

# 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**

13<sup>th</sup> October 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 Year 1 class who got 96% attendance this week. Anyone below 90% 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.

Rec	94.6%	Y1	96%	Y2	91.5%	Y3	94.2%	Y4	85.5%	Y5	87.3%	Y6	90.3%	All school	91.1%
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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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

## BullyBusters

Bullybuster came into school recently to deliver a number of assemblies to children in KS1 and KS2. They also took time out to train up some Well-Being Ambassadors from years 5 and 6. (Formerly known as Bullybuster Champions). These Ambassadors will be helping to provide support and friendship to their peers during lunch and playtimes.

## 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](http://www.stwilliamofyork.co.uk)



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### **Year 5 Bikeability**

Year 5 are being offered Bikeability Level 1 & 2 which is aimed at children who can already ride unaided. The training starts on the playground and then those that are capable and safe are taken out onto the quiet local roads around the school. Groups are small at 6 children with 2 instructors. School will organise the groups and we will tell you which day your child has been allocated. Please see the message sent on Parentapp which has been resent today. If your child is unable to ride a bike unaided please let school know & we will see if the Bikeability team can provide some separate training.

### **Mad Science**

We had a visit this week from the Mad Science Company who provided a very informative, hands on workshop for our Year 5 class on Hydrogen, Fuel of the Future & an assembly for the rest of the school on the Water Cycle. The children learned some fascinating things about the world of Science.

### **Reception Class Assembly**

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

### **Merseyside Fire Service**

The Merseyside Fire Service will be coming into school on Monday to deliver an assembly to all children. They will then be demonstrating to a variety of classes how their Fire engines operate and the important pieces of equipment on board.

### **Y6 Holy Family High School Visit**

Our Year 6 children have been invited along to Holy Family High School next Wednesday afternoon to watch a performance of Matilda. It promise to be an enjoyable afternoon with lots of our past students taking part in the production.

### **INSET Day Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

School will finish for the October half term on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October as there is INSET training for staff on Friday 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Y5 Liverpool Trip**

Our Year 5 children visited Liverpool docks and the museums as part of topic work they have been doing in Geography and History. Despite some unexpected disruption to the day all the children had an enjoyable day and were commended for their very good behaviour.

### **Halle Day**

Thank you to everyone for supporting Halle Day, all the children had a fantastic time taking part in a lot of physical activities as well as having sessions on well-being. We managed to raise over £300 and this is going to be donated, in Halle's name, to a charity selected by her family.

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

A reminder to all parents/carers of children in Year 6 & Nursery (3/4 year olds) that you will need to go online at Sefton's website to fill in the application for High School/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 High School application is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 & Reception is 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Dogs**

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



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### **Breakfast & After School Club**

We have had to carry out a review of After School Club due to rising costs & unfortunately will have to increase prices slightly from September. We have tried to keep the increase as low as possible and hope you understand the reason behind the increase. Our prices are still very competitive compared to other schools & in addition our Breakfast Club remains a free facility. The First Hour will go from £5 to £6 & the full session from £10 to £12. We also have a new booking system on School Spider which will allow parents to book and pay for sessions. Bookings & payment will have to be made in advance.

### **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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