

Paulerspury CE Primary School Newsletter

Celebrating our Volunteers

Catherine Strange

Gardening Club

Gardening Club runs from around Easter each year to October half term. I started volunteering in 2018 after enjoying volunteering at Forest School sessions.

One of the reasons I joined the gardening club volunteers was to learn from their expertise! Mrs Bartlett ran the club for many years and her son has won awards at Chelsea Flower show so she was a font of knowledge! Mrs Bartlett handed on the baton to me in 2019. The children really enjoy the sessions and particular love to pot up seeds and plants to grow at home. Watering is a favourite activity too whatever the year group! It is lovely to see the children develop and grow each year. Even in the first lockdown the key worker children were able to plant some seeds with their teachers and watch the sunflowers and broad beans grow. Those broad beans grew well and we used the harvested beans in October 2020 to plant this year's crop of broad beans, our first self-sufficient planting.

Volunteering is lovely break from the day to day, especially at the moment. The other volunteers who join me are all local residents, one of whom is a grandparent of a pupil, and it is great to have that link with the School and the wider community. Volunteering at school is very rewarding and my gardening knowledge has definitely improved!

Zoe Paton

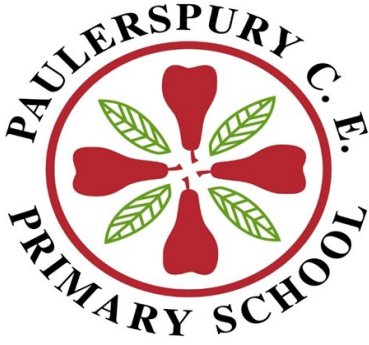
My Name is Zoe and I am a parent volunteer reader and forest school helper. Having had two daughters who attended Paulerspury Primary and loved their time here, I found myself wanting to give something back to the school.

Being an avid bookworm myself I thoroughly enjoy listening to the children reading and talking to me about the variety of books they are reading, yes even the ancient Greeks and Greek myths with their tongue twisting names although on these days I wish I'd had my Weetabix!!

Forest school is an equally enjoyable experience, seeing the children's enthusiasm for the forest school task and listening to all their ideas, which can be quite amusing. Then seeing the outcome of the task set at the end of the session.

Over the time I have been volunteering one of the nicest things is getting to know the children and seeing their confidence grow.





Paulerspury CE Primary School Newsletter

Celebrating our Volunteers

Alex Rees

I have been volunteering at Paulerspury Primary School for a number of years on and off. For the last two years I have been listening to children read.

I love to read and I find it enjoyable to help children at the start of their reading journey. The books spark discussions about all sorts of interesting topics and it is fascinating to see the world through the eyes of young children.

Laura Wesley

Hello, my name is Laura and I help at the school. I have a daughter Phoebe she will be going into year 4 in September.

I have volunteered at Paulerspury for a few years now mainly helping with forest school and the occasional school trip.

I help across the whole school so most of the children will know who I am. I enjoy helping when I can, getting to know all the children and supporting the school to offer more opportunities and experiences to all its pupils.

Karen Birdsey

I've been volunteering at Paulerspury Church of England School since November 2020. I'd previously worked at Potterspury Lodge School for 3 years. I was a Teaching Assistant and worked with children aged 9 - 19 where I taught RE, Citizenship and PfA (Preparation for Adulthood). I loved working with these children but was aware that I had a gap in my knowledge which was working with much younger children in the primary sector.

I left Potterspury Lodge and approached Paulerspury to see if I could volunteer to further enhance my knowledge. Luckily the answer was yes and I have been working in Robin Class ever since supporting the Year 1 and 2's with their Reading, Maths and English. I thoroughly enjoy this age group as they are keen to learn and the school offers such a supportive and caring learning environment which is something I am passionate about. It's a great place to be!



If you would like to know more about volunteering opportunities at the school, please contact Ms Chappell in the school office. All volunteering roles are subject to an enhanced DBS check.