ordered the new MK Move All in 1 smart card, please make sure you do so as soon as possible. You can find details on the school website [here](#).

Finally, another plea about parking in the local area. I am continuing to receive complaints, especially from residents near the Gurdwara. Please think about where you wait to collect your children.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



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Headteacher

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