

ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



ST WILLIAM ROAD THORNTON CROSBY L23 9XH

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Headteacher: Mr M Murphy

School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst
24th November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

School Attendance

The School Attendance & Punctuality Policy can also be found on the School Website. Please see below class attendance for last. Our target is 96%;

Rec	98.7%	Y1	93.1%	Y2	97.6%	Y3	94.6%	Y4	92%	Y5	97%	Y6	96.3%	All school	96%
	4 lates	14 lates		6 lates		13 lates		11 lates		8 lates		6 lates		63 lates	

Well done to our Reception, Year 2, Year 5 & Year 6 classes for achieving our 96%+ target!

A reminder that parents need to contact school by 9am on the day of absence to advise why their child is not in school. If they are unwell details of their symptoms is required. We have a dedicated answer machine on Option 1 when ringing school. If we do not hear from you & can not contact you, then we may have to ask Sefton Council's Educational Welfare Officer to call out to your home address.

Doctors, Dentist & Hospital Appointment

A reminder to try to make routine Doctors & Dental Appointments outside of school hours. For late morning appointments please bring your child into school & come back to collect them for their appointment wherever this is possible. For all appointments in school hours we need to see the appointment letter, text or card.

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.

Children In Need

Thank you for all your donations following Children In Need day. We managed to raise over £150 and will be donating this to the charity on behalf of everyone in our school community.

Christmas Celebrations – Important Dates

Below are some dates for your diaries regarding Christmas Celebrations in school:

Tuesday 9th Dec – Nursery/Reception Christmas Celebration 10am (In the Hall) – no tickets
Wednesday 10th Dec – Nursery/Reception Christmas Celebration 2.15pm (In the Hall) – no tickets
Thursday 11th Dec – KS1 Christmas Performances: 10am and 2pm (In the Hall) – no tickets
Friday 12th Dec – Nursery Afternoon Group Christmas Party pm – no tickets
Monday 15th Dec – Nursery Morning Group Christmas Party am – no tickets
Tuesday 16th Dec – KS2 Christmas Performances 10am and 2pm (In the Hall) – tickets needed
Wednesday 17th Dec – School Christmas Dinner
Thursday 18th Dec – Christmas Party Day (*Children come into school in their own clothes*)
Thursday 18th Dec – Nursery finish for Christmas today
Friday 19th Dec – Main School finish for Christmas at 2pm



Together Everyone Achieves More

Tuesday 6th Jan – School & Nursery re-open usual times

Christmas Raffle

We will soon be selling tickets for our Christmas Raffle prizes. Along with our usual hampers there will also be the chance to win tickets for Bongo's Bingo (Liverpool) as well as a free haircut amongst other things. Tickets will be available from the school office and will also be sold at our Christmas Performances. (Money raised this year will be split between Zoe's Place and the school fund which goes to subsidise trips for the children).

Liverpool FC in the Community Mixed Tournament

Congratulations to all those children who played in the tournament last week as I'm pleased to report that we won the competition. All the children played magnificently and we are now through to the Merseyside Finals which will be played at Liverpool FC's Academy.

Girls Football Team

The girls team played their rearranged fixture against St Edmunds last Monday and narrowly lost 3 – 2. It was an excellent game and the girls were extremely unlucky not to get at least a draw from the match.

Year 4 Mad Science Assembly

The children in Year 4 were treated to a Mad Science Assembly this week where they learnt all about the wonderful world of Science!!

Year 5 Cup Match

Our Year 5 and under school football team played St Lukes Halsall in a cup game last week. Against a very good team the children played really well and I'm pleased to report that we came away with a 2 – 1 victory. We are now in the quarter finals and will play that fixture in January.

Year 5 – Bikeability

Children from Year 5 have been taking part in cycle workshops over the last week with representatives from Bikeability. Both instructors have spoken to me personally to say how impressed they have been by the behaviour and the good manners shown by the children. Well done everyone!!!

Active Sefton – Healthy Habits

Year 6 will have a workshop this week on Healthy Habits from Active Sefton. They will discuss what constitutes a healthy lifestyle and discuss the importance of exercise and having a nutritional diet.

Mass

Children from the different classes will be attending Friday morning mass every week on a rota basis.

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 Applications

A reminder to all parents/carers of children who are 4 years old by 31.8.26 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.

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.

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.



Together Everyone Achieves More

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.

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. The cost is £6 for the first hour & £12 for the full session. 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.

No Dogs

A reminder that we do not allow dogs on the school site.

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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