

12th July 2024

Dear Families

It's been a fabulous week here at St. Paul's. The children and staff really enjoyed Work Related Learning Day on Wednesday. The opportunity to work in different contexts and to see children enjoying themselves was lovely. On Wednesday evening I attended the graduation ceremony for students from our SCITT. It was a real pleasure to welcome so many primary and secondary teachers to our wonderful profession. These teachers will go out to schools across Milton Keynes to teach. Yesterday our Educational Visits Day was a real success. I really hope your children enjoyed whatever experience they had. I went to Cadbury's World and enjoyed lots of free gifts! I was back in time to welcome most of the other coaches and supervise the car park. I don't usually get to go on a trip so this year was a real treat in a number of ways! Finally, today has been excellent. I really love sports day at St Paul's. It is about so much more than sports! It is a real community day. I enjoyed cooking sausages and burgers for everyone. The weather was kind thank goodness and that is through the pure power of prayer! We also had a visit from our former student Kevin Danso, fresh from his appearance at the Euros with the Austrian national team (where he had a memorable encounter with Mbappe). Kevin spent lots of time on the sports field chatting to students, signing autographs and having his photo taken. The excitement levels were very high as you can imagine.

Our final week next week is rather full. We have Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students going off on expedition and Gold students are off too. I think the weather is looking much brighter next week. On Wednesday, our student council will be working with primary students for the day, exploring student leadership opportunities. Also on Wednesday, Year 9 French students are experiencing a French restaurant. The Year 10 Sociology and prospective Criminology students are welcoming a visitor from Loughborough University for a taster experience. Also on Wednesday, Year 7, 8 & 9 students are off on an Accelerated Reader reward trip to see The Wizard of Oz. On Thursday students from various year groups are going to Trent Bridge to watch England play the West Indies at Cricket.

On Friday we say goodbye to a small number of staff. I am pleased to say, however, that we are fully staffed for September. It hasn't been easy to ensure that we have got to this position, as I'm sure you are aware from the media.

I am very grateful to the whole community for your kindness and support this year. It has been a pleasure to serve you all as Headteacher and I look forward to a good rest this summer.

We have spent time in tutor groups looking at how children can stay safe this summer. Expert trainers from The Ben Kinsella Trust are offering FREE virtual workshops for parents, carers, extended family members and those in the wider community to help them have those tricky conversations with their children and friends about safety. In the Thames Valley, a new campaign and accompanying resources

**Headteacher:**  
Jo-Anne Hoarty

**St Paul's Catholic School**  
Phoenix Drive  
Leadenhall  
Milton Keynes  
MK6 5EN

**Telephone**  
01908 669 735

**Email**  
[enquiries@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@st-pauls.org.uk)

**Web**  
[www.st-pauls.org.uk](http://www.st-pauls.org.uk)



have been developed by the Thames Valley Violence Prevention Partnership and published via [www.staytrueto you.co.uk](http://www.staytrueto you.co.uk).

The workshop will explore how parents/carers can help build their child's confidence in their own abilities, overcome fear and build the trusted relationships needed so a young person knows there is always someone they can turn to for help. During the workshop you will develop understanding around:

1. The latest research conducted with young people from across the Thames Valley on their perceptions and how we can best communicate
2. The "Stay True to You" resources and approach with a focus on how to hold those difficult conversations
3. Young people, brain development, behaviour and responses to stress
4. The importance of healthy, safe attachment for young people
5. The stages, signs and risk factors of exploitation
6. Gangs - what they are, how they operate, and why?
7. External influences - language, social media, gang-related music
8. Building resilience within the family and community
9. Further support available for families

The workshop, on 24<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm, is open to all parents, carers, family members and wider community members. You can book a space [here](#).

I will be welcoming back Year 11 and 13 for their results days in August and then welcoming all other students back to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Have a fabulous summer and God Bless.

Yours sincerely



Jo-Anne Hoarty  
Headteacher

Headteacher:  
Jo-Anne Hoarty

St Paul's Catholic School  
Phoenix Drive  
Leadenhall  
Milton Keynes  
MK6 5EN

Telephone  
01908 669 735

Email  
[enquiries@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@st-pauls.org.uk)

Web  
[www.st-pauls.org.uk](http://www.st-pauls.org.uk)

