

# 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**  
4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Halle Day

Today we celebrated Halle Day in school, this is a day when the children come off timetable and take part in a variety of fun and engaging lessons linked to their own well-being. The day is called Halle Day in memory of Halle Fletcher who very sadly passed away a number of years ago when she was a pupil in Year 3. The aim for the day is for children to have fun as well raising money for a charity which has been nominated by the Fletcher Family (Charities & organisations we have donated to in the past include CLIC Sargent/Alder Hey and Love Jasmine) On behalf of school & the family, I would like to thank you for all your kind donations with this year's nominated charity being the Ronald McDonald House at Alder Hey.

## Attendance

The government have introduced new procedures for attendance from September. The School Attendance & Punctuality Policy was sent out on School Spider this week & can also be found on the School Website. The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression.

- *Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year, Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.*
- *95%: 10 days absence a year. These pupils are likely to achieve good grades and form a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2 week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.*
- *90%: 19 days absence a year. The Government classes Young People in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work.*

## Doctors, Dentist & Hospital Appointment

A reminder to try to make routine Doctors & Dental Appointments outside of school hours. For all appointments in school hours we need to see the appointment letter, text or card.

## Holiday Requests

All requests for absence must be made in writing at least 7 days in advance. We have forms available at the school office. Please see the School Website for more information about the changes to Penalty Notices from this year.

## Reception Class Reading Meeting

Thank you to all those Reception parents who were able to come along to this week's Reading Meeting. It really is crucial that we collectively support your child with their reading and I hope you found the meeting informative.

## Cross- Country News

Well done to all those children who represented the school at last week's Sefton Cross-Country Meeting at The Northern Cricket Club. The course was long and very challenging but all the children ran magnificently. Well done!!!!

## Rock Steady Live Music Assembly

The children were treated to a live music assembly this week. They learnt about a variety of different instruments and were able to join in with some of the different songs performed.



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### **Football News**

Well done to our Y6 Football Team who played at Chesterfield High School in a tournament last Friday. All the children played really well and went through the whole tournament only losing one game and finishing a respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 8.

### **School Photographs**

All the children had their photographs this week and proofs will start to be sent out today. Please get your orders in asap. If you have any queries regarding them or how to order then please contact the school office.

### **Online Safety Session for Parents**

A link to a recording of the online safety session is now available for parents/carers on the school website.

### **World Mental Health Day (10<sup>th</sup> October)**

To celebrate World Mental Health day next Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October we are inviting all children to come into school wearing something yellow, it could be a yellow tie, yellow sock, yellow shirt etc. There will be an assembly in the morning as part of the day. We will also be collecting donations which we will then forward to the charity.

### **Autumn Term Parents Evenings**

The dates for the autumn term parent's evenings are Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, from 4.30 – 6.30 pm and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October from 3.30 – 5.30 pm. All appointments will be 10 minutes each. A link to booking appointments online has been set up on School Spider.

### **New School Telephone System**

As you know we have had a new telephone system installed in school over the last month and there have been some teething problems. However hopefully now these have all been rectified and I would like to thank you for your patience. The new system has enhanced features as well as being able to record calls.

### **Friday Morning Mass**

Year 4 will be attending mass at St William of York next Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October at 10 am.

### **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. You can also make an appointment to speak to him should you wish to discuss something further.

### **High School & School Reception Class Applications**

A reminder to all parents/carers of children in Year 6 & Nursery that you will need to go online at Sefton's website to complete the application for High School/Reception class 2025. 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 deadline for applications for High School is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 & for Reception Class 2025 is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### **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.

### **Pre-loved Uniform**

If you have any uniform your child has grown out of and no longer needs please can you pass it into the school office. We particularly need PE kits & Nursery/Reception uniform. You are welcome to come along and help yourselves to any items of uniform you need from our pre-loved uniform table in the foyer by the school office.

### **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.



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### 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. In terms of staff, Mrs. Chambers left us last week. We wish her well for the future & welcome Mrs Ward to the school team.

### School Spider – All communications & online payments

Our school communication system is School Spider. It is important that you download the School Spider app so you do not miss out on information. The system also allows you to book and pay for After School Club & School Meals. School Meals & After School Club bookings need to be made via the app in advance. Bookings cannot be made on the day. To download, go to the app store on your phone & search School Spider, search for our school & follow the instructions to set up an account. You need to use the same email address that school have for you.

### Book Swap

A reminder we have a free book swap located in the foyer by our office! A book swap is an easy and fun way to swap books you no longer need for books you want to read! Please come along to see the books on offer and join in- don't forget to bring something to swap! Book Swap Rules 1. You can leave as many books as you like but please only take one book home at a time. 2. Make sure that the book(s) you are leaving are your own. 3. Make sure your book(s) are appropriate, clean and in good condition. 4. Make sure that you leave the shelf tidy and keep your swapped book in good condition. 5. Bring your book back once you have read it and swap it for another.

### 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



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