



St Austin's
Catholic Primary School
Riverbank Road
Liverpool L19 9DH
Tel: 0151 427 1800



www.st-austins.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

12th February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Parish News: Lent Services – Our Lent Masses will be held at St Francis of Assisi Church on 3rd March for years 3 and 4, 10th March for year 5 and 17th March with year 6. All are welcome to attend.

Ash Wednesday Masses – All welcome at St Francis of Assisi Church. Our Ash Wednesday Masses are on 18th February at 9.30am and 7.30pm.

Sacramental Preparations – Preparations for children making their First Holy Communion this year will take place on the following dates:

5th May – Class 4KA St Francis of Assisi Church 7.00pm
6th May – Class 4SM St Francis of Assisi Church 7.00pm
12th May – Class 4KA St Francis of Assisi Church 7.00pm
13th May – Class 4SM St Francis of Assisi Church 7.00pm
19th May – Class 4KA St Francis of Assisi Church 7.00pm
20th May – Class 4SM St Francis of Assisi Church 7.00pm

First Holy Communion Services are: 13th June – Class 4SM / 20th June – Class 4KA

Prayer Garden - Our new prayer garden is underway. Thanks to the Thursday afternoon gardeners and RE Ambassadors. It should be finished in time for our next Stay and Pray session. The daffodils are just coming through so this should make a real difference to our KS2 playground. Can we ask you to keep your children away from this area during the start and the end of the day.

RE Ambassadors – have been hard at work with Mrs Agger. They represented St Austin's at the recent Christingle Service at the Metropolitan Cathedral. Well done to all and thank you to those parents who supported the event with school.

Nursery admissions Sept 2026 – The closing date for nursery admissions is Friday 13th February. Please complete your application before this date. Application forms available from the school office.

Open Evenings - A huge thank you to all parents/carers who attended our open evening last night, and those attending tonight. There is always a great deal of positive dialogue between parents/carers and teachers. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support in meeting the teachers to celebrate your child's work.

Attendance - our current school attendance is 95.7% for this academic year. Starting after half term we will be introducing some new incentives for our attendance. We look forward to sharing these with you. If you would like any support in improving your child's attendance, please do not hesitate in contacting school.

Safer Internet Day 10th February - This year's theme was 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. Children have been looking at how AI and machine learning works, how it is being used in society and we have been identifying the dangers of AI and what precautions to take when looking at fake content.'

Children's Mental Health Week - This week in school, our children have been celebrating Children's mental Health week, looking at the theme: **This is my place**. Children have taken part in activities and live lessons in class this week to support their mental health as we come to the end of another busy term! Please see link with resources to support parents/carers.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/resources/>



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Spare uniform KS1 – If you have any new spare underwear or socks suitable for children in Key Stage 1, we would be very grateful if you could send them in to your child's class teacher.

Year of Reading - Here in St Austin's we love to read and reading for pleasure is at the heart of everything we do. This year to mark the National 'Year of Reading' we will be doing even more in school to promote a love of reading and literature. Stay tuned for information and updates about events happening during 2026, beginning with another fabulous World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. We will provide a detailed run-down of our World Book Day plans in the first week back after half term.

El Dia de la Paz – This year we marked this special day with activities based on the themes of *living in harmony with nature and people* and *History: People Who Cared for the Earth*. Each year group focused on an individual—either from modern times or from further back in history—who helped forge the path of sustainability in their field. For example, Reception children learned about **Wangari Maathai** and her legacy of planting trees to care for our planet. Year 3 focused on **Jacques Cousteau**, exploring his work in highlighting environmental threats to the world's seas and discussing how we can all become “ocean stewards.” Year 5 completed a “**habitat decision challenge**”, learning about the threats humans have placed on the natural habitats of chimpanzees. Please see Instagram for more year group activities.

Uniform - A reminder that ALL uniform should be labelled with your child's name. It is very difficult to identify missing items which are left in school at the end of each day, some of these items being very expensive. If there are no names in, we are unable to return them. Thank you for your cooperation.

School payments – Please ensure you bring your accounts up to date by Friday 13th February. You can check the school APP for any outstanding payments. Next terms registers will be uploaded onto the APP tomorrow. If you are unable to access your account details on the APP please speak to the office staff who will help. If you have any questions or queries regarding your accounts, speak to Mrs Doran at the school office.

Health & Safety – Can we remind you that children should not be riding bikes or scooters around school. They should be left in the bike racks on the KS2 playground.

Medical records – If your child's medical details have changed recently, can you please email enquiries@st-austins.co.uk to confirm the changes. This is needed to ensure we keep our pupil medical records up to date.

Cross Country League – Upcoming Fixtures - The Liverpool Primary Schools' Cross Country season is heading into its final stretch, and our runners are continuing to train hard and represent the school with great determination. We still have two league competitions remaining:

Monday 26th February – Sefton Park
Monday 4th March – Wavertree

We encourage all team members to keep up the fantastic effort and attendance at training. Good luck to everyone taking part, let's finish the season strong!

Student Teachers – This week we say goodbye to Miss Maali and Mr Burmiston who have been teaching in our years 1 and 4. We will all miss them and wish them the very best for the future!

M&M Productions Snow White - We recently welcomed M&M productions to school to perform our annual pantomime. The children thoroughly enjoyed the morning's entertainment; it was a joyous way to start the week and well deserved.

SAPTA Valentine's Tuck Shop – on Friday 13th February SAPTA will be holding a 'Valentine's Tuck Shop' on the key stage 2 playground at 2.15pm. Please remember this stall will be cash only.



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End of half term – School will close on Friday 13th February for the half term break at 2.15pm.
After school club – will close at the earlier time of 4.45pm on Friday 13th February

Start of term – School will open again on Tuesday 24th February.

Dates for the diary

13th Feb - Closing date for nursery application forms
13th Feb - School closes for the half term at 2.15pm
23rd Feb - INSET Day – school closed for all pupils
1st Mar - Secondary admissions allocation
18th Feb - Ash Wednesday
31st Mar - Spanish Day Performance
1st Apr - Spanish Day Performance

Thank you all for your continued support.

Kindest regards,

Colette Hickey
Headteacher



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