

ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



ST WILLIAM ROAD THORNTON CROSBY L23 9XH

Tel: 0151 924 7280 Fax: 0151 931 4558

E-mail: head.stwilliamofyork@schools.sefton.gov.uk

www.stwilliamofyork.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr M Murphy

School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst

26th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

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 Year 4 closely followed by Year 1 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 previously stated that absence would be unauthorised without medical evidence, this will continue for this academic year. Attendance Support Plans issued will be reviewed & will continue into this academic year. We will also 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	88.3%	Y1	95.9%	Y2	92.5%	Y3	88.1%	Y4	96.3%	Y5	83.4%	Y6	89%	All school	90.3%
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Y6 Robinwood Residential Trip

Year 6 will be going on their annual residential to Robinwood (Near Wrexham), from Wednesday to Friday of next week. As ever it promises to be a really enjoyable occasion so here's hoping for some good weather!!!

Y5/6 Indoor Athletics

Well done to all those children who took part in the Indoor Athletics competition at Chesterfield High School this afternoon. Mr Davies said you all performed magnificently and were a credit to the school.

Healthy Habits

Active Sefton are currently working with children from classes 3 and 4 around healthy lifestyles. The programme is aimed at promoting healthy habits and involves the children learning about nutrition (having a healthy diet) and the importance of exercise.

Girls Football Match

Good luck to the girl's football team who play against St Marys Prep this afternoon, after school.

Parents Evenings

A reminder that the spring term parents evenings will take place on the evenings of Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th February. Nursery will have theirs on 7th & 8th February. Parents will be emailed out a link so appointments can be booked online.

Holocaust Memorial Day

To mark Holocaust Memorial Day children in Y6 visited the Plaza Cinema this 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.

Online Safety Workshops

Knowsley CLC came into school today and delivered a number of online safety workshops for the children in Y1 to Y6.



Together Everyone Achieves More

There is also an online safety briefing for parents on Wednesday 31 st January from 9.30 am till 10.15 am. The session is being run again by Knowsley CLC and can be accessed by going onto the school website. If you click on the heading About Us and then scroll down to Safeguarding. Click on that and it will bring up a link entitled Parent/Carer Online Safety Training January 2024.

Yoga Sessions

Active Sefton are currently in school every Wednesday 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.

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.

Pastoral Care Lead

Mr Davies is on the yard every morning before school should you have any queries or need any advice, you can also speak to him about any concerns you have around your child in class and then he can speak to the class teacher (He will have on his high visibility jacket so can be easily identified). You can also make an appointment to speak to him should you wish to discuss something further.

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 10am 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.

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.

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



Together Everyone Achieves More

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