ST. WILLIAM OF YORK
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr M Murphy ***School Business Manager: Mrs S Middlehurst***

23rd October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Halle Day
On behalf of the Fletcher Family, I would like to thank everyone for their kind donations for our recent Halle day, as a result we managed to raise over £400. This will be donated to the Love Jasmine Charity in Halle's name.

Parents Evenings
Thank you to everyone who was able to come along to the Parents Evenings this week. These events are crucial in terms of updating parents/carers about their child/s progress and it was great to see so many people in attendance. Thank you also for your kind words and compliments regarding the school, we are lucky to have such wonderful children and hardworking/dedicated staff.

Y3 Class Assembly
Thank you to everyone who came along to the Y3 Class Assembly today, I'm sure you will all agree it was fantastic occasion with the stars of the show being undoubtedly all the children.

Attendance and Punctuality
Our expectations for all children are high as we know that missing, even a small amount of school time, can impact on learning & progress as children can fall behind & find it hard to catch up. It can also impact on friendships & confidence. Please remember, we are here to help if you need some support or assistance, please get in touch. Being in school every day and on time helps establish positive routines and supports both academic progress and wellbeing. Main school starts at 8.45am so please aim to be here by 8.40am or try using our free Breakfast club which starts at 7.45am with last entry at 8.35am.

Please see below class attendance for this half term. Our target is 96%. Well done to Reception & Year 6 who have won the attendance & punctuality awards today & to the 91 children who have received certificates for having excellent attendance of between 98% & 100%.

Rec		**95.9%**	**Y1**	**94.1%**	**Y2**	**94.3%**	**Y3**	**95.4%**	**Y4**	**93.9%**	**Y5**	**93.1%**	**Y6**	**93.5%**	**All school**	**94.3%**
	28 lates		**35 lates**		**102 lates**		**31 lates**		**50 lates**		**74 lates**		**18 lates**		**338 lates**	

School Council Elections
We held our school council elections this week for Classes 1 to 6. It was great to see the hard work and preparation our prospective councillors had put into their presentations. (We also had our very own voting booth!!). Miss Fearon and Mr Davies will be leading the School Council this year.

Football News
Well done to all those children who played against Litherland Moss Primary School in yesterday's league fixture. We won 3 – 0 which means the team is now top of the league. Thanks also to Mr Davies and Miss Convery for taking the team.

Autumn Half Term
Just a reminder that school closes today for the autumn half term break. The school will reopen on Monday 2nd November.

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.

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.

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.

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Reception 2027 & High School Applications
A reminder to all parents/carers of children who are 4 years old by 31.8.27 & 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 2027 & High School is 31st October 2026.

Healthy Snacks/Packed lunches
As a school we are always trying to promote healthy lifestyles and would appreciate your support in providing healthy alternative snack/lunch options for your children.

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.

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. The cut off for bookings is on the day by 2.45pm. 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.

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.

Sunday Mass
Mass at St William of York Church is every Sunday at 9.30am. There is a Children's church so that parents can attend mass as normal and the children are then returned 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.

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.

Dogs
A reminder to parents that dogs cannot be brought onto the school premises.

Kind regards

M Murphy
Mr. M. Murphy
Headteacher