

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

22nd December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Christmas Holidays

On behalf of all the staff here at St William of York we would like to wish everyone a very happy and enjoyable Christmas. We hope you have a great time over the festive period and look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Tuesday 9th January.

Christmas Plays/Productions

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Christmas plays over the last two weeks. I'm sure you will all agree that they were tremendous occasions with the children acting and singing beautifully. Well done to all the children and thank you to all the teachers/teaching assistants and helpers who organised the productions.

Class Christmas Parties

All the children had their Christmas parties this week. The children had a great time with party games, party food and a disco in the afternoon.

Christmas Raffle

Thank you for all your support with this, all the money raised will be going towards resources across the school. The winning ticket holders have already been contacted regarding the draw.

Mrs De Gier

Mrs De Gier, one of our Lunchtime Supervisors & Breakfast Club staff, is retiring so today is her last day. I'm sure you will join with me in thanking her for all her hard work and to wish her an enjoyable retirement.

Attendance

See below the current attendance figures per class for this week. Our target is over 96%. Well done to Reception 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. Attendance certificates have gone out this week either via your child or in the post.

Rec	93.7%	Y1	91.8%	Y2	91.8%	Y3	91.9%	Y4	91.7%	Y5	85.1%	Y6	82%	All school	89.6%
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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.



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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



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