November 3 2026

Attendance

Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.

SCHOOL BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 8.45am FOR YR AND 8.50am FOR KS1 & KS2. The learning starts at 9am so we need the children in class and settled for then.

We need every child in ON TIME every day!

School average: 91.1%

Local Authority average: 95.3%

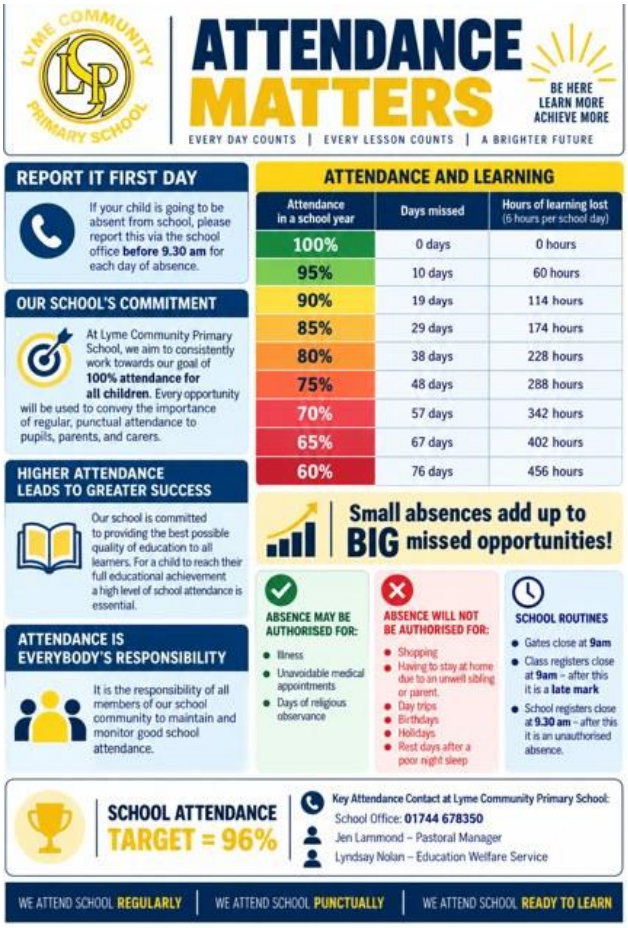
Well done to all the classes this week who beat our target of 96%.

Please read our Attendance Guide - the full updated Attendance Policy can be found on our website. Our aim is for every child to be in school every day - with a target of ***at least 96% attendance.*** *Please note that holidays in term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances - we need to receive notification (by filling in the form on the website/from the School Office) two weeks prior to their absence.*



1 - **If your child is off for a medical reason, please can you bring the appointment letter/card or medication into the office so that we have a record of this. Thank you.**

Please see our updated Attendance Policy on our website or the summary for parents below.



Award winners

Congratulations to this week's achievers :)

***YR:** Cora and Lucas*

***Y1:** All of Y1 for having amazing attitudes and behaviours with the visitors this week.*

***Y2**: Teddy and Millie*

***Y3:** Reilly and Tomas*

***Y4:** Belle and Ella D*

***Y5**: All of Y5*

***Y6:** Layla and Kaitlin*

Team Points

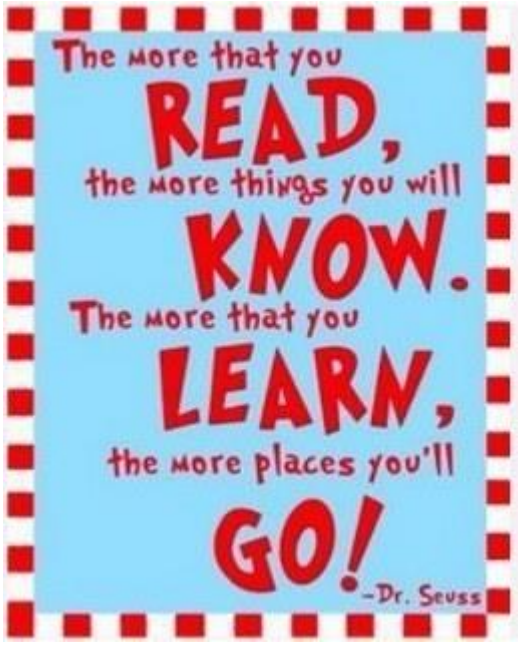


The team with the most points this week are the GRIFFIN team.

Reading Stars

Well done to this week's book winners for reading AT LEAST 3 times per week at home. ***Please can we ask parents/carers to sign your child's reading record so that we can see that they have read at home with you and return it on a THURSDAY. Thank you.***

We have been really pleased with the increase in the number of children reading at home - thank you for your support.



Lyme Superstars

Our amazing children always love to share how they are demonstrating our ICAN values outside of school. This year we will be sharing their achievements on the newsletter! Please encourage your child to bring in their trophies, medals and certificates.




TITANIC






SKK


SKK






PREVENT
DUTY
BIG BOX

Pupil Leadership updates



Our Safety Squad delivered an assembly on Anti Bullying Week: 'Break the Silence' on Monday. They shared different scenarios with the other children and asked them to share what they would do in that situation. The main messages were:

**Always talk to someone if you have a worry or a problem.*

**Talk to a safe adult and tell them if you can see that someone else is being treated differently or is worried.*

**Bullying is STOP - several times on purpose - break the silence by talking about it.*



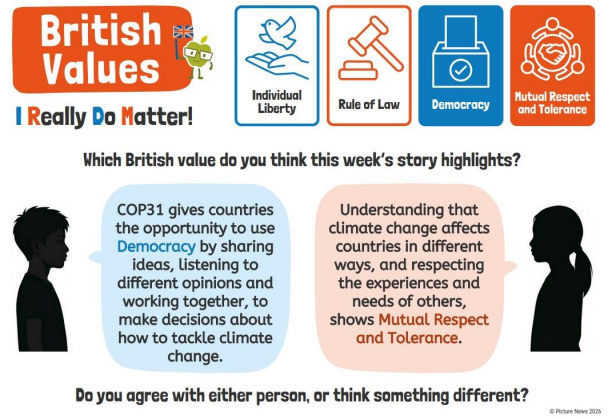


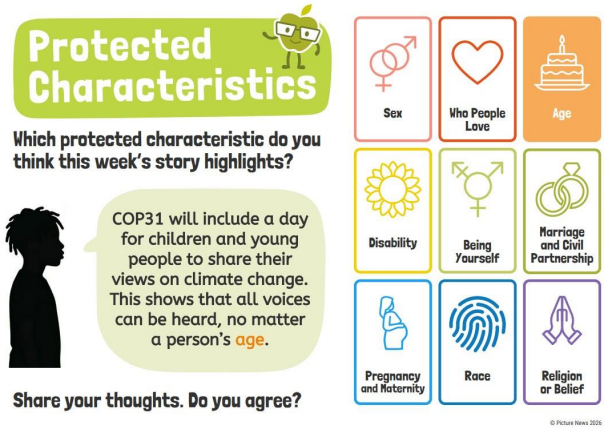
Picture News

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL
UNICEF

As a gold Rights-Respecting School, our children discuss different issues each week using Picture News. ***This week's question has been: Is it fair that some countries have to do more than others?***









Safeguarding

- ***The school car park, is for staff only. Parents are not allowed to park or turn around in it.***

- *If your child(ren) are late, they must be signed in by an adult and not left to come into school by themselves.*

- ***If someone different is collecting your child from school, you must contact the office so that the staff are aware when dismissing the children.***

- *Please do not park over resident's drive ways on Lyme Street as they need access at all times.*

- ***If you are picking children up from KS1 AND KS2 at home time, please wait on the KS2 playground after collecting children from Y1 and Y2 as it is causing an issue for staff when leading Y3,4, 5 and 6 out.***

- *Can we also ask that vapes are not used on playground - we are a no smoking site.*

Healthy snacks

*In **KS2** the children can bring a healthy snack to eat at break times. This includes: breakfast bars, brioche, fruit (fresh and dried), vegetable sticks, yogurts, cheese strings, bread sticks. We will offer any children who bring snacks such as chocolate and crisps an alternative of a piece of fruit.*

*Children in **EYFS and KS1** will still be able to have milk (if you choose to pay for this) and fruit each day.*

As we are a NUT FREE school, please check the ingredients before sending foods into school for snacks and lunches. Thank you for your understanding.





As part of this statutory guidance we have Epipens in school to be used to treat Anaphylaxis. Please inform school if you do not consent to use for your child if needed.

Community news




Santa's Grotto!
NORTH POLE EXPRESS MAIL
£5 per ticket
From 7th Dec - 19th Dec
Mon, Wed and Fri 3 pm - 5 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm
5 College Street, St Helens, WA10 1TQ
Tickets are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.
Each child will enjoy a festive experience, meet Santa, and receive a gift to take home.
YMCA
ST HELENS
Charity number: 517144
Book your tickets here

Christmas Raffle

Every ticket purchased will help us to provide affordable food and essential household items to local individuals and families facing financial hardship across our community.

Purchase up to 20 tickets

£3 per ticket

Prizes will be drawn on the YMCA St Helens Facebook page at 4 pm on Monday 7th December

Entrants must be 16 and over



YMCA ST HELENS

Charity number: 517144

Scan here to find out about the great prizes and to enter!

Could you take on the Firewalk challenge?

Registration: £25
Minimum sponsorship: £100
Open to anyone aged 18+

Every pound raised will help us move closer to opening our Social Supermarket and support local people by giving them access to affordable food and essential household items.

YMCA St Helens, 2 North Road, WA10 2TJ
Saturday 5th December 2026
Registration at 2pm to walk at 4pm

Sign up here!

YMCA
ST HELENS
Charity number: 517144

YMCA St Helens

Christmas Fayre!

5th December 12pm - 4pm

YMCA St Helens Youth Hub

Come along for an afternoon of festive fun for all the family including, games, crafts, food & drink,local business stalls and

Our firewalk challenge at 4pm!

Watch our brave firewalkers take on the walk, or sign up and challenge yourself!

For more information email
fundraising@ymcasthelens.org.uk



YMCA
ST HELENS
Charity Number: 517144

Christmas Big Give!

By donating via the Big Give website you can help us double our donations this December!

This year we're taking part in the Christmas Big Give, a national match-funding campaign that runs from midday December 1st to midday December 8th. If you donate to YMCA St Helens through the Big Give website during this time, it'll be matched by our fundraising partners.

How you can help:

- Donate during campaign week to have it doubled
- Share our campaign with friends, family, and via social media
- Fundraise for us: whether it be a run, bake sale or something else, we'd love for you to get involved

Registered Charity: 517144

YMCA ST HELENS

Help us make a bigger difference this Christmas!

We're inviting schools, workplaces, community groups, and local supporters to join our Big Give Christmas Campaign by hosting a Christmas Jumper/Christmas-themed fancy dress day or Bake Sale on the

3rd December

Every cake sold and every festive jumper worn can help raise vital funds to support local people.

If you'd like to get involved, email fundraising@ymcasthelens.org.uk and we will send you more information and our official campaign page once it's live!



YMCA ST HELENS

Charity number: 517144

SEND support



Family support



Launch of Text and Connect text messaging service

Need advice or support for your child, family or wellbeing? Try Text and Connect

Text and Connect is a free, confidential text messaging service for parents, carers and young people across St Helens. Delivered by local health visitors and school nurses, the service provides quick and easy access to health and wellbeing advice, information and support.

Whether you have questions about your child's development, emotional wellbeing, sleep, behaviour, friendships, school worries, relationships or general health, help is just a text away. Young people can also use the service directly to access confidential advice and support on issues that matter to them, including mental wellbeing, friendships, relationships, healthy lifestyles and sexual health.

*Simply text **07507 329908** to speak confidentially with a health visitor or school nurse.*

Available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (excluding bank holidays). A member of the team will aim to respond within three working days.

For more information or to access support, text 07507 329908.

Visit: www.wchc.nhs.uk/text

Right Care, Right Place this winter

We all want to know where to turn when our children are unwell. This winter, help keep everyone safe by choosing the NHS service that best meets your child's needs.

From your local pharmacy and NHS 111 to urgent treatment and emergency care, different services are available depending on the help your child needs.

Take a look at this handy guide and keep it somewhere safe, so you know where to go when you need help.



Changes to free school meal voucher support

Families eligible for free school meals will no longer automatically receive food vouchers during school holidays, following changes to Government funding guidance.

Earlier this year, the Government replaced the Household Support Fund with the Crisis and Resilience Fund. The new fund is intended to support residents facing unexpected financial hardship or a sudden loss of income, while also helping people build longer-term financial resilience.

In line with guidance issued by the Department for Work and Pensions, Local Authorities are advised to no longer provide blanket food voucher support to all families eligible for free school meals during school holidays. Eligibility to Free School Meals has been significantly extended from September and to continue support would be unaffordable under the Crisis and Resilience Fund.

A range of support remains available to help families across St Helens Borough, including:

- *Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, which provides free activities and healthy meals for eligible children during school holidays. More information is available: Introduction to HAF - St Helens Borough Council*

- *Families are also encouraged to check whether they are receiving all the financial support they may be entitled to by using the council's Better Off Calculator, available at www.sthelens.gov.uk/betteroffcalculator*

Other support, including food, welfare advice, help with budgeting and assistance for residents facing financial hardship, continues to be available through the council and partner organisations, such as Citizens Advice and food banks and pantries.

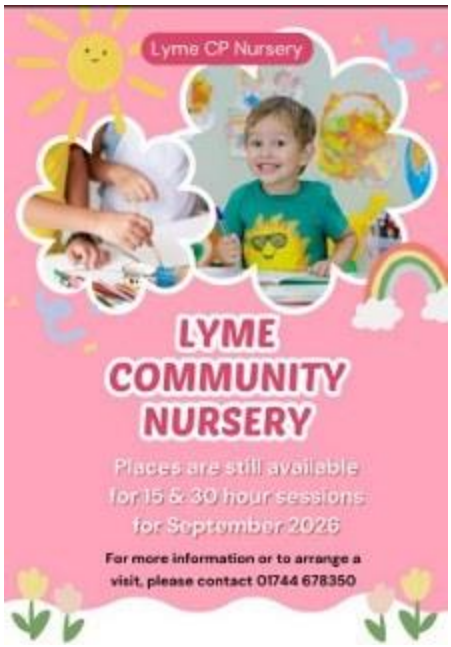
Residents can find further information about available support and advice by visiting: www.sthelens.gov.uk/sthelenstogether

Nursery Places



If you or someone you know would like a place in our Nursery for September, please access our website for details on how to apply https://www.lyme.st-helens.sch.uk/page/school-admissions/19886

Please contact the school office if you would like to arrange a visit.



Social Media



Please follow us on Social media!

Facebook: Lyme Community Primary - new

Instagram: ***lyme.communityprimaryschool***

Dates for the diary



Monday 23rd November: ASSESSMENT WEEK

Wednesday 25th November: YR and Y6 Height and Weight screening

Thursday 26th November: DT/Music workshop online for Y3 and Y4

Friday 27th November: Visit from David Baines MP

Saturday 28th November: Christmas Fayre



OPAL updates

*It has been mixed weather outside this week for our OPAL lunch times - **please remember to send in wellies/waterproof shoes for lunch time play and a coat.***

Please visit our new OPAL website page to find out more about how our plans are developing.
https://www.lyme.st-helens.sch.uk/page/opal/170683

Lyme PSA



School Lunches



Y1 Animal Club Experience

Our Y1 class enjoyed a fantastic experience this week as part of their learning. It was lovely see so many listening so attentively about the facts and holding the different animals. Aurora said, 'I have faced my fears!'





Inter-Faith Week

The amazing learning produced by the children during last week's Inter-Faith Week is now on display in school. Thank you to Miss Burns, our RE Lead, for her work in arranging this.







AmaSing Project

Two of our KS2 children represented school last week as part of a music project organised by the Liverpool City Region Hub. Working with Andy Smith, a professional composer, they joined with children from other schools to create a brand-new song for the Sound Music Hub project. They will then help Miss Mee to teach it to the others ready for a singing event in the Summer Term - more details to follow.



YN Class assembly



Our YN children invited their families into school this week to hear some of the nursery rhymes they have been learning performed:

- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive
- Row, Row, Row Your Boat
- Hickory Dickory Dock
- Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat

- Doctor Foster

They also shared their wonderful creative learning.





KS1 Multi-sports tournament

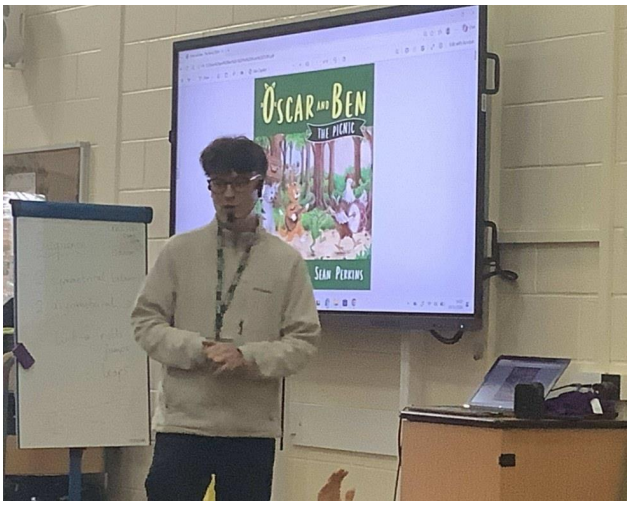
Well done to the Y1 and Y2 child who took part in this. Tracy and I were told how fantastic their behaviour and engagement was.





Author visit

On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome Sean Perkins, author and illustrator, into school to share his new book with us! Our EYFS and KS1 children took part in a fantastic drawing workshop, while during a whole school assembly Sean shared his story with us and treated us to a funny song, which everyone joined in with! Sean truly inspired us all with his passion for storytelling and illustration. A huge thank you to Sean for such a fun, engaging and inspiring visit!



Please complete the form on the letters sent home if your child would like to order one of his books.

Yesterday, we had the pleasure of hosting author Sean Perkins, who visited our school to read from his latest book, ***Oscar and Ben – The Picnic.*** This exciting new release is the fourth instalment in the popular Oscar and Ben series. We're thrilled to offer you the chance to purchase a copy of this book, which would make a great Christmas present. Orders will be accepted until 4th December, and books will be delivered shortly after for your child to bring home.

In addition, Sean has copies of his other titles available and is offering a special discount when you purchase more than one book. The prices are as follows:

- **£28.00 for all four books** (Best Value)
- **£22.00 for any three books**
- **£15.00 for any two books**
- **£8.00 for a single book**

If you would like to purchase a book(s), please complete and return the slip below, indicating the title(s) you wish to order. Please place your order in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with your child's name(s) and their teacher's name. Payment needs to be made on the SchoolMoney app or in cash. Orders will not be processed without payment.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Reid



Book Order Slip

Child's Name (please print) _____ Year Group: _____

Sean's latest book **'Oscar and Ben – The Picnic'** ☐

Sean's third book **'Oscar and Ben – The Sleepover'** ☐

Sean's second book **'Oscar and Ben - The Birthday Party'** ☐

Sean's first book **'Oscar and Ben'** ☐

Paid by cash ☐

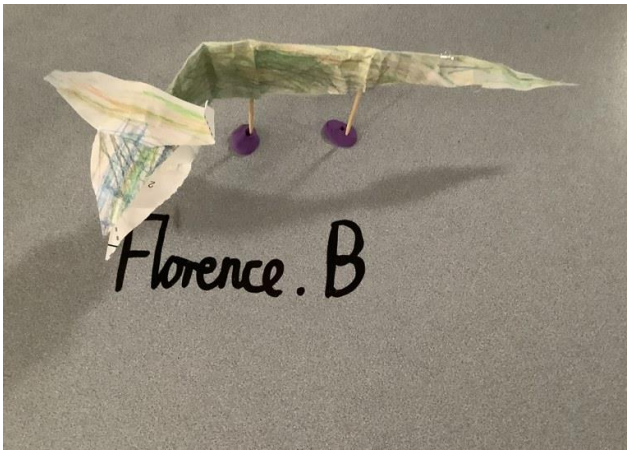
Paid on SchoolMoney app ☐

Y5 DT and Music Workshop

Our Y5 class have taking part in an online live lesson from The Royal Ballet today. Everybody Make: 'The Magic Flute' was a design workshop where a stage designer led the children in making a snake puppet and exploring set design.




Carter



Coming up next week...



And finally...

This week we welcomed Miss Gaffney in her new role as Year 2 teacher and know that you will work with her as she gets to know your child.

From next week we will be having a refurbishment of our roof. This will be a 12 to 14 week project which will ensure that we no longer have any leaks! The plan is for the scaffolding to be put up next week with the work starting following on from this. There will be ongoing communication between school and the Site Manager to ensure minimal disruption for the children and yourselves at pick up and drop offs. Thank you for your understanding.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs. Roberts