



St Paul's Way

Aspiration • Integrity • Community

PART OF UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS TRUST

125 St Paul's Way
London E3 4FT
020 7987 1883
www.spwt.net
admin@spwt.net

23rd October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: October Half Term

As we reach the end of our first half term together, it is a great opportunity to reflect on what has been a positive and productive start to the year. Thank you to our students, staff and families for the warmth, commitment and sense of community that have been evident throughout these first few weeks. We were delighted to welcome new Year 7 and Year 12 students and to see them quickly become part of school life. Open Week gave us the chance to share our school with prospective families, and our student performers, guides and presenters were exceptional ambassadors. I would also like to thank the parents who attended our Year Team forums and Parent Information Evenings, supporting our shared commitment to keeping families informed, connected and involved.

Year 11 and Year 13 students have been preparing for their mock exams which take place following the break, and student engagement in our new programme of afterschool intervention sessions has been very positive. For all year groups, you can view what your child will be learning about next half-term on our Subjects page:

<https://www.spwt.net/secondary/curriculum-subjects>

Beyond the classroom, students have continued to embrace the wide range of opportunities available through our vibrant co-curricular programme. We are delighted to introduce our newly elected School Council, led by Year 13 students Saarah, Salma and Maryam. Over the coming year, the Council will work closely with students across the school to champion ideas, represent student voice and help shape positive developments within our community.

Our Year 7 students have also made an impressive start to the Aspire7 Programme. Designed to help students embody our values of Community, Aspiration and Integrity, the programme encourages them to make positive contributions both in lessons and across the school community. Already, many students have been enthusiastically completing challenges, supported by our dedicated team of 70 Year 12 coaches who have been tracking and celebrating their successes. We look forward to seeing who will be the first to earn their Aspire7 badges.

In Sixth Form, we have been delighted to welcome our new cohort of Year 12 students alongside our Year 13's as they begin their final academic year with us. Please help us spread the word regarding our Sixth Form.



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Form Open Evening which takes place on **Thursday 3rd December 2026**. An online booking system is in place to manage visitor numbers. Details and registration can be found on our website: Sixth Form – Apply Now – St Paul's Way.

During Autumn 1, our students have enjoyed a wide range of educational visits, enrichment activities and sporting opportunities a total of 29 trips took place with over 300 students attending different events. Helping them to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence beyond the classroom. Highlights included, Year 8's visit to the Centre of the Cell at Queen Mary University of London, and the Year 9 World of Workday with The King's Trust. Older students benefited from visits to Wadham College, Oxford, and Deloitte apprenticeships talk, alongside a Neurodiversity Futures Day at Barclays and a Politics and Sociology trip for Year 13.

Students also took part in a variety of sporting events and competitions, including tennis, football, baseball and badminton, as well as the SEND Tenpin Competition. Further enrichment opportunities included the Royal Drawing School Art Club, a Black Panther performance at the Royal Albert Hall, a Trinity Laban masterclass and a visit to the Tower of London. There have been a series of creative composition workshops with professional musicians from the BBC, UCL, and local professional orchestra Wyatt Sinfonia. The last of these culminates in a re-imagining of Holst's The Planets with additional vocal parts, which will be performed by professional musicians and young people across East London on 17th November at Evolutionary Arts Hackney. SPW students have been creatively involved in this new composition and will be involved in the performance, and families are warmly invited to attend. Tickets are available at: <https://wegottickets.com/ft/h4PvujAzHY>

A special mention to the U15 girls Football team who were crowned champions of the Mayor's Cup! Our Duke of Edinburgh Silver participants also completed their assessed expedition, while Year 12 students took part in a residential visit to Liverpool.

These experiences reflect our commitment to providing a broad and inclusive enrichment programme that supports students' academic progress, personal development, creativity, wellbeing and future aspirations.

The Big Future's Survey is still open for children to complete. Please encourage your child to participate <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture/>

Parent feedback is always valued by the school, and we request that any feedback is sent via the school email admin@spwt.net

Kindly note below the dates for the end of half term and return to school:

- End of half-term: Friday 30th October
- Return to School: Monday 2nd November, arrival 8:30-8:40am.

School Closure and Early Closure Dates – Autumn 2



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- Friday 20th November- INSET day
- Thursday 3rd December – Early closure for Sixth Form Open Evening: 2:25pm KS3, 2:20pm KS4+5
- Friday 18th December – 12:40pm (End of term)

School Closure Dates for the rest of the academic year

Monday 4th January 2027

Friday 12th January 2027

Monday 12th April 2027

Monday 7th June 2026

Wishing all families a restful half term break.

Firdusi Uddin

Head of School, Secondary & Sixth Form

Key Notices

2026-2027 Term Dates

2026-2027 term dates are available on our website - we work with and follow Tower Hamlets dates where possible:

<https://www.spwt.net/secondary/term-dates>

Communication

Please note key team details for the next academic year:

Year	Head of year	Key notes:	Start time	Finish time
Year 7	Mr M. Raja	Entry and exit via tennis court gates on Bow Common Lane	8:30-40am	3:15pm
Year 8	Ms I. Watson	Entry and exit via Bow Common Lane	8:30-40am	3:15pm
Year 9	Mr M. Rashid	Entry and exit via Shelmerdine Close	8:30-40am	3:15pm
Year 10	Ms R. Clarke	Entry and exit via Shelmerdine Close	8:30-40am	3:10pm
Year 11	Ms D. Peters	Entry and exit via Bow Common Lane	8:30-40am	3:10pm
Year 12	Ms T. Gourlay	Entry and exit via 6th Form Entrance	8:30-40am	3:10pm
Year 13	Mr N. Ahmed	Entry and exit via 6th Form Entrance	8:30-40am	3:10pm
Attendance	Mr J. Ahmed			
Safeguarding	Ms G. Lynch			

- Please send any email queries to admin@spwt.net addressing it for the attention of the relevant leads



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- Please note that key dates for the year can be found on the school website link here <https://www.spwt.net/secondary/term-dates>
- Please refer to the weekly text messages sent out for further details.

Uniform

Please find the link to the secondary school uniform [Secondary Uniform - St Paul's Way \(spwt.net\)](#). Kindly ensure your child has the correct items required for September.

Safeguarding & Wellbeing

If you have a safeguarding concern or would like some family support, please email safeguarding@spwt.net. This email address will be monitored sporadically over the summer.

For support from the local authority, you can contact the multi-agency support team (MAST)

- Phone: 020 7364 5006, Option 2 or 3
- Email: MAST@towerhamlets.gov.uk

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/health_social_care/children_and_family_care/Multi-Agency-Support-Team-MAST.aspx

Please find the link to our Wellbeing page on the school website, containing useful resources and links to support the mental health and wellbeing of our students: [Mental Health and Wellbeing - St Paul's Way \(spwt.net\)](#)

In addition, please see the link to our safeguarding notices page which contains key information and signposting relevant to our students and families in the local context <https://www.spwt.net/about-us/safeguarding>

Please follow the link here to access the parent handbook: [Parent Handbook - St Paul's Way](#)

Please see the letter here for more details or view [Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App – Arbor Help Centre \(arbor-education.com\)](#) If you require support to access the Parent App, please visit reception during the school day.