

ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr M Murphy

School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst
27th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

World Book Day

Next Thursday, 5th March, is World Book Day. Children are allowed to bring their favourite book to school &, if they want to, dress up as a character from that book. The children will be doing various activities in their classes linked to World Book Day. The dressing up is optional, children who don't want to dress up just come into school in their uniform as usual.

First Holy Communicants

Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 started their First Holy Communion preparation this week. Fr Derek & school staff took the children over to church and Miss Shellien and Mrs Murray did some follow up activities afterwards. Fr Derek will be working with the children as they complete the programme "With You Always" over the next ten weeks.

Year 5 Healthy Habits

Active Sefton came into school this week to work with our Year 5 children on health and nutrition. The children undertook a variety of activities around what constitutes a healthy diet.

Football News

Our school team played St Robert Bellarmine this week in a cup match. Although we did not win the children all put in a tremendous amount of effort and never once let their heads go down. Our mixed Y5/6 team play in the area finals at Liverpool FC's Academy next Wednesday. Good luck to all those children involved.

Year 1 Dental Hygiene Workshop

Active Sefton came into school this week to work with our Year 1 children on dental hygiene. The children learned about the importance of regular brushing and the effect that sugary foods can have on their teeth.

Friday Morning Mass

Classes will start attending 10am mass at St William of York Church on Fridays. Year 5 went along today with all other classes attending on a rota basis.

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Book Fair before Half Term. You helped to raise over £500 in commission for the purchase of books for use in school.

School Attendance

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

Rec	93%	Y1	86%	Y2	89.7%	Y3	95.5%	Y4	92.7%	Y5	92.7%	Y6	95.7%	All school	92.2%
	9 lates	9 lates	7 lates	22 lates	1 lates	11 lates	12 lates	71 lates							

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



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when ringing school. If we do not hear from you & cannot 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



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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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