St Clare's Catholic Primary School
Newsletter October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for our two Parent's Evenings this week. It was a joy to welcome families into school and share so many successes together.

This week marks the last week in school for Mrs Kelly-Murphy before she leaves to have her baby. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her the best and we look forward to meeting her baby next half term. We have appointed Miss Alisha Parry to teach in Year Four on a Wednesday and EYFS on a Thursday and Friday, starting after half term. I am confident she will be an excellent addition to the team.

I am delighted to inform you that we have been selected to decorate a Christmas Tree at Chester Cathedral this Christmas. All the children will be given the opportunity to participate in creating a decoration for our tree. We have chosen to make decorations inspired by traditional Christmas Hymns. You will be able to visit our tree in the Cathedral between November 25th 2026 and January 3rd 2027.

A polite reminder that snacks brought in for breaktime should be a healthy snack. Crisps and chocolate bars are not accepted. Fruit is the ideal snack. We will accept cereal bars or yoghurt but please ensure they have no nuts or chocolate.

If your child has their ears pierced, earrings need to be removed for PE. If your child is unable to remove them, please do so at home before coming to school. If they have recently been pierced, so cannot be removed, please cover them with tape or plasters. School is unable to provide valuable first aid resources for earrings, which may result in your child missing their PE lesson.

Ray, our resident gardener, is continuing to sell flowers from the Main Office. All money raised from the flowers goes back into school. Over the years, Ray has used the money from flower sales to pay for the benches you see around school, the stable, various sheds and he is currently funding the repairs on the outdoor hut in the KS2 playground.

You may have seen that the grass area on the KS2 playground is under construction. I am delighted to share that we have an exciting project coming soon, funded by the money raised by the PTA. Thank you to those who sponsored the children and supported our recent Sponsored Walk. We are absolutely delighted to share that we have raised another £900 in donations! These funds will help us create a fantastic new trim trail for our children to enjoy. Take a look at the proposed design below!

As the evenings are getting darker, children attending after-school clubs will not be able to walk home alone at 4.30pm after half term until after the February half term break. Please ensure an adult is arranged to collect them.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term. I look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 2nd November.

L C Ward

Headteacher

Harvest Mass

Our Harvest Mass was such a joyful celebration. Thank you to all families who donated food. We took a huge 135.5kg of food to our Local Foodbank.

Thank you to our Mini Vinnie's who helped take all the food to church and display it in front of the altar.



All Saints Day and Our Saints.

When we return to school, we will be focusing on All Saints Day. We are having a celebratory Mass on Wednesday 4th November; parents are welcome to join us. Prior to that all the children will work in their house teams to learn about their house saint and we have given each class a class saint who they will also learn about, along of course with learning about St Clare. I encourage you to ask your children all about the saints they've learnt about and how they can impact our lives today.



Attendance from September to October 23rd	
EYFS	91.3%
Year 1	88.9%
Year 2	95.1%
Year 3	83.3%
Year 4	98.4%
Year 5	97.6%
Year 6	92.6%
Whole school	92.9%

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN)

Charges will now be £160 if paid within 28 days reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days per parent/carer per child.

The National Framework for Penalty Notices introduces a new national limit of two penalty notices that can now be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling three year period. If a second Fixed Penalty Notice is issued to the same parent for the same child, within three years of the first Fixed Penalty

Notice, the second Fixed Penalty Notice is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.

Future Trim Trail



Rainbow Warriors



Sponsored Walk



Autumn Disco



