

ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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23rd February 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 are being 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 2 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. 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	95%	Y1	93.9%	Y2	98.2%	Y3	96.3%	Y4	88%	Y5	93.4%	Y6	86.7%	All school	93%
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Football News

It's been a busy week in terms of football matches. The school team played St Oswald's in the cup on Tuesday and despite putting up a very strong showing, we unfortunately lost the game 5 – 2. On Thursday our Under 10 team played against Netherton Moss, again in the cup. All the children played really well and I'm pleased to report that we won 2-0 and are through to the next round. Finally a Year 4 team took part in a tournament at Chesterfield High School this afternoon. There were over 12 schools involved and I'm pleased to say we won the competition. Well done to all the boys and girls who have represented the school this week. Next week our school team are back in league action when we play at home against Rimrose Hope.

Tell a Fairy Tale Day

National Fairytale Day falls on the Monday 26th February. It's a day when children are encouraged to share traditional and modern twists on fairytales. Fairytales are some of the earliest forms of literature and are still an important part of every child's education. Any parent who wants to make sure their children become interested in reading can begin by introducing them to these tales of princesses, dragons, and monsters. We are therefore encouraging our children to bring in any books, props or costumes that they have at home on Monday, that are part of the world of fairytales. Please do not go to any expense in buying anything and children are not obliged to take part if they don't want to. Further information on World Book Day (Thursday 7th March) will be sent out at a later date.

Year 3 Violins

Our Year 3 Class will be performing at the CAPITAL Diversity Concert on Thursday 7th March. This year the venue is Mountford Hall which is on the Liverpool University Campus. All tickets for the evening performance have been sold out and letters regarding arrangements for the day will be sent home closer to the date. Last year's event at Pontins was a fantastic occasion and this years is promising to be just as enjoyable.



Together Everyone Achieves More

Nursery Places

We have a limited number of 3 year old 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

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 are taking part in weekly Chess sessions. 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.

First Holy Communion/Reconciliation

A letter has been sent out today to Year 4, 5 & 6 regarding the programme for Holy Communions this year.

School Spider – online payments

Our online payment system School Spider allows you to book and pay for After School Club & School Meals. Details of how to download the app have been sent out. School Meals & After School Club bookings need to be made via the app in advance. Bookings cannot be made on the day.

Healthy Snacks/Packed lunches

We have noticed a number of children bringing in sweets/chocolate bars as part of their snack/packed lunch. As a school we are always trying to promote healthy lifestyles and would appreciate your support in providing healthy alternatives.

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.

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.

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.

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

Clubs Next Week – Confirmed places only

Monday - Reading Ambassadors 3.15-4.15

Monday – Y5 & 6 Netball 3.15-4.15

Tuesday – Dodgeball Y5 3.15-4.15

Wednesday – Y4 Art Club 3.15-4.15

Wednesday – Cross Country 3.15-4.15

Thursday – Girls Football 3.15-4.15

Kind regards

Mr. M.Murphy Headteacher



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