



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



www.st-austins.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

1st April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Catholic Life - Our Lent Masses were well attended by children, parents and parishioners. Fr David would like to thank you for your participation during this time in the liturgical year.

Easter Masses - These are the dates and times of the main services for Holy Week and Easter.

*mass of the last supper
celebration of the lord's passion
easter vigil
mass of the resurrection
mass of the resurrection*

*Maundy Thursday 2nd April at 7.30pm
Good Friday 3rd April at 3.00pm
Holy Saturday 4th April at 8.30pm
Easter Sunday 5th April at 9.30am
Easter Sunday 5th April at 11.30am*

CAFOD The Big Lent Walk – Congratulations to all the children and parents who took part on our Lent Walk. I am delighted to inform you that we have reached the grand total of £5500! This is an incredible amount of money to send to our three charities. CAFOD, Clatterbridge Cancer research and Zarach – a Liverpool Bed Charity. A huge thank you and well done!

Stay and Pray – our KS1 parents and children utilised our new prayer garden with the help of RE ambassadors, staff and Fr David. Our children's prayers can be seen hanging from our trees on KS2 playground. This will be a quiet place for reflection once completed with seating area.

Deacon Paul Whitehead – We would like to take this opportunity to thank Deacon Paul as he leaves our parish to start a new journey. A Mass of Thanksgiving will take place on Monday 20th April at St Francis of Assisi Church at 7pm. We hope you can join us in celebrating the many years Paul has served our community.

Daffodils – We are currently selling Daffodils for the Marie Curie Centre in Woolton. Many thanks to those who have donated to this worthwhile charity.

Spanish Day Performances – A Huge Success! We are thrilled to share that our Spanish Day performances were a resounding success. The children truly shone with their confidence and remarkable progress in the Spanish language. We couldn't be prouder of all those who participated and gave their best effort. A link will be sent to all parents and carers for you to enjoy the wonderful moments again. We would like to thank our two guest speakers from Amelie and Louise, ex-pupils from St Austin's.

Reception admissions – The National offer day for reception admissions is Thursday 16th April. You will be informed by the Local Authority, not school. More information regarding parents' meetings will follow the Easter break.

Residential Visit, Year 5 PGL – There will be an information meeting on Wednesday 8th July in KS2 hall at 4.30pm. Payment information will be sent out to year 5 parents/carers in the summer term. I am sure year 6 will enjoy sharing their experiences with the younger children.

NSPCC workshops – This term, the NSPCC visited our school to deliver engaging workshops to Year 2 and Year 5, focusing on the important topic of staying safe. The sessions helped pupils understand who they can talk to if they feel worried. The children were enthusiastic throughout and really enjoyed taking part in the activities and discussions, leaving them feeling more confident about keeping themselves safe. [Comprehensive child safety guide | NSPCC](#)

Staffing – We say a fond farewell to Mr Edwards who is off to take up a new post working for an educational IT company. However, we will be seeing him around school each Tuesday as our IT support. Miss Connell – we welcome a new member of staff to the learning support team. Miss Connell comes with 17 years' experience working in Education in a South Liverpool and Knowsley school.



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Attendance and Punctuality - Thank you for supporting the high standards in our attendance at St Austin's. Since September 2024 our current whole school attendance is 96.1%. We are also very impressed with the number of classes achieving 100% attendance each week in school. As a reward, the children have enjoyed time on the trim trail, the football pitch, and a treat. If you need any support in your child's attendance, please contact the school office.

2026 SATS information for parents – if you have a child in year 6, they will be taking their National Curriculum tests (SATS) in May 2026. Key stage 2 SATS tests will run from Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May. Please ensure your child is in school during this period, and on time. Thank you for your continued support.

World Book Day – This year's World Book Day took place on Thursday 5th March. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day, taking part in a variety of activities to promote a love of reading and literature. The children (and staff) wore their pyjamas for the day to celebrate the joys of a bedtime story, and we loved sharing our favourite stories with the class.

STEM Week – This year the theme was **Curiosity: what's your question!** Our children explored a variety of hands-on activities, sparking curiosity and creativity across all year groups. There was plenty of excitement in every classroom and in Forest School! See some of the highlights on Instagram.

'Our School' Newspaper – the next edition of our school newspaper will be published after Easter, with all the Spanish highlights, and much more!

Instagram - It has been brought to my attention that communication channels between school and home could be improved. Can I ask that parents check our school's Instagram pages which give a wealth of information instantly, not only in your child's class but also what awaits as they journey through St Austin's. School also provide a ParentApp and school website which informs parents/carers of planning, topics and signposts parents under the parent tab to support programmes. With the addition of the termly newspaper and my half termly newsletters I hope we offer several lines of communication for you to access.

SAPTA – Thanks to our SAPTA parents who continually work in the shadows, fundraising for our children. The Spanish raffle was a great success this week raising £514.00. If you wish to help the team no matter how small, please contact the school office. All parents are most welcome to join.

Parking over neighbours' driveways – We must ask parents/carers to park with consideration around the school area. This ensures the safety of all our parents, carers and children.

Operation Encompass – This national initiative is a partnership between police and schools to support children and young people who have been exposed to domestic abuse or other forms of adverse childhood experience. The partnership enables police forces to share information with schools about incidents of domestic abuse involving their pupils, so that schools can offer immediate and appropriate support. Schools must inform parents that they are working in partnership with the police for the safety and welfare of all children. Our letter can be found on the school website [Operation Encompass](#)

Liverpool and District Primary Schools' Cross Country League 2025/2026 - Year 5 & 6 boys and girls of St Austin's have trained and competed hard all season, showing real dedication no matter the weather. We are delighted to share their fantastic achievements. The girls finished an outstanding 3rd overall in the city, while the boys secured a very impressive 6th place finish. This is a phenomenal achievement, especially with over 700 children competing in each race.

Liverpool Primary Schools' City Cross Country Championships - We are also extremely proud to celebrate some individual successes, with our children qualifying for **The City Cross Country Championships**, competing among the very elite of runners across Liverpool. Blake (Year 5) achieved an amazing 4th place finish, George (Year 5) finished a fantastic 21st, and Ada (Year 6) placed an impressive 11th.

A massive thank you goes to the organisers, staff, and parents/carers for their continued support and encouragement. Most importantly, we would like to congratulate our amazing children, whose effort, determination, and teamwork have made us all incredibly proud.



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Parking – Can I respectfully ask all parents/carers not to park across residential driveways around school. We have an excellent relationship with the local residents which is seriously compromised if people park across their driveways. Local residents have been given the contact number of Merseyside Police in the event of inconsiderate parking, and photographs will be taken. We ask that you cooperate fully with the school on this matter.

School payments – Please ensure you bring your accounts up to date by Thursday 2nd April. Please check the school APP for any outstanding payments. 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.

Summer School Uniform – Following the spring break the summer uniform options for all boys and girls is as follows:-

Grey long trousers/shorts (grey socks)
White open neck **short sleeved** shirt worn without tie
Pink/white checked dress/skort (white socks)
Maroon wool V-neck jumper/cardigan (plain, no logos)
Black plain school shoes for everyone, **no trainers** allowed

PE Kit

Plain black shorts – no cycling shorts
Plain white T Shirt – no logos
Black pumps for KS1
Black pumps or trainers for KS2

End of term – School will close on Thursday 2nd April for the Easter break at 2.15pm.

Start of term – School will open again on Tuesday 14th April.

Dates for the diary

2nd Apr - End of term 2.15pm
13th Apr - INSET Day – school closed for all pupils
14th Apr - School opens for the summer term
11th May - Year 6 SATS

Thank you for your continued support and I would like to wish you all a happy and Holy Easter break.

Kindest regards,

Colette Hickey
Headteacher



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