



Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 17th December 2025

Attendance

You have 190 days to come to school and 175 to do everything else!

Regular attendance at school is significant to a child's educational development and progress. There is now a bigger [Government drive to improve attendance](#). When a child's attendance falls to 90% or below it is classed as persistent absence. We hope that by working together, attendance will improve and children will achieve fully in school. The school's policy for attendance is available on the school [website](#). Please click on the [link](#) to see the guidance for parents regarding attendance:

We reward good attendance each week and are aiming for at least 96% attendance. Class attendance for last week was as follows: **Reception – 96.0%, Year 4 – 99%, Year 2 – 99.33%, Year 5 – 94.81%, Year 6 – 94.62%, Year 1 – 92.26%, Year 3 – 94.44%, Nursery – 90.27%.**
Overall school attendance – **95.47%.**

The classes in **green** are above our target of **96%** and those in **red** are below, some significantly below. We will be targeting those with poor attendance.

*If you are unable to call school, e.g no credit on your phone, please use School Spider * to report the absence or click [here](#) to send an email to let us know, please try to let us know by 9.00AM. You will need to log into School Spider to do this, if you need help logging in, please let school know.*

Info for parents from the DfE regarding fines: [Fines for parents for taking children out of school.](#)

National Year of Reading 2026

The Education Secretary is calling on parents to lead by example and make reading a daily habit to help reverse the decline in reading for pleasure, to help give kids the best start in life as part of the Plan for Change.

The call comes as the Department for Education and National Literacy Trust join forces to launch a National Year of Reading, starting in January 2026 to kick start a reading revolution. It will reverse the trend as just [one in three aged 8 to 18](#) said they enjoyed reading in their free time in 2025.

Bringing together parents, schools, libraries, businesses and literacy experts, the campaign aims to foster a love of reading for pleasure in children and young people, ensuring all children get the best start in life.

Reading for pleasure isn't just a hobby. It's linked to a range of benefits including stronger writing skills, improved wellbeing and confidence, and even higher future earnings, with new data showing those proficient in reading and writing in primary school [earn £65,000 more over their lifetime.](#)

Parents Evening 16.12.25

Our Parent's Evening took place yesterday, if you were unable to make the meetings and would like an appointment with your child's teacher, please contact school.

Parents and Friend Association (PFA)

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair and MUFTI raised a total so far of £1570.46.

Raffle Tickets

We still have raffle tickets available, they are £1 per strip, the first prize is a luxury hamper and the draw takes place tomorrow morning. If you would like tickets, please contact school. (Please complete the information on the tickets and return back to school with the money) Good luck.

Your support is much appreciated as the funds raised pay for many extras for the children.

Christingle 18.12.25

Our end of term service will be our Christingle, taking place tomorrow morning. The service will be **held in the school hall this year at 9.45am NOT in church**. Families are still welcome to join us in the hall, please arrive before the start of the service. Thank you.

Real Christmas Tree Collections

St. Joseph's Hospice rely on generous donations to keep their doors open each year and to provide care for more than 150 patients and their families.

Each year, they run a Real Christmas Tree Collection in return for a donation. Last year, this initiative raised nearly £10,000. This year, they need to raise at least £15,000—and we would be incredibly grateful for help in reaching this goal. Please find attached flier for more information.

Dates for Academic Year 2025/26

For school term dates for this academic year, please see the school calendar on our [website](#).

December

18th December 09.45AM – *End of Term Christingle service in school hall.*
Finish at 2.00PM

Menu Change 18.12.25

Tomorrow, our menu will be changed from Thursday's menu to Friday's menu Week 1. More information can be found by clicking on this [link](#).

CAMHS

The Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) put together a monthly newsletter for parents and professionals, signposting support such as groups, training and workshops. Click the [link](#) to have a look and see if there is anything of any interest. If you have any questions you can contact Miss Murtagh (Headteacher) and Mental Health lead via the school office.

Children's University Winter Challenge

Attached to the newsletter is information on the winter challenge. As usual, children can collect extra Children's University credits during the Christmas holiday by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit unless stated otherwise. Send evidence of your activity to SeftonCU@elevate-ebp.co.uk. This could be a photograph, video, a work sheet, or writing about what you did. Remember to include your name and the school you attend!

All About Family Winter Edition

Inside, parents will find useful advice on;

New Children's Book Reviews, NSPCC and Childline at Christmas, NSPCC advice on Christmas Tech, How to Talk to Children About Mental Health, Anaphylaxis Advice from St John Ambulance, Childhood Vaccinations with Dawson Cornwell, Adult Education Advice, Benefits of Private Tuition, Family Events in the area, Plus more....www.allabout-family.co.uk/sefton

Christian Values This week's Christian Value is **Joy**.

Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Yours sincerely,



Miss E Murtagh
Headteacher



A Prayer for our School

*This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
let peace begin with me.
Let the room be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of human kind, love of life itself
And love of God
Let us remember that as many hands
build a house,
Many hearts build a school.
Amen*

