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

www.st-austins.co.uk

Newsletter

22nd October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Parish Harvest Festival – This weekend our Parish will be celebrating Harvest Festival. The children attending the 9.30 Mass have been invited to bring along a donation of a non-perishable food item to be added to the display on the altar. The food collected is to be donated to Centre 56 (centre56.org.uk) which is a domestic abuse charity supporting families and children.

Reception Welcome Assembly - Our recent Welcome Assembly was a great success. A huge thank you to our new Reception parents and carers who joined us. Year 2 pupils led the celebration beautifully with prayers and songs, and our new children made us all very proud.

Reception Admissions - Children born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 are due to start Reception in September 2027. The deadline to submit applications to both the Local Authority and the school is 15th January 2027.

We are holding four parent/carer information meetings where you will be taken on a tour of our school and can collect the necessary forms:

Wednesday 4th November	9.15 – 10.15 am
Saturday 7th November	10.00- 11.00 am
Wednesday 11th November	9.15 – 10.15 am
Wednesday 18th November	9.15 – 10.15 am

Please note: a maximum of two adults per child may attend, and **no children** are permitted on this occasion. This is due to parents/carers observing lessons each Wednesday. Children are permitted on the Saturday morning. Places must be booked via the school office on 0151 427 1800 or by emailing enquiries@st-austins.co.uk

Families with children already in our school do not need to attend but can collect or request forms electronically. Each session is limited to 30 adults, and our Year 6 pupils will proudly guide visitors around the school. (except Saturday)

Year 7 Secondary school applications – A reminder to all parents/carers of children in year 6 to check their preferred secondary school websites for information about their admissions process including entrance exams into year 7 for September 2027. The deadline for applications is 31st October 2026.

Staffing – We say goodbye to Mrs Guy who is starting her maternity leave tomorrow. We wish her the best of luck with her pregnancy and a well-earned rest, at least until baby Guy arrives.
Good luck and best wishes from us all!

Open Evenings - A huge thank you to all parents and carers who attended our open evening last night, and to those joining us tonight. These events always provide a valuable opportunity for positive and constructive dialogue between parents and teachers. We truly appreciate your continued support.

Health & Safety - as you may be aware our Trim Trail is out of action for maintenance work. Some of the cables and planks have loosened. We have specialists arriving over the half term to ensure that this equipment is fixed and ready to use on our return. Therefore, I ask parents to supervise your children at the end of the day. This is out of bounds.

Parent Code of Conduct – May I remind parents that you must not approach other parents on the playground regarding incidents that have happened in school. The class teacher will, at an appropriate time and place, speak to parents regarding school matters. Please respect our policy Parent Code of Conduct

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Healthy School Status – At the end of the last academic year, we were delighted to achieve our Bronze Award, a fantastic achievement for our whole school community. We are now working towards achieving Silver Status! As part of our journey towards the next stage, we kindly ask parents and carers to support us by not sending sweets into school, either in packed lunches or for break times.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us promote healthy choices for all our children. Hopefully, by July, we will be celebrating another well-deserved achievement together!

Emergency Contact Information - In line with the local authority safeguarding team, each school needs 3 contact names and phone numbers for each child. In times of sickness or poor attendance we will contact various relatives on your contact list. If you have moved house, please ensure you keep your details up to date via the Arbor APP.

Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Please click the link below that has helpful advice on proactive measures that minimise the spread of viruses:-
Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Seven steps to healthier schools and higher school attendance – The Education Hub

Pupil Medical Records - If your child's medical details have changed, you can update them via the Arbor ParentAPP.

Attendance and Punctuality - Our whole-school attendance for this half term stands at 97.3%, which is above the national average — well done everyone! We are now focussing on improving our whole school punctuality. We would like to thank all families for their continued commitment to ensuring children arrive on time and ready to learn each day.

School payments – Please ensure you bring your accounts for this term up to date by Friday 23rd October. You can check the school APP for any outstanding monies. 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.

Breakfast and After School Clubs – If you would like your child to start in either of our clubs, please email enquiries@st-austins.co.uk. A contract agreement will be emailed to you, which must be signed prior to your child starting. Breakfast club costs £4 per day. After school club costs £12.50 per day.

Liverpool and District Primary Schools' Cross Country League - Pupils in Years 5 and 6 have now completed four of the six races in the Liverpool and District Primary Schools' Cross Country League. Their effort and conduct made the whole school community proud. It was wonderful to see so many parents/carers who came and showed their support! The season will resume in February 2027! Congratulations to all participants as we look forward to next year!

SAPTA News - Thank you to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fair this week, and to the SAPTA volunteers whose help made it possible. The funds raised will be matched by Scholastic, enabling us to purchase even more wonderful books for our children to enjoy in school.

SAPTA Christmas Fair - will take place on Friday 27th November, from 3.30pm–5.30pm. Join us for an afternoon of stalls, tombolas, refreshments, and Santa's Grotto — a festive favourite for all the family! Further information will follow! If you wish to join our amazing team of parents, speak to the office staff.

SAPTA Tuck shop – SAPTA will be hosting a tuck shop after school tomorrow on the key stage 2 playground. Please note, this will be cash only. All are welcome!

Bike it Breakfast – Our annual Bike it Breakfast will take place on Friday 6th November. All children and parents/carers are invited to come to school on their bikes or scooters, and those who do receive breakfast in the key stage 1 hall. School will be open from 8.00am. Please note breakfast will be served between 8.00am and 8.40am. Our usual Breakfast club will be open as normal.

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End of Term:

End of Term	– Friday 23rd October: early finish at 2.15 pm.
After School Club	– Friday 23rd October: closes at 4.45 pm.
INSET Day	– Monday 2nd November: school closed for staff training.
Return to School	– Tuesday 3rd November: doors open at 8.45 am.

Finally, as we reach the end of a busy and productive first half term, I would like to thank all parents, carers, staff, and governors for your continued support. Wishing you a restful and enjoyable midterm break — we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 3rd November.

Kindest regards,

C. Hickey

Colette Hickey
Headteacher

Dates for the diary

23rd Oct-	End of term, school closes at 2.15pm
23rd Oct-	After school club closes at 4.45pm
2nd Nov -	INSET Day (school closed to all pupils)
3rd Nov -	School opens for all pupils
6th Nov -	Bike it Breakfast
16th Nov -	Anti-bullying week
27th Nov -	SAPTA Christmas Fair
14th Dec -	Infant Christmas Play
15th Dec -	Infant Christmas Play
16th Dec -	Pupils Christmas Dinner
17th Dec -	SAPTA Christmas Party / Christmas Jumper Day
18th Dec -	End of term – school closes at 2.15pm
10th Feb -	Open Night
11th Feb -	Open Night
22nd Mar -	Spanish Week
10th May -	SATS Week
14th Jun -	Well-being Week
12th Jul -	Year 6 Production
13th Jul -	Year 6 Production
14th Jul -	Year 6 Disco