



Queen's Park C.E./U.R.C. Primary School

Queen's Park Post Friday 11th September
2026

Our value this term is **thankfulness**. 'Always be thankful' Thessalonians
5:16

Message from Miss Bolan

Another busy week here at Queen's Park Primary, and I have to say it's been brilliant to see everyone getting into the swing of things as we settle into the new term. There's something special about September – that sense of fresh starts and new energy that ripples through the whole school.

One thing that's really caught my attention this week is how smart our children are looking in their new PE kits. I've had loads of them coming up to tell me how comfortable they are, which is exactly what we want. When children feel good in what they're wearing, it makes such a difference to how they engage in their learning and activities. It's those little details that matter.

I also want to give a huge thank you to our Year 6 parents who came in recently to see how we teach handwriting. The feedback we received was lovely and it's really encouraging to have parents in school experiencing firsthand what we're doing with the children. Your continued support means everything to us and moments like these help us work together as a real community.

Now, I do need to flag a couple of important notices for you all. The first is about changes to the law linked to allergies. We're taking this seriously and I'm pleased to tell you that all the necessary actions are already in place here at school. However, we need your help with this one. If your child has an allergy, you'll need to complete an individual health care plan. You'll find the paperwork coming home in your child's book bag soon, so do keep an eye out for it. It's really important that we have this information so we can keep every child safe.

The second notice is about fidget toys. We're happy for children to bring these to school, but only if they're appropriate and genuinely needed to support their learning or wellbeing. The key thing is that they can't be distracting to other children or used inappropriately during lessons. We know that for some children, having a fidget toy can really help them concentrate, so we absolutely support that. We just need to make sure they're being used for the right reasons and in the right way. As always, if you have any questions about either of these notices or anything else going on in school, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Lastly, I have some gorgeous news - Miss Swords is having a baby is due around Christmas. Our QP family really is growing. We have had a 'baby boom' here at school. I know you will join me in wishing her well. We will be looking to replace Miss Swords after Christmas and will keep P1 families updated.

Have a lovely weekend

Miss Bolan

Social Media

We take our safeguarding responsibilities really seriously and are always looking at how we can better safeguard our children both within school and online. As you know, our school Instagram account has been a wonderful way of sharing many exciting experiences,

achievements and activities that our children enjoy during the school day and beyond. We know how much our families enjoy seeing what our children are getting up to.

However, the world is changing and as technology develops further in particular, the rapid advance of artificial intelligence (AI) we have carefully considered the potential risks associated with sharing photographs of children on an open social media platform. Our Instagram is accessed by the wider public and we feel that as a school, we need to take a more cautious approach to how we share images of our children.

As a result, we have made the decision to close our social media accounts. We appreciate that this may be disappointing for some families who enjoy scrolling and seeing what our school community is up to but we feel the risk is too great.

Luckily, we have an alternative solution via our class dojo platform. This platform is solely linked to our school and we give permission to add parents to our account. It is 'closed' space that we can share images and updates within a safer platform.

Next step - we will close down our Instagram on Friday 25th September. All parents will be expected to download the Arbor App. This will be the app that we will use for our main communication tool. The direct messages to teachers on dojo will be switched off on Friday 25th September.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to come and see me on the door every morning at the back of school.

School Improvement Priorities

Every year, I write an improvement plan to ensure we are always moving forward as a school for our children and families. I have attached the poster outlining what we will be working on this year. Any questions, pop and see me.



Arbor Parent App



We are pleased to let you know that we are now using the **Arbor Parent App** as our new all-in-one parent communication platform. This means that **ParentPay** will no longer be used and **ClassDojo** will soon be only for rewards and behaviour points, as all school communications, payments, and other important information will be managed through the Arbor Parent App.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to download the app now and sign in using the **email address currently held by the school**. If you experience any difficulties accessing your account or have any questions, please contact the school office.

School Grid for ordering lunches will remain as a separate app.

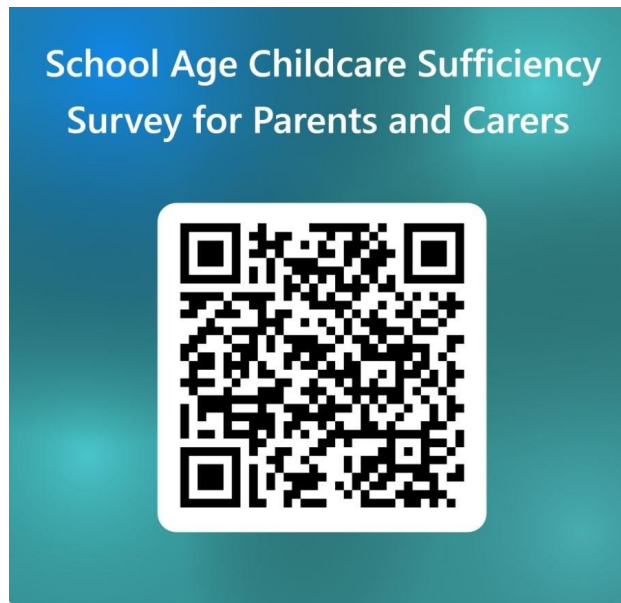
School Age Childcare Sufficiency Survey

St Helens Borough Council is currently carrying out its **School Age Childcare Sufficiency Survey**, looking at families' experiences of childcare including **breakfast clubs, before and after-school childcare and holiday provision**.

They want to understand what is working well for families, where they are finding it difficult to access suitable childcare, and where there may be gaps in provision across the borough. This includes understanding the needs of families of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Feedback from parents and carers will help them build a clearer picture of local demand and inform future planning of childcare provision in St Helens.

Please use the QR code attached to complete the survey.



Keeping our children safe online



Phonics Links

We have created this document so that all of the phonics links we send home are in one place. You could watch one video, two videos or even 3 videos a week! It's completely up to you.

Watch, watch and watch again - each one of the links will be a fantastic chance to practise recognising sounds and reading words, both real and alien. Don't forget to comment in your child's reading record book which video they have watched, it all counts towards their weekly reads.

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/OmZ2t4GdEsKSJTmW?ref=Link>

Important Allergy/Food Information



St Helens Catering Service-School Lunch Special Dietary Request

Please remember to inform St Helens Catering Service if your child has a food allergy / intolerance / special requirement e.g. halal menu, The QR code will take you to a form to complete for the Catering Dept. If you need a paper copy, please pop into the office.

Once complete, can you check that the information has appeared on your School Grid account.

Green Tip of the Week



SEND in the Spotlight

What's on in St Helens

Autumn Term 2026



ADDvanced Solutions Community Network
Supporting you to find the answers

ADDvanced Solutions Community Network
supports the emotional health and wellbeing of neurodivergent children and young people, their families and the professionals that work with them. **No diagnosis or referral is needed to access the offer.**

ST HELENS Community Network Group

Tuesday afternoons during term time

Join us from **12:30pm-2:30pm**

Venue: The Living Well, Alexandra House, Borough Rd, Saint Helens WA10 3RN

No booking needed, just come along

Come along and meet our team, to learn more about neurodiversity from those who can share lived experiences and practical strategies. Our groups create a welcoming, accepting and relaxed environment for parents and carers, knowing you are not on your own.

Get directions



Willowbrook - The Living Well



The Living Well is located on Borough Road, reachable via the 10 bus routes from St Helens town centre.

Topics this term:

Tues 8 th September	Open Session - come along, get advice and support
Tues 15 th September	Choosing a School
Tues 22 nd September	St Helens Mental Health Support Team
Tues 29 th September	NEW! Preparing for the Teenage Years
Tues 6 th October	Specific Learning Difficulties - Dyslexia
Tues 13 th October	NEW! Neurodiversity and Self Harm
Tues 20 th October	ADHD and Rejection Sensitive Dysphoria
Half Term Break	
Tues 3 rd November	NEW! Monotropism - Intense Focus and Interests
Tues 10 th November	TESSA - Education Advice and Support Team
Tues 17 th November	NEW! Neurodiversity and Stimming
Tues 24 th November	Preparing for the Christmas Break
Tues 1 st December	Supporting Transition
Tues 8 th December	Introduction to Sensory Processing Difficulties

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Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 22nd September - European Day of Languages

Monday 28th September - Y5 visit URC Ormskirk Street for Experience Harvest

Thursday 1st October - EYFS and Y6 Height and Weight Checks in school

Wednesday 7th October - Y3 Play in a Day. Parents invited at 2:30pm

Monday 5th October - Friday 16th October - Y5 Bike-ability

Friday 9th October - EYFS Welcome Service at St Lukes - EYFS Parents welcome

Monday 12th October - World Mental Health Day - All children to wear yellow

Tuesday 13th October - Jewish Visitor in school.

Thursday 22nd October - Autumn Parents' Evening

Friday 23rd October - school finishes for half term

Cowley Open Evening



Parental Engagement Sessions - Handwriting Help

Thank you to our year six parents who attended this session - they found it really useful.

Year Five - Wednesday 16th September - 9am

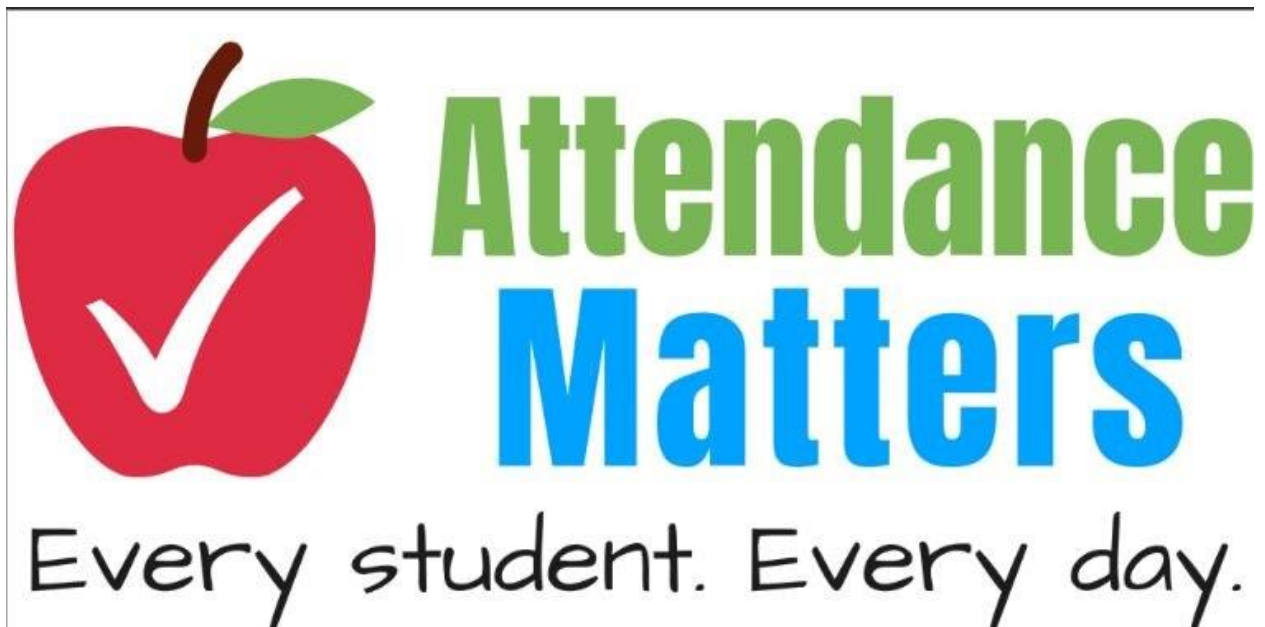
Year Four - Wednesday 23rd September - 9am

Year Three - Wednesday 30th September -9am

Year Two - Wednesday 7th October -9am

Year One/EYFS - Wednesday 14th October - 9am

Attendance Matters





ATTENDANCE MATTERS.
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Penalty Notice Fines for School are changing

These changes came into force from 19th August 2024

- 1st Offence**
The first time a penalty notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance it will be: **£160 per adult, per child (paid with 28 days)** Reduced to **£80 per adult per child** if paid in 21 days.
- 2nd Offence (within three years)**
The second penalty notice issued for term time leave or irregular attendance it will be: **£160 per adult per child, paid within 28 days.** There will be no reduced rate offered.
- Third Offence and any further offences in three years**
The third time an offence is committed for term time leave or irregular attendance a penalty notice will not be issued. The case will be presented to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates fines can be up to **£2500 per parent, per child.**
Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate due to failing to safeguard a child's education.

10 sessions (5 days) within a 10-week period
Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a 10-week period

322 children had perfect attendance last week! Can we beat this next week?

Attendance Update

We work really hard each and every week to make sure every class beats out school target of 97% - this will help us to succeed

*Our Attendance this week - **96.45%***

*Our Attendance this year so far - **96.1%***

P6 had 100% attendance last week and picked 'DEBUT' as the Feel Good Friday song.

'In to Win' at Queen's Park

Launching Sept 2025

Attendance Ambassadors

Our new Attendance Ambassadors (working with Mrs Mullins) will launch our new 'In to Win' league in September.



'In to Win' League

Each class are a team in our attendance league. The league table will reset after each half term. The league table will be displayed in the hall for everyone to see.



Weekly 'Matches'

Each week, two teams will compete in a match (set by the Attendance Ambassadors). Winners will be announced weekly in Star Badge assembly.



How to score points

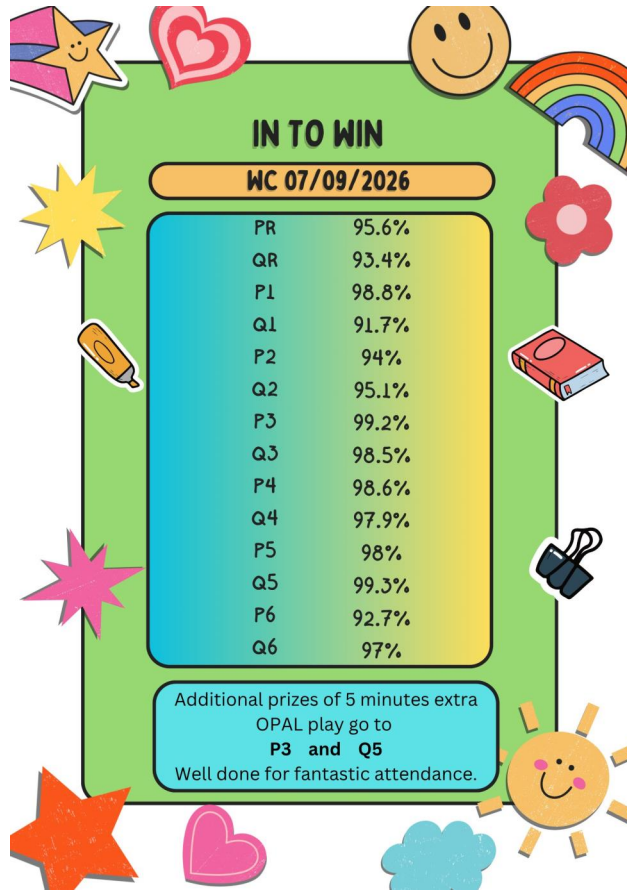
Just like the football league, if you win your match you score 3 points, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss. These points will be added to the league table..



League Winners

The two teams at the top of the table at the end of the half term will win a non-uniform day. Watch out though because the teacher of the team at the bottom of the table will face a forfeit in the half termly attendance assembly!







Dojo Winners



PR Phoebe E

QR Dottie H

P1 Amber R

P2 Oliver P

P3 Orla E

P4 Finley C

P5 Thea R

P6 Amelia J

Q1 Mia W

Q2 Paisley B

Q3 Evie M

Q4 Emelia M

Q5 Faye M

Q6 Crystal U

Star Badge Winners



PR Arabella F

P1 Chizaram M

P2 Tahlia L

P3 Eric L

P4 Olivia Mai G

P5 Alex T

P6 Savannah T

QR Lenny D

Q1 AJ H

Q2 Ayva S

Q3 George K

Q4 Amirah Jo A

Q5 Ilaisia PP

Q6 Amber C

Some of the wonderful achievements and adventures of our children
this week





1 - Ava got star of the week at football AND judo this week



2 - Ava got star of the week at football AND judo this week



3 - Faith at the world famous Cafe Mambo in Ibiza enjoying the sunset



4 - Theo was awarded silver medal at darts academy.

Have a wonderful weekend!