

ST. WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr M Murphy

School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst
5th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Summer Family Bingo

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Family Summer Bingo just before the half-term. I think you'll all agree it was really enjoyable occasion, expertly compered by Mr Davies. We managed to raise over £1000 which we are putting towards purchasing new football goals. Thanks must go to all the staff who came along to help and to a number of parents who helped with sorting out the prizes.

Football News

Our girl's football team play against Valewood in the semi-finals of the cup this evening so good luck to all those playing. Following that they have a league game at home next Monday against Rimrose Hope and then play the following night against English Martyrs, again at home.

First Holy Communion

Children from across Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 will be making their First Holy Communions next Friday, 12th June, at 10am in the Church. Parents/carers of those children making their First Holy Communion have already been sent out letters regarding the arrangements on the day. All classes except Reception class will also be in church.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential to ensure that all children can fully access learning, build strong relationships, and achieve their best. Being in school every day and on time helps establish positive routines and supports both academic progress and wellbeing. To encourage this, we have introduced a range of rewards, including weekly class recognition, half-termly treats, and termly prizes for both classes and individuals. Children who show excellent or improving attendance will also be acknowledged through certificates and postcards home. In addition, the overall winning classes will have the opportunity to take part in a special end-of-year trip. Please see some examples below:

- On a weekly basis the winning class for the best attendance and punctuality will be told in Friday's assembly and on the following Monday they will get an additional playtime (golden time) using play equipment. Well done to Year 2 & Year 5 who have thoroughly enjoyed their golden time so far.
- At the end of each half term the children with the best attendance of 96% or above will have a film afternoon in the hall with refreshments.
- At the end of each term there will be a fun half day per class who have the best attendance and best punctuality.
- The children with the best attendance of over 98% at the end of each term will receive a special certificate and their names will go in the hat to win £20.
- The children whose attendance shows signs of improving will receive a postcard home acknowledging & congratulating them on their efforts.
- At the end of the year the winning classes for attendance and punctuality will go on a trip to either Knowsley Safari Park, Farmer Teds, CHET (Outdoor Pursuits), Crosby Lakeside Centre or the Waterloo Plaza Cinema.

Sports Day/s

We apologise regarding some confusion around dates. Due to some transition activities taking place this year it hasn't been possible to have both the Infants and Junior Sports Days on the same day. Therefore the dates/times are as follows:



Together Everyone Achieves More

- Infants Sports Day – Thursday 2nd July at 1.45 pm
- Junior Sports Day – Friday 3rd July at 1.45 pm

Y4 Girls Period Talk

The school nurse is coming into school next Wednesday afternoon to talk to the Year 4 girls about menstruation. Information has already been sent out, however if you would like to opt out of child taking part in the session please let the class teacher know.

United Utilities – School Playground Works

We have been fortunate to secure some grant funding to carry out some playground and car park improvements. The focus of the works involves harnessing and reusing rainwater so as to improve the environmental footprint of the school. Works are scheduled to start the week beginning 15th June.

Year 5 Chesterfield High School Visit

On Thursday 18th June Year 5 will be spending the day at Chesterfield High School, getting to know what life is like in secondary school and taking part in some of the different lessons which form part of the Key Stage 3 curriculum.

Houses of Parliament Trip

A number of children from Year 4 will be visiting the Houses of Parliament on Friday 19th June. This will be the second year we have run the trip and the children/staff always manage to fit in some extra sightseeing as well. Information has already been circulated to the parents/carers of those children going.

PE Kits

As you know when it's your child/s PE day they are allowed to come into school in their PE Kit. In the winter this will tend to be either the school white t-shirt or a plain white t-shirt with black tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings. In the summer months children can then wear the school purple shorts with the t-shirts. Unfortunately we have started to notice a number of children just wearing their own sports clothing which isn't allowed. Please could you ensure that your child comes to school in the appropriate wear on their particular PE day. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

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.

Friday Morning Mass

Classes are attending 10am mass, on a rota basis, at St William of York Church on Fridays.

Sunday Mass

Mass at St William of York Church is every Sunday at 9.30am. They have a Children's church so that parents can attend mass as normal and the children are then return to their parents, just before communion. When you arrive at church just wait at the back of the church with your children who will be welcomed into the Children's Church group. The group has lots of fun, children who currently attend really enjoy the sessions.

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.



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.

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.

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.

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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