

ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr M Murphy

School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst
17th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Halle Day

On behalf of the Fletcher Family, I would like to thank everyone for their kind donations and as a result we managed to raise over £300. This will be donated to Zoe's Place in Halle's name.

Attendance

The School Attendance & Punctuality Policy can also be found on the School Website. The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression.

- *Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year, Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.*
- *95%: 10 days absence a year. These pupils are likely to achieve good grades and form a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2 week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.*
- *90%: 19 days absence a year. The Government classes Young People in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work.*

Rec	94.7%	Y1	96%	Y2	99%	Y3	91.4%	Y4	91.6%	Y5	94.7%	Y6	93%	All school	94.3%
	2 lates	13 lates		5 lates		13 lates		4 lates		6 lates		3 lates		46 lates	

Well done to Year 1 & 2 for achieving our 96%+ target!

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.

Harvest Festival Donations

Thank you for all donations received so far. If you would like to contribute please pass non-perishable items into school by Thursday 23rd October.

Sammy's Project – Clothes Recycling

As previously advised, we have joined Sammy's Project to raise money for school & Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK. Our first collection has been booked for Wednesday 22nd October. Collection bags have been sent home & we have more at the office if needed. Why not have a sort out & pass your bag of clothes into school before the collection date. Many thanks for your support.

Autumn Half Term

Just a reminder that school finishes next Friday, 24th October, at the normal time for the autumn half term break. The school will reopen on Monday 3rd November.



Together Everyone Achieves More

Y5/6 Holy Family High School Visit

Children from Year 5 and 6 will be visiting Holy Family High School next Wednesday afternoon, 22nd October, to watch a drama student production. The children will be transported to and from the venue by coach and will be back by the end of the school day.

Y3 Class Assembly

Children from our Y3 Class will be performing their Harvest Festival Assembly for parents/carers next Friday morning. The assembly will take place in the school hall and will start at 9.15 am.

Year 4 and 5 Class Trips

As part of their History topic our Year 4 children will be visiting the Beatles Story & Liverpool Museum next Tuesday. On the same day Year 5 will be going along to the Albert Dock & Liverpool as part of their Geography & History topics.

Autumn Term Parents Evenings

Our autumn term parents' evenings take place next week, Tuesday and Wednesday evening, if you haven't managed to book your place yet please contact the school office as online booking is now closed. All appointments are ten minutes long so if there is anything additional you would like to speak to the teacher about then please make an alternative appointment.

Football News

Our Girls team have started off the season very strongly. They won the Sefton Girls Invitational Tournament last Friday afternoon and followed that up with a 4 – 0 win over Rimrose Hope Primary School in a league fixture. Well done to all those involved. The school will be hosting the annual Peter Dowd Bootle Schools FA tournament next Thursday afternoon. As the tournament is during school hours parents unfortunately won't be allowed to spectate. Those children selected to play will receive a letter from Mr Davies. After the tournament there will also be a league fixture at 3.30 pm against Litherland Moss.

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.

Reception 2026 & High School Applications

A reminder to all parents/carers of children who are 4 years old by 31.8.26 & Year 6 that you will need to go online at Sefton's website to fill in the application for High School. I would advise that you put three schools down as per the guidance otherwise if you don't get your first choice you may be allocated a school which doesn't match your preferences. In addition please be mindful of entry requirements i.e. baptised catholic etc. The closing date for Reception 2026 is 15th January 2026 & High School is 31st October 2025.

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.

School PE Kits

Children should wear their school PE kit to school on their allocated days. Children who are going swimming are to also wear their PE kits on that particular day. The school PE kit is a plain white t-shirt with purple PE shorts and trainers. Children can also wear their school jumper or cardigan, plain black tracksuit bottoms/leggings in the winter. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

Year 5 Bikeability

Please see the message sent on School Spider to register your child for Bikeability which will be running during the week beginning 17th November.

Nursery Places

We have a limited number of places still available so if you have children of nursery age or know of friends/family who are looking for places and are new to the area then please get in touch to arrange a visit to our fantastic facility.

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.



Together Everyone Achieves More

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.

School Spider - All communications & online payments

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. 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.

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. Bookings can be made on our School Spider app.

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.

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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