

ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr M Murphy

School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst

3rd November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

See below the current attendance figures per class for this week. Our target is over 96%. Well done to our Reception & Year 6 classes who got 96% 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.

Rec	98.5%	Y1	95.4%	Y2	94.4%	Y3	92.6%	Y4	95.2%	Y5	86.7%	Y6	96.2%	All school	94%
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Online Safety Parents Training

As you know we send out monthly online safety newsletters to parents/carers and have also recently shared with you a workshop for parents around e-safety. These are both provided by Knowsley CLC and they have agreed to come into school on Tuesday 7th November to deliver an Online Safety Workshop for parents/carers. The workshop will start at 2.30 pm and will finish at 3.10 pm which means you can then make your way onto the yard and collect your children.

Bikeability – Y5

Year 5 children, who have been booked on to the Bikeability programme, will take part one day next week. Dates have been sent out via Parentapp. The Programme teaches them how to ride their bikes, how to ride them safely on the roads as well as some basics about bicycle maintenance.

Year 3 Class Assembly

Parents and Carers of our Year 3 children are invited along to attend their Class Assembly, next Friday morning at 9.15 a.m. in the school hall.

Anti-Bullying Week

The week beginning the 13th November marks the start of national anti-bullying week with this year's theme being: Make A Noise About Bullying. Through our PSHE lessons and assemblies we will be talking about the theme and what it means for everyone in our school.

Tax Facts Workshops – Juniors

As you will probably know from recent press releases there is a big push on educating children around "financial literacy". Therefore we have organised for a company called Tax Facts to come into school on the 15th November and undertake a variety of workshops with all our Junior Classes.

Children in Need

Friday 17th November is Children in Need day. On this day children can wear spots as part of their school uniform for the day in return for a small donation. All donations will be sent on behalf of the school to the charity.



Together Everyone Achieves More

Sports News

The final week before the half term break was an extremely busy one for our representative teams. Our school team finished a respectable fifth in the Bootle Schools annual 7-a-side tournament while our girls' team played really well and won their first league fixture of the season, defeating St Nicholas 2 -1. Good luck to the girls team who play Valewood at home next Thursday while the Y4/5 Girls Football Team took part in a tournament today at Chesterfield High School. In addition to this a number of children from the juniors will also be attending a sports festival at Chesterfield High School next Wednesday afternoon. Letters will be sent home to those parents.

Halle Day

I just wanted to update you to say that following the day we had some additional donations which means we managed to raise just over £300 with the Fletcher family matching this amount. This money will be sent to the Love Jasmine Charity which was nominated by the Fletcher family.

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.

School Website

Our new school website is really taking shape so please have a look and see what's been going on in and around school. The address is www.stwilliamofyork.co.uk

Reception Applications

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. 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 15th January 2024.

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

Kind regards

Mr. M.Murphy Headteacher



Together Everyone Achieves More