

# ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



**ST WILLIAM ROAD THORNTON CROSBY L23 9XH**

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**Headteacher: Mr M Murphy**

**School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst**

12<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and a belated Happy New Year to everyone. Please see the information below regarding forthcoming events and news about the school. In addition to this, we have also updated some sections on our website so please refer to this as it will keep you informed about events across the school.

## Attendance

The government have launched a new campaign aimed at improving school attendance, it's called Moments matter, attendance counts. Posters and adverts will be circulated on social media, the news and in the press. Below are the current attendance figures per class for this week. Our target is over 96%. Well done to Reception & Year 5 who had the best attendance this week. Any child who has below 90% attendance is classed as being a 'persistent absentee' & school have to work closely with parents to ensure that improvements are seen. A reminder that Holiday requests need to be applied for in advance & can only be granted if there are exceptional circumstances. A fine will be issued of £60 per child for general family holidays in term time. Please see our Attendance Policy on the school website for more information. If your child's attendance letters, last year, stated that absence would be unauthorised without medical evidence then this will continue for this academic year. Attendance Support Plans issued will be reviewed & will continue into this academic year. We also will have our Sefton Education Welfare Officer on site doing a 'late gate' as we have concerns about the number of children arriving late each day. Children need to arrive by 8.40am as the gates will be locked at 8.45am & children need to be in class at 8.45am ready to start their school day. This applies to all classes in main school including Reception class (Nursery start at 8.45am). Any children arriving after 8.45am will need to be signed in late at the school office. Breakfast Club starts at 7.45am with last entry being 8.35am. Last time for food is 8.25am.

<b>Rec</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>Y1</b>	<b>90.38%</b>	<b>Y2</b>	<b>96.4%</b>	<b>Y3</b>	<b>90.7%</b>	<b>Y4</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>Y5</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>Y6</b>	<b>87.9%</b>	<b>All school</b>	<b>93.5%</b>
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## Yoga Sessions

Active Sefton will be in school every Wednesday for the next four weeks to deliver Yoga sessions for the children in Years 5 and 6. Children should come into school in their school PE kits on those days as well as their usual PE days.

## Mindfulness

Year 5 will be starting a series of mindfulness sessions every Friday afternoon over the next few weeks. The sessions promise to be extremely engaging and we look forward to working with other year groups throughout the year.

## Healthy Habits

Active Sefton are currently working with children from Years 3 and 4 around healthy lifestyles. It is a four week programme aimed at promoting healthy habits and will involve the children learning about nutrition (having a healthy diet) and the importance of exercise.

## Holocaust Memorial Day

Year 6 with visiting the Plaza Cinema on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January, in the morning, to watch a film entitled the Island on Bird Street. The film is about the survival of an 11-year-old boy in Poland. All Crosby Primary Schools have been invited to attend the event, which is free of charge.

## Online Safety Workshops

Knowsley CLC will be coming into school on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January to deliver Online Safety Workshops for each class across the school.



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### After School Clubs

We are currently finalising our programme for the spring term so will be sending out details over the next week. Our football, cross-country and netball clubs will resume in February when it starts to get a bit lighter.

### Chess

Children in Years 4/5 and 6 have restarted their Chess sessions following the Christmas break. The children thoroughly enjoy the sessions and we have found that these have had a considerable impact in developing their concentration and problem solving skills. At the end of the academic year there is also a Merseyside Chess Tournament at St Georges Hall so we hope to be able to enter some children into that competition.

### St William of York Church – Mass

Fr Harrington has been in touch to say that he will be restarting his Friday morning 10 a.m. mass. Therefore, classes across the school will be taking turns throughout the term to attend.

### First Holy Communion/Reconciliation

Following the success of last year's celebration Fr Harrington has asked if the school could again lead on the Sacraments this year. A letter has already been issued & the registration mass took place on 3.12.23. Further details will follow.

### Reception Class Places – September 24

A reminder to all parents/carers of children in Nursery (3/4 year olds) that you will need to go online at Sefton's website to fill in the application for Reception via the Citizen Portal [www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool) I would advise that you put three schools down as per the guidance otherwise if you don't get your first choice you may be allocated a school which doesn't match your preferences. In addition please be mindful of entry requirements i.e. baptised catholic etc. The closing date for Reception is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

### School Spider – online payments

We now have a new online payment system called School Spider. Details of how to download the app have been sent out. We no longer have Pay360/Simspay so please delete this app. School Meals & After School Club bookings need to be made via the app in advance. Bookings cannot be made on the day.

### ParentApp

It is really important for communication that all parents download our ParentApp as this is our main communication method to keep in touch with what's going on in your child's class and school. We can also email through ParentApp for those that can't get the App. Thank you to all parents who are using the school app, over 93% altogether, which is brilliant. If you haven't downloaded our ParentApp yet, we have sent you a link, which might be in your spam emails, so look there if you can't see it in your inbox. Any problems please let the school office know.

### Nursery Places

We have a limited number of places still available so if you have children of nursery age or know of friends/family who are looking for places and are new to the area then please get in touch to arrange a visit to our fantastic facility.

### Healthy Snacks/Packed lunches

As a school we are always trying to promote healthy lifestyles and would appreciate your support in providing healthy alternative snack/lunch options for your children.

### Free Breakfast Club

Our Free Breakfast Club continues to be extremely popular. It runs every morning in the school hall from 7.45 am, however the cut off time for when food can be served is 8.25 am with the doors closing at 8.35 am. This free facility is available to children from Reception upwards so please do come along.

### After School Club

We have places available in our After School Club. Our prices are still very competitive compared to other schools & in addition our Breakfast Club remains a free facility. The First Hour is £6 & the full session is £12. We also have a new booking system on School Spider which allows parents to book and pay for sessions in advance.

### Dogs

A reminder to parents that dogs cannot be brought onto the school premises.

### Mass times at St William of York Catholic Church

9.30am Sunday morning at St William's & 11.15am Sunday morning at St Mary's Little Crosby



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Kind regards

**Mr. M.Murphy**  
Headteacher



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