



All Saints Catholic Primary School

“Each One of You is a Child of God” Pope Francis



September Newsletter 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to a new school year.

I am sure you are as delighted as we are to see your children return to the rhythm and routine of school life.

A very warm welcome to our new to Nursery and Reception children - all of whom have settled so well, with hardly any tears!

Welcome to those in all of the other year groups who have joined us from within the UK and overseas.

We look forward to getting to know your child and you and to a fruitful partnership between home and school.



ATTENDANCE

Thankfully, we are lucky enough to be in a school building that is very modern and unaffected by the threat of crumbling concrete (RAAC). It is heartbreaking to learn that thousands of children are unable to return to school, compounding the impact of Covid on their learning and development. I am sure that those parents and children affected in these 170+ schools would give anything to return to a normal school routine.

Sometimes, we only appreciate what we have when it is taken away.

I mention this now as we begin the new school year, in the hope that we see a marked improvement in attendance as a school.

I fully recognise that many of our parents and carers need no reminders, ensuring their child/children attend on time every day is clearly top priority. Thank you .

However, looking at last week's attendance class by class on Friday afternoon, made for depressing reading. Considering we were just two weeks into a new school year, not a single class had 100% attendance and the average was 93%.



Speaking with the children in Assembly, it is clear they want to be in school. But they need the adult in their lives to make that happen.

As an added incentive, children attending for a full week will receive a raffle ticket on a Friday afternoon, with a chance to win a prize of their choosing from the list of options. **Please ensure your child is in to win!**

Cost of Living

I want to reiterate my previous message to all parents and carers.

As families across the country juggle record high inflation and energy costs, please remember you are not on your own.

We are a school family and staff here are very well equipped to offer support and advice. Please do not hesitate to speak in confidence to Mrs Claro, Mrs Kennedy or myself.

Allergies and Food

We take allergies and food intolerances very seriously in this school.

You may already know that following the death of Natasha Edna-Laperouse who suffered an allergic reaction to a baguette from a high street café, the government promised new measures.

Natasha's Law placed additional responsibility on our school kitchen staff.

If your child does not like a particular food, please do not confuse this with an allergy or intolerance.

It is your responsibility as a parent/carer to inform school if your child develops an intolerance or an allergy.

Nut allergies are a particular concern and potentially life-threatening.

Please do not send nuts into school with your child's packed lunch.

For this reason, confectionary (biscuits, cakes, chocolate bars, sweets etc.) should not be included in packed lunches.



Packed Lunches

The menu for school lunches has been amended by Sefton Council to ensure consistency in this.

We want to promote healthy choices and appreciate your support and co-operation at home.

Please include only milk or water in your child's lunch box. Chilled, filtered water and milk are readily available in the dining room.

Uniform Swop Shop

Following a very successful launch last year, the uniform Swop Shop will be open to parents/carers on Friday afternoons from 2 - 2.30pm, beginning Friday 29th September. Please pop in through the main entrance during those specific opening times - no need to book.

Hairstyles - I feel I need to clarify a number of issues in relation to hairstyles.

Please remember that hairstyles for all children should be in keeping with the school policy, as outlined on our school website.

Extreme hairstyles are not acceptable, this includes shaved, carved or patterned logos or hair shaved to the scalp. Hair should not be dyed or braided with beads.



E-Safety

This week's report about the 82% rise in online grooming of children over the last five years, should serve as a wake up call to all of us. Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram and Whatsapp were all cited as avenues for children to be groomed.

The E-Safety for Parents page on our website will provide you with advice and guidance about protecting your child from harm.



School Photographs



The photographer will be in school on **Tuesday 31st October**, when he will take pictures of all the children in school. Siblings will have their pictures taken together, as well as individually. Unfortunately only children in attendance at our school can be included.

School Mass



Please join us at St James' Church on **Friday 29th September at 2pm** for mass to mark the start of the new school year. It would be wonderful for our children to see you there. Pick up children from school afterwards will be 3pm as usual. Years 2 - 6 will attend but all parents/carers are of course welcome.

Best Wishes
Mrs Holleran