

# ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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**Headteacher: Mr M Murphy**

**School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst**  
27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Sports Day

Following the cancellation of this week's Sports Day the new date is this forthcoming Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> June. The times will remain the same with Reception/KS1 at 10am and the Juniors at 1.45 pm. Fingers crossed for some good weather!!!

## Rock Kidz

All the children had a fantastic time last Friday when Rock Kidz came into school. The children undertook a variety of musical workshops and then took part in a "Rock n Roll" Assembly at the end of the day.

## Transition Mornings

As part of their preparation for September the children will be undertaking a number of transition mornings when they get to meet their new teacher and teaching assistants. The first of those took place this morning and more are planned over the next few weeks. Y6 have spent Thursday and Friday of this week on a two day transition programme to their new High Schools.

## Y5 High School Visits

Year 5 visited Chesterfield High School last Thursday and had a great time, taking part in a variety of lessons and activities. They will be going along to Holy Family High School on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July for a similar themed day.

## Reception Class Assembly

Our Reception Class will be performing their assembly for all their parents/carers on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 9.15 am in the school hall.

## School Attendance

Please see below our attendance per class for this week along with the number of late arrivals. Our target is 96%;

Rec	98%	Y1	93.1%	Y2	92.5%	Y3	94%	Y4	92.3%	Y5	94.7%	Y6	95.3%	All school	94.3%
10 lates		12 lates		9 lates		11 lates		11 lates		14 lates		6 lates		73 lates	

Well done to Reception class for achieving our 96%+ target!

The School Attendance & Punctuality Policy can be found on the School Website. Email & App messages were sent out last week to parents of children with less than 90% attendance (persistent absentee category) & to those who could potentially fall into this category shortly, as well, as children who regularly arrive late. We understand that there are, in most cases, valid reasons for attendance being low & lates being high but we have to keep parents informed of the figures. Punctuality is very important. 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. We monitor all children's attendance closely & ask for your support to ensure your child is in school as much as possible. Please let us know if there are specific reasons affecting attendance & punctuality as we may be able to help.



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### **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. Holiday fines (5 days & over or combined over a 10 week period) are now £80 per child rising to £160 if not paid within 21 days, if not paid the fine will go to court. For second & third episodes of absence, fines start at a higher amount or go straight to court. These are new procedures that started from September 2024 introduced by the government. Please see School Spider messages or the School Website.

### **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.

### **Chess Tournament**

We welcomed four schools from across Merseyside, and one from Manchester, as we hosted a chess tournament on Wednesday. As a prominent member of the Chess In Schools Programme we were asked to host the event on behalf of the organisation. It was a really enjoyable occasion and I'm pleased to report that SWOY ended up as the eventual winners. Well done to everyone who played.

### **Y3 Violin Concert**

Parents/Carers of the children in Year 3 are invited to come along next Friday at 10.45 am for special Violin Concert. As you know the children have been learning the instrument throughout the year and this is a great opportunity to showcase what the children have learnt.

### **Summer Reading Challenge – Netherton Library**

Representatives from Netherton Library came into school this week to talk to the children about the Summer Reading Challenge and what it involves. Although the people delivering the presentation were from Netherton Library, all libraries throughout Sefton are taking part in the challenge so please do take your children along to their nearest library over the summer holidays and get them signed up.

### **Friday Morning Mass**

Classes are attending 10am mass, on a rota basis, at St William of York Church on Fridays.

### **Phones/Smart Watches**

Just a quick reminder that any children who bring Phones/Smart Watches into school must hand them into their class teachers at the beginning of the day and these will be returned to them at home time.

### **Free Breakfast Club – Reception to Year 6**

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 wanted to let you know that we have places available at our After School Club. The club runs from 3.15pm to 5.45pm daily in Term Time. A newsletter for May activities will be sent out shortly on School Spider today.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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 school jumpers/cardigans & PE kit. 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.

### **School Spider - All communications & online payments**



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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.

Kind regards

*M Murphy*

Mr. M. Murphy  
**Headteacher**



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