



St Paul's School Newsletter

Newsletter Summer 2018

School Updates

By Kerenza Palmer

As we are nearing the end of this academic year we are able to review our progress and report on whole school improvements. We are working towards our school improvement plan and post inspection action plan to ensure we are addressing areas that needed improvements following the Ofsted inspection in June 2017.

Achievements

Whole school pupil progress has taken a big step in terms of improvements. We have moved away from the old levels that were being used during the last inspection and introduced a new vocational curriculum Laser Leap at key stage 3 and 4

Pupils in key stage 3 (years 7-9) are working towards a Laser Learning Employment and Progression qualification which includes bite sized units of study towards a vocational pathway.

They are also working towards a Functional skill in English and maths. When they reach 14 years of age we can then put them through formal assessment

Pupils in key stage 4 as part of their study programme are working towards a Laser Leap qualification in addition to their BTEC Sport, NCFE Catering, BTEC Work Skills qualifications. We are also gaining qualifications for pupils through their work experience at Hunter's Hill, to include Motor Vehicle Studies, Land based studies and Animal care.

Work Experience

World of work was introduced in February 2018. All pupils have engaged in a variety of work placements to enhance their vocational and personal and social skills.

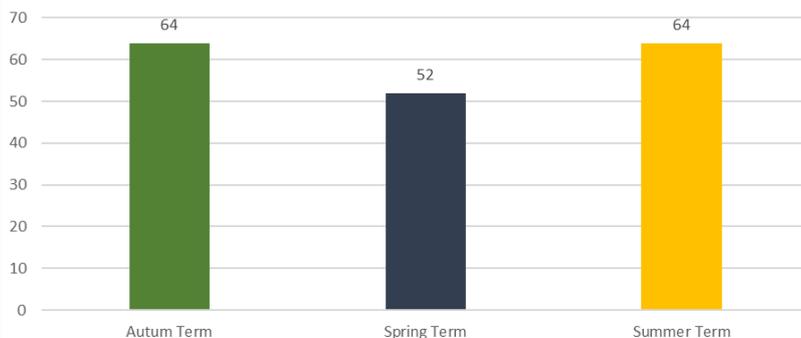
Whole School Attendance

We have been working on improving whole school attendance particularly during this summer term. In line with the attendance policy we expect 75% overall attendance for each pupil. We have adapted the Fast Track to Attendance, an early help approach to legal intervention in cases of persistent pupil absence. Form group tutors are actively following up on attendance and will monitor their pupil's overall attendance on a weekly basis.

Dates for your diary:

- ◆ Staff training Day 3rd-4th September
- ◆ Start of term 5th September
- ◆ Half term Monday 29th October to 2nd November
- ◆ End of term Friday 21st December

St. Paul's Whole School Attendance 2017/18



You Retweeted



St Paul's City Farm @B... · 11/05/2018
A @stpaulsB12 pupil makes another new friend!



6 retweets, 7 likes



Math Summer Term

Taiba Nawaz

Last term pupils had worked extremely hard by getting through their maths assessments and all receiving outstanding results. This term they worked on a lot of theory work in maths, but I have tried to keep maths a fun and practical lesson. It's coming to the end of term and children are just usually wanting to have fun! We have done the following activities in Maths in the last two weeks:

Origami Cubes

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed making 3D shapes and learning how to make Origami cubes. It has taught them team work and communication skills. They thoroughly enjoyed learning and making them.

Maths word search

Maths word search puzzles are a great way to introduce new maths topic in a fun way. They can also be a great way for revision. Pupils were greatly focused and patient.

Snakes and ladders

A fun and motivating way to practice counting. Pupil had to attempted this game but found it a bit challenging without a calculator, their effort and motivation was great to see.

Find the missing number

This game again a tricky one for them but again they kept trying and were persistent!

Monopoly

A game that taught them how to budget and plan for their purchases and how much they'll need to get around the board again. A game they all enjoyed and all got involved.



Flossing and Interviews!

By Kerenza Palmer

We recently carried out an interview process for two positions within the school. We asked three pupils if they would take part in the process and interview the candidates. Kion, Troy and Jack were happy to help out, and took their roles incredibly seriously. They were a credit to the school and themselves, asking each candidate a series of questions. At the end of the formal questions they took control of the interview process and asked questions to include: 'Can you do the floss?' This resulted in pupils demonstrating and candidates giving it a good go!

The pupils were instrumental in the appointments that were made. I can highly recommend them to carry out any future interviews!



Celebrating British Values

By Baljit Dutfield

This term in English we have been focussing on British Values and how we put these into practice. Pupils have been investigating Democracy and Equality and how this impacts their daily lives. Pupils have created a fantastic display and presentations, that celebrate how British Values are working in a diverse community. Pupils discussed issues in assembly and in English lessons. Pupils were able to understand the important part they play in their generation and attitudes towards British Values. We aim to continue this great work into next year.



Working Together!

By Kerenza Palmer

Over the last year we have been developing relationships with organisations to help support and enhance the service we are offering our pupils. The organisations we would like to thank for their support include:

Changes:

A charity based in Digbeth who work with adults recovering from addiction. They came in for a day and helped tackle the allotment area. We also have a volunteer from Changes who is a real asset to the team.

Queen Alexandra College:

A charity based in Harborne providing education to young people from 16 years to 25 years with visual impairments and other disabilities. We have worked with QAC on a number of pupil led activities. We currently have a year 11 pupil taking part in sport classes every Wednesday afternoon, developing his personal and social skills.

Hunters Hill:

An SEMH provision in Bromsgrove, our pupils visit every Tuesday to take part in motor vehicle studies, animal welfare and land based studies.

Sports 4 Life:

Pupils have taken part in football and boxing sessions supervised by Sport 4 Life qualified coaches. They achieved sports leadership award, and a bronze boxing award.

Selly Oak School:

An SEMH provision in Selly Oak, they have been very generous and invited us to their CPD events, as well as providing support and guidance.

Sydney Nolan Trust:

An art charity based in Shropshire, who have supported and helped the school with art projects. Pupils have been on educational visits to the farm, made compost bins, produced prints from found objects and took part in a graffiti workshop.

University of Birmingham:

We are linking up with a research project to deliver practical sessions on climate change and energy. Sessions will be based at the university and some on site for the duration of the next academic year.



david cusack @davidcu... · 11/05/2018
Thank you Changes UK for making a real difference to our green area at St Paul's school and engaging with our pupils. Great partnership working.

Changes UK @Changes_UK
Fantastic partnership work today with @stpaulsB12 @nationalexpress making a difference in our community @brigidjones @BrumLeader



2 replies 4 likes

The Tip Top Challenge

By Fiona Billsborough

The current points system enables the pupils to gain points during their day for vocational, personal and social skills. The targets are identified at the beginning of the week and pupils accumulate these for positive behaviour. The total amount of points that can be achieved is 60 and for pupils who manage to achieve these a prize is given on Thursday morning in assembly.

For those that are consistent with this an end of term activity is organised.

For those that achieve over 40 points an enrichment activity offsite is organised each week on Thursday afternoon.

Recently one of our new teaching assistants (Helena), decided that quick relevant daily acknowledgement for good behaviour may work better and introduced the Tip Top Challenge. Very apt with the recent hot weather!



It was the most successful week with six pupils achieving a full 60 points that week and Kyle not only rose to the challenge, but was also happy to pose for the camera. The system will be reviewed for September 2018.

School Uniform

If you would like to order additional tops and sweatshirts, please contact Alison Watson on 0121 464 4376.



Item	Sizes	
	XS to Small	Medium to XXL
V-neck sweatshirt	£10.65	£12.65
Blue shirt	£9.25 (up to the age of 13)	£9.99 (all other sizes)

School Council

By Sislyn Richardson

Our School Council is made up of one pupil from every form group. The pupils are elected by their form.

There is a School Council noticeboard in our hall with photographs of each member, as well as School Council minutes of meetings and our School Council YOU SAID WE DID display board. The School Council have been involved in meetings assemblies and talks about our school and ways in which we can improve the school. They meet once a term with new ideas, we listen and try to make changes.

This Term pupil suggested sports days for Enrichment, pupils to be in lessons for a minimum of 20 minutes before asking for timeout, staff on shop duty during lunch time, play fighting to be two strikes rather than one, another punching bag in breakout room, all balls to be pumped up at lunch and break time, ideas for games room and drinks provided for all pack lunch's. We have already made some of these changes to the school and are hoping to make the rest for September. We look forward to more suggestions and ideas from our new school council representatives next term.



Hunters Hill

By Joy Vigers

We have a lovely group of pupils who attend Hunters Hill on Tuesday's as part of their World of Work Programme for this term.

Pupils on the land based studies have participated in building a chicken coop, Troy has helped to groom the ponies and made a lovely muddy wallow for the pigs to help them out in the summer heat. In the small animal centre pupils Jack has helped to clean out, feed and give fresh water to the Guinea Pigs, Mice, Bearded Dragon and Degu's as well as many other furry creatures and some reptiles too.

Over on the Motor vehicles site Kyle and Ryan have had lots of fun having a go at driving the trailer across the fields. They also did a great job of valeting and cleaning the school minibus with the jet washer. They have learnt the valuable skills of how to change brake pads and change a tyre and have thoroughly enjoyed participating in the motor vehicles programme delivered by Hunters Hill.



Environmental Studies

By Tamar Francis

We have been busy in Horticulture! St Paul's School is an official member of the 'Royal Horticulture Society'!

This is fantastic news for us because it now means we are able to gain access to exclusive resources, new initiatives and even funding for future projects. This will also give us the incentive we need to continue with our school's 'Allotment Project'.

Look out for our 'Bottle Greenhouse' which we will be starting in September. This will be one of the first projects we'll start in 'Environmental Studies'. So don't forget to start collecting those water bottles. This is an excellent way to recycle.



Western Super Mare

By Imran Ali

We had a lovely day relaxing at the beach. The pupils went swimming and enjoyed the sunshine and burgers on the beach!

The pupils enjoyed the fresh sea breeze.



Trekking year 10 and year 11

Pupils participated in trekking of the White Horse. They completed it in an hour.

They climbed to the highest point in Oxfordshire where they admired the scenery and magnificence of the White Horse and the countryside.

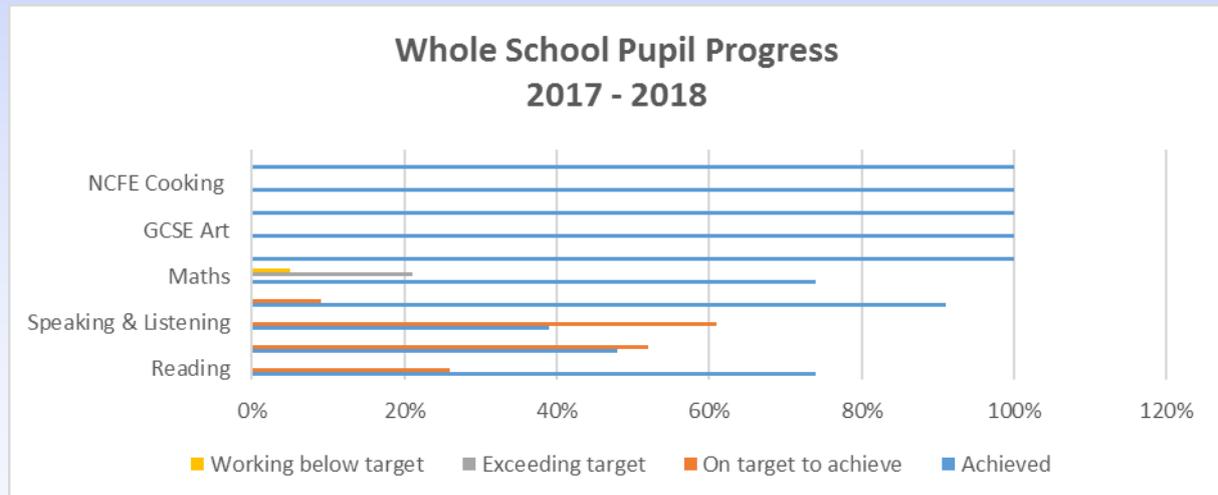


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Amazing Results

By Fiona Bilsborough

This year St Pauls School introduced a new employment pathway curriculum with a view to provide a more kinaesthetic programme to better suit the pupils learning styles – and what a result!! This has meant that even key stage 3 pupils can achieve an actual qualification too! In addition to this the functional skills qualification for maths and English have been introduced for pupil's when they reach the age of 14, to enable them to become familiar with exam conditions and be better prepared for higher levels, as they progress through school.



The Next Generation at St Paul's Success!

By Baljit Dutfield

Pupils are taking part in Birmingham City Council Next Generation Awards. The Next Generation Awards is a competition for schools to think of an idea that could improve their local community spaces. Pupils could win up to £1,500.00 to spend on their idea.

Pupils were tasked to investigate what they liked and disliked about Birmingham. Pupils debated about what would be useful to them in Birmingham and what would be sustainable as an idea. Pupils began by forming a team- The Dream Team! Each child played a role in the group and learned about teamwork and leadership skills. Pupils began their research by surveying members of the public. Pupils broke barriers in their social skills; Pupils overcame shyness and embarrassment when questioning passers by in Birmingham Town Centre. I was so proud of their professionalism and maturity. Pupils excelled themselves and proved how able they were in their communication skills.

Many of our pupils at St Paul's have complex social and emotional needs and it was here that their fantastic idea was born. Pupils decided they would like to see more inclusion for children with hidden disabilities. We pride ourselves in Birmingham by being part of a multicultural society and pupils wanted to take this one step further and looked at putting Equality and Diversity into practice. Pupils came up with the brilliant idea of creating a Sensory Space in Birmingham so that children with similar difficulties could access quiet areas. We spoke to members of staff at St Phillips Cathedral who were only too pleased to work with us.

On Friday 22nd of June pupils Jack Hobbs, Mckobie Howe and Samuel Davies presented The Dream Team's idea to members from The Next Generation team and answered key questions. Much to our surprise and sheer delight we have made it to the Semi Finals! Semi finals take place on the 6th and 13th of July and St Paul's pupils are preparing to win. Watch this space and we will keep you updated on its progress.

