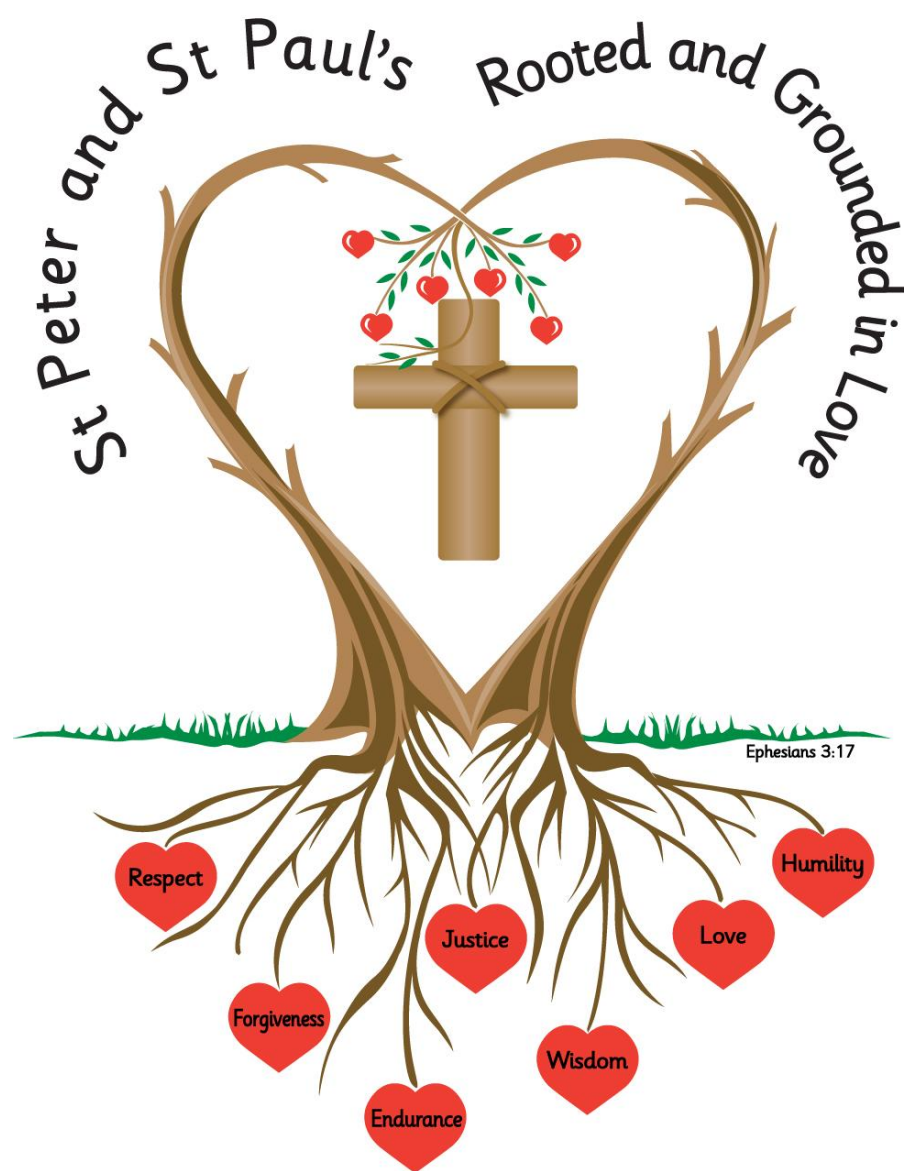




Welcome to Year 1
September 2025

Welcome to Year 1!

A huge welcome back from Mrs Ferguson, your class teacher and a warm welcome from Miss Donnalley and Mrs Astbury, our class teaching assistants. We are so excited to be teaching your child this year.

As your child settles into Year 1, I hope that we can work as a team to support your child in all the new things that they will learn. We take the role very seriously and will do our very best to ensure that all members of our class are safe, cared for and happy.

I hope that this booklet provides you with some useful information about our class, however if at any time you have any queries or concerns, I am always happy to try and help you as soon as possible.

The best way to contact me is via email at l.ferguson@st-peter-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk

As I am teaching the class, emails will usually be responded to at the end of the school day and only during working hours.

If your concern/query cannot be answered by email and needs to be discussed in depth I can arrange to call you at a convenient time.

❖ If you need to speak to me urgently, please ring the office 01254 884522 and staff will pass a message on for me to ring you when I am out of class.

I hope that you always feel that you can approach me with any problems or concerns, however if you are ever worried about something in school and you feel that you cannot speak to me directly, you can speak to Mrs Chandler who is our Deputy Head Teacher, in the same ways as outlined above. Mrs Chandler's email is: a.chandler@st-peter-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk

Useful Information

Breakfast Club is available from 7.30am – children need to be handed over to staff at the hall door to ensure safe arrival.

Children need to arrive **between** 8.45am – 8:50am, the register will be taken promptly at 8.50am. Children are not allowed on the playground unsupervised.

School finishes at 3.20pm and we would be grateful if someone can be here to collect children as they can become unsettled if they are left waiting. If you are to be delayed unexpectedly, please ring school so that we can reassure them and if necessary, take them into After School Club.

For the safety of our school community, please inform family members to park away from Arundel Street as it is dangerous when cars drive down this street at the start/end of the day. For safety reasons, the school car park is only for staff use.

Please remember to follow the one-way paths when entering and leaving school premises.

School Holiday Dates 2025-2026

<https://www.st-peter-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk/term-dates-annual-overview/>

	Term Begins	Half Term Holidays	Term Ends
Autumn	2 nd September 2025	20th October-31st October 2026 (inclusive)	19th December 2025-2pm finish
Spring	5th January 2026	16th February – 20th February 2026	27th March 2026- 2pm finish
Summer	13th April 2026	25th May-29th May 2026	21st July 2026- 2pm finish

Please do not book holidays in term time as absences cannot be authorised and it means children will have 2 unauthorised absences per day as registration takes place in the morning and afternoon.

Uniform - Please remember to label all items of clothing clearly to make it easier to return any lost items. We need to be able to read the names easily if we are to get them back to you.

School Bags Please **do not** bring any bags other than the red school reading book bag which can be easily stored in class.

Shoes - Our school uniform policy is for black school shoes (not trainers) and if buying throughout the year, please remember to buy velcro/buckle fasteners and not laces as these tend to come unfastened a lot as children cannot tie them securely.

Water bottles – Please send in a water bottle with a sports top rather than a lid that unscrews as these can spill. As we are a Healthy School, children are only allowed to have plain water during lesson time (juice or flavoured water is only allowed in lunchboxes/ provided occasionally with school lunches due to the sugar content). Children who usually do not like water at home often tend to drink it in school when they see the other children drinking it so helps get them used to it.

Lunches – All infant children receive a free school meal and there is a very varied choice, with staff soon knowing what your child likes/dislikes so that they can encourage them to try things. Menus are sent into school and will be distributed so that you can see the available choices.

KS1 children are provided with a healthy snack and should not bring food in.

Waterproofs and Wellingtons – It would be useful to have a set of waterproof pants and wellies readily available in school as the children will often take part in outdoor learning activities and wet playtimes.

Our topics for this year will be:

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Where Am I?	Toys and Games from the Past	Hot and Cold Places	Who lives in a house like this?	Oh, I do like to be beside the seaside!	

More detailed information can be found on the class page on the school website.

Reading Books – Please return to school for changing on a **Monday** and a **Thursday**.

It is very important that children practise their reading skills at home by reading to an adult on a regular basis. This should include asking children questions about what they have read to develop their comprehension skills. Ideally, this needs to be for a few minutes each day. Please sign reading records to show that the book has been finished and is ready to change. You can also make a note of any difficulties so that we are aware of them as we do read different books for our Guided Reading sessions.

Reading Eggs – All children will have a login set up and this will be shared with you so that children can read books and complete activities online at home. Please do use this as school pays for the subscription each year.

Library Books – Children are provided with the opportunity to take library books home each week.

Our PE day is on a Monday and Thursday and children will bring home kits at the end of each half term to be washed. It is important that these are returned to school or children will be unable to take part in the lesson.

Earrings – It is better if children do not wear earrings for school but if they choose to, please make sure they are **plain** small studs. These need to be removed for PE as they cannot be covered over and this needs to be done at home.

Website - Please see our class section of the website for photos and more information on our learning. We also have a Facebook page which provides lots of information about life at school.

Home Learning As children settle into year 1, additional activities that support learning will be sent home. The main focus for children at this age is reading signs in the environment and any opportunities at home to write for a purpose such as shopping lists, postcards or notes, a diary etc. Maths can be reinforced when shopping or by playing games.

Educational Visit

We will be planning to take the children out of school later in the year and will provide information on this as soon as possible so that parents can pay in installments if this helps to spread the cost.

Superstar Celebration

This will take place every Friday morning and parents are welcome to attend. A Superstar certificate is awarded to one child from each class

and children can bring in certificates and awards from meaningful activities completed out of school hours. Each month a 'megastar' certificate is awarded in each class to someone who consistently goes above and beyond.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

A new registration form will be sent out to all users of the clubs, and we ask that you please read the terms and conditions carefully. The after-school club needs to close promptly at 5.45pm and children must be collected by this time to avoid having to pay a late collection charge.

All bookings need to be made in advance using the online payment system and unfortunately, due to numbers having increased significantly, there is a chance your child may not have a place if they are not booked in as we have to ensure we have the appropriate staffing in place.

In school, we encourage everybody to behave in 'The St Peter and St Paul's Way' with our school code of conduct being firmly based on our core Christian values.



Behaviour and Positive Recognition

Wherever possible, children are praised for behaving well and where possible this is often by positive verbal recognition. A project we were involved with involving other schools/surveys with our parents, highlighted that there is very little value to a child when they are rewarded for doing things which are the 'norm' or 'generally expected' and that instant verbal praise is the most effective reward for children as it has far more meaning to them at the time.

We have a behaviour ladder (as above) and children's names all start on green 'ready to learn' at the start of each day. Children may be asked to move their name up/down the ladder.

If children *repeatedly* behave in a negative manner after several reminders and have moved their name, they may be asked to spend time in 'Reflection' during their break time. If this happens on several occasions, parents will be notified and children may end up missing out on some of the additional fun aspects of school.

We also use a system linked to **learning powers** where we choose a specific 'success criteria' to work on each week. These are based on: making connections and having curiosity, changing and learning, building resilience, having strategic awareness, creativity and learning relationships. The intention is that each child will add their name to the wall of recognition by the end of the week for achieving one of the learning powers and that collectively as a class they can all achieve this. We have seen the pleasure the class get from this accomplishment and that they all try to encourage each other and recognise when individuals have demonstrated the learning power.

There are 8 learning powers:

- **Don't give up** Donald Duck
- **Concentrate** Colin Caterpillar
- **Co-Operate** Tim & Tina Tortoise
- **Have a go** Harold Hedgehog
- **Curious** Cathy Camel
- **Keep improving** Ivy Insect
- **Imagination** Isabel Iguana
- **Enjoy Learning** Edward Elephant

There is a video on the school website where children are explaining the Learning Powers
<https://www.st-peter-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk/school-council/>

We look forward to working with you and your family this year.

Mrs Ferguson, Miss Donnalley and Mrs Astbury