

8th May 2026

Dear Families

We have had a very short week and I've struggled to remember what day it is all week! I hope you enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend with your families. Year 9 students enjoyed their residential retreat to Kintbury this week. On Tuesday some Year 12 students attended the Show Racism the Red Card award ceremony in Manchester. On Wednesday evening I attended a really lovely Year 13 Mass of Celebration. It was a joy to celebrate the time that Year 13 have spent at St Paul's. Year 11 have had a busy week with 'leaving' celebrations, exams and study leave beginning today. I'm sure that they will do their absolute best during their exams which come thick and fast next week.

We begin next week with a meeting of the Curriculum and Teaching Committee of the Governing Board. We will be discussing our latest progress checks, developments in our study curriculum and our plans for teaching and learning next year. On Tuesday some Year 7 students will be off to the Harry Potter Experience in Watford on a trip with the Design & Technology Department. On Wednesday evening there is a parent meeting for all those children going on the Year 8 Bushcraft residential. On Thursday evening Year 12 parents are invited to a UCAS presentation, and our A-level Design students are exhibiting their excellent work. Finally on Friday, Year 10 geographers are conducting their fieldwork for the day at Ouzel Valley Park.

We are still experiencing significant numbers of children who are late to school each day. Where pupils take a public bus, they need to be looking at earlier times which are available. I am very concerned by the number who walk to school or who get lifts from parents, but who are still late to school. It is essential that children arrive to school on time. Thank you for your support with this. However, there are still a number who are walking to school.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are currently taking part in a Times Tables Rock Stars Battle of the Bands competition running until 12th May. Classes are competing through regularly practising their times table skills (up to 30 minutes per day). Vending machine coins will be awarded to the top player in each year group, and certificates will be presented to the most committed players via their classroom teachers. Please encourage your child to take part!

The Careers team are very excited to announce that they have been involved in a pilot project with Spinal Injury Association (SIA) implementing the new modern work experience guidelines for KS3. Click here to find out more [Modern Work Experience | CEC Corporate Web](#)

Once the project is completed and evaluated it will then be offered to all schools.

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SIA have tasked a group of Year 8 students with organising a fundraising event 'Share a Pie for SCI'. They have all been given a job description to choose from and they must work together to create a successful event for students and staff. This will take place in the Maureen Grant Room over lunch breaks on Monday 18th May. We will be selling a slice of pie for £1 and refreshments for 50p. Next week students are doing a taster week where products will be available to sample for just 50p during second break.

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting meaningful charities, we would like to highlight SIA's work. SIA supports people living with spinal injuries by helping them lead more independent and fulfilling lives. If you would like to find out more about SIA please click [here](#) and if you would like to make a donation please use St Paul's as the name.

Milton Keynes City Council have asked us to share with you information about fostering. If this is something you might be interested in you can find more details on the attached leaflet.

Finally, next week you will receive some communication from me regarding how we are going to meet the new DFE guidance and ensure that St Paul's is a phone free school.

Have a lovely weekend

Yours sincerely



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