



Newsletter



FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2023

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

MATTHEW 5:16

ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



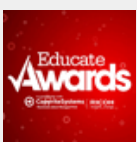
It was lovely to see the school turn yellow for our 'Hello Yellow' Day and Mental Health Day.' We are lucky at St Aidan's to have the support from the Mental Health Support Team, Hope's Therapy Dogs, Mrs Benetatos our Kidsafe Lead and Mrs Hesketh our Thrive practitioner. We were so pleased to hear that our pupils said that they know who to speak to when they have a problem or feel worried.

Thank you to all the parents who completed the VISION QUESTIONNAIRE at our meet the teacher night. There was some fabulous feedback which we will share once it has been collated. If you haven't been able to do this yet then paper copies are available in the school office reception area. Alternatively we can email out a digital copy.

The PTA will be holding a 'glow up' disco on Thursday 26th October. Nursery and Infants 4:15pm -5:15pm and Juniors 5:30pm to 6:30pm. More details will follow next week after the PTA have met.

Our amazing children have been busy completing a school dinner questionnaires. Their feedback will be shared with the head of catering for St Helens. Pupil representatives will be at this meeting.

Next week we have our Reception and Year 1 Monster phonic workshops. Separate letters have been sent about this.





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MATTHEW 5:16

ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

THANKYOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Water Bottles

Water bottles are allowed in classrooms. Please note that this should be just water. Juice should be kept for lunchtime only. We are working with the children on the importance of good hydration by water. Please support us with this. Other drinks advised by GPs can be used in co-ordination with staff.

Playtimes Snacks

Please can we gently ask you to remind your child that crisps and chocolate should be saved for lunchtimes and not playtime. Infant children have access to free fruit and junior children should take out a healthy snack. Toast has made a huge difference to this - Thank you



Your paragraph text



Attendance Matters



Class Attendance

Week commencing: Monday 9th October 2023

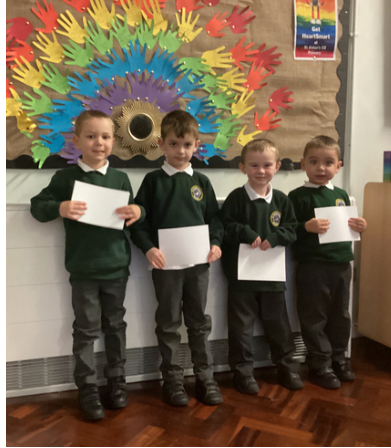
Reception	96 %
Year 1	96%
Year 2	93 %
Year 3	95%
Year 4	97 %
Year 5	94%
Year 6	94%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - 95%

Congratulations to Reception, Year 1 and Year 4.
who have 96% or over on class attendance this week. Your class will throw a dice to see where you will land on our Classopoly !

SHINE
SHINE
SHINE

Latest SHINE Award Winners



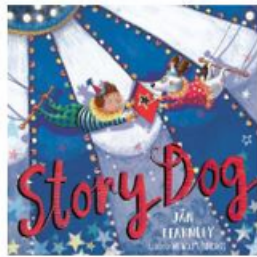
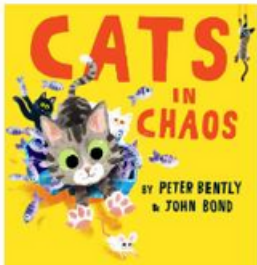
BASH stands for Book Awards St Helens.

BASH encourages children to read for pleasure and there are so many benefits to reading a good book. Reading helps children to exercise imagination, improve schoolwork, increase understanding of the world – it can even help get a good night's sleep! But most of all reading is lots of fun.

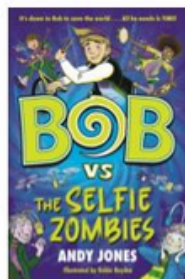
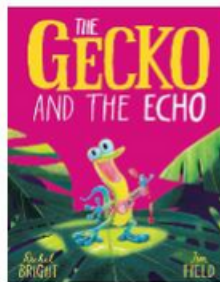
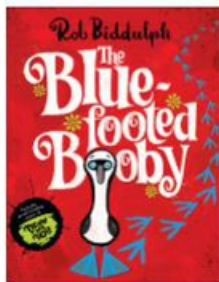
BASH remains one of the few book awards in which children are responsible for choosing the overall winning book.

Schools which subscribe to the Schools Library Service can participate in BASH and through a series of library-based workshops, children are encouraged to read new and enticing fiction, written specially for them. By debate and critical appreciation, the pupils vote for their favourite book and choose a winner.

BASH has featured popular and best-selling authors over the past 10 years such as David Walliams, Michael Morpurgo and Emma Carroll and this year is no exception.



Year 1 will take part in the awards this year and work with St Helens Schools Library Service



Year 5 will take part in the awards this year and work with St Helens Schools Library Service

Dates for your Calendar

Please also see below some key dates that are happening in school.

October 2023

**17th October 2023
1.30 - 2.30pm**

**Monster Phonics Parent
Workshop (Reception)**

**19th October 2023
1.30 - 2.30pm**

**Monster Phonics Parent
Workshop (Year 1)**

**School closes on the evening of Thursday
26th October 2023 for October Half Term.**

November 2023

School re-opens on Monday 6th November 2023

14th November 2023

Y6 Learning to Work

**15th November 2023
1pm to 6pm**

EYFS Open Afternoon and Evening

17th November 2023

Children in Need Day

Dates for your Calendar

Please also see below some key dates that are happening in school. (continued)

December 2023

5th December 2023 **ALTRU DRAMA (Whole School) PINOCCHIO (PM)**

6th December
2pm **EYFS Nativity (Nursery)**

7th December
2pm **EYFS Nativity (Reception)**

8th December 2023 **Christmas Jumper Day/School Christmas Lunch and Father Christmas visiting.**

13th December 2023
2pm **KS1 Nativity Year 1**

14th December 2023
2pm **KS1 Nativity Year 1**

20th December 2023 **KS2 Carol Service in Church**

21st December 2023
2023. **School closes on the evening of 21st December**

January 2024

8th January 2024 **School re-opens**

6th February 2024 **Young Voices Concert/Trip (Manchester)**

8th February 2024 **Safer Internet Day**

February 2024

9th February 2024 **School Closes in the evening for half term holidays.**

19th February 2024 **School re-opens.**

Dates for your Calendar

Please also see below some key dates that are happening in school. (continued)

March 2024

5th March 2024 Parents Evening

6th March 2024 Parents Evening

7th March 2024 World Book Day

**7th March 2024 TellTale Books Pop Up Shop
3.30pm to 4pm.**

28th March 2024 Easter Egg Hunt in school

**28th March 2024 School closes in the evening for Easter Holidays
April 2024**

15th April 2024 School re-opens

May 2024

2nd May 2024 Inset Day

6th May 2024 Bank Holiday

8th May 2024 KS2 SATS

24th May 2024 School closes in the evening for holidays

June 2024

4th June 2024 School re-opens

10th June 2024 Year 1 Phonics Screening (all week)

10th June 2024 Year 4 Multiplication check (all week)

17th June 2024 Sports Week

20th June 2024 Infant Sports Day (afternoon)

21st June 2024 Junior Sports Day (afternoon)

Dates for your Calendar

Please also see below some key dates that are happening in school.

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St Aidan's C of E Primary School

School Holidays 2023 – 2024



Re-open after the Summer holiday on the morning of	Tuesday	5 th September 2023
Close for the Autumn half-term holiday on the evening of	Thursday	26 th October 2023
Re-open after the Autumn half-term holiday on the morning of	Monday	6 th November 2023
Close for the Christmas holiday on the evening of	Thursday	21 st December 2023
Re-open after the Christmas holiday on the morning of	Monday	8 th January 2024
Close for the Spring half-term holiday on the evening of	Friday	9 th February 2024
Re-open after the Spring half-term on the morning of	Monday	19 th February 2024
Close for the Easter holiday on the evening of	Thursday	28 th March 2024
Re-open after the Easter holiday on the morning of	Monday	15 th April 2024
Close for the Summer half-term holiday on the evening of	Friday	24 th May 2024
Re-open after the Summer half-term holiday on the morning of	Tuesday	4 th June 2024
Close for the Summer holiday on the evening of	Tuesday	23 rd July 2024
Closed Inset Days:		Bank Holiday
Monday 4 th September 2023	Friday 27 th October 2023	Good Friday 29 th March 2024
Friday 22 nd December 2023	Thursday 2 nd May 2024	Easter Monday 1 st April 2024
Monday 3 rd June 2024		May Day 6 th May and 27 th May 2024



Letter to parents and guardians from Merseyside Police re. Halloween and Bonfire Night

We are writing to all parents and guardians to ask for your help over the upcoming Halloween and Bonfire Night period.

We want everyone to have fun and we'll be working hard to keep you safe, but we need your help:

Know where your children are

- Encourage kids to go to local events that are being organised, or try a spooky film together
- If your children are going out (particularly on the 30th and 31st of October), make sure you know where they're going. If possible, drop them off and pick them up
- Don't let your children hang around the street
- If they're going somewhere local – walk there with them
- Have an agreed time when they need to be home
- Don't buy fireworks or eggs and flour for them, and don't let them take it out of the house

Know the risks

- Throwing things at cars, buses, shops and houses can hurt people – drivers might swerve if they get distracted and cause a crash, or someone might get hurt by broken glass (and scratched paintwork can be very expensive to fix)
- Getting into trouble with the police can lead to a criminal record, which means not being able to go on holiday to countries like the USA, and not being able to do certain jobs
- Messing around with fireworks is dangerous – some burn as hot as 1,200 degrees - hot enough to melt glass and cause serious or fatal injuries

Know the law

If a young person under the age of 16 commits any of the offences below, the parent/guardian will have to pay the fine.

- A person under the age of 16 can be arrested and fined if found with an unlit firework
- A person under the age of 16 can also be arrested and fined if they throw or light a firework or make a bonfire
- A person under the age of 16 can be arrested and fined for throwing things like eggs, flour, paint or other objects at people, vehicles or property

Thank you for your help and support. By working together, we can keep your children safe this Halloween and Bonfire Night.

Merseyside Police

SCHOOL SPORT



**A rainy day for the
Y5 Tag Rugby Team**



Y6 Dodgeball Team

Upcoming Events

19th Oct Y4 Football

24th Oct Y3 Football

26th Oct Y6 Tag Rugby

(rearranged)

OUR SCHOOL CHRISTIAN VALUES



Our value for this half term

HOPE

An icon of an anchor inside a circle, with the word "Hope" written below it.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION

FREE ONLINE PARENT / CARER SESSIONS

If your child has an SEN or significant worries and is due to transition to secondary school in September 2024, we would love you to join us on our online sessions to share preparation tips and advice.

By 31st October 2023 you will have submitted a secondary school application to name your 3 preferred schools.

We are delighted to offer you some advice and support to be able to effectively plan the next steps of your child's journey.

Many of the strategies will work for most children who require that little bit of additional support.

Sessions will be delivered online through TEAMS directed to parents/carers (not to children); if you can attend all four it would be more beneficial.

For further information please email us on LASCSttransitions@sthelens.gov.uk so we can send you a TEAMS link to the sessions

Session One - The Year Ahead	Friday 1 st December 2023 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differences between Primary & Secondary Independence & Preparation Travel to school Next Steps
Session Two - Building Blocks	Friday 2 nd February 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is a transition? Managing change Developing independence
Session Three - A Helping Hand	Friday 22 nd March 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing worries & nerves Emotions Scales Looking for the positives
Session Four - The Finish Line is in Sight!	Friday 10 th May 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being Prepared One Page Profiles Communication Preparation & Practice

School Admissions Calendar



School Admissions Calendar: 2024-2025 School Year Intakes

	Closing Dates for Applications	Letter/Email to Parents
Secondary (portal opened 4th September 2023 closes 31st October 2023)	31 October 2023	1 March 2024
Primary (portal opens 18th September 2023 closes 15th January 2024)	15 January 2024	16 April 2024
Nursery Autumn 2024 Intake (portal was open 12 June 2023 -21 July 2023)	21 July 2023	22 September 2023
Nursery Spring 2025 Intake	19 July 2024	20 September 2024
Nursery Summer 2025 Intake	19 July 2024	20 September 2024

For further information please contact the School Admissions Section on 01744 671035 (Nursery and Primary Allocations), 01744 671030 (Secondary Allocation) and 01744 671027 (In Year Transfers).



Choose
HAPPY



Be happy

be
you

Applying for Free School Meals

Your child will be eligible for free school meals if you (or your partner) are in receipt of any of the following:

- Universal Credit and net earnings are no more than £7,500 per year (£616.67 in your last assessment period, £1,233.34 over last two assessment periods or £1,850 over last three assessment periods)
 - Income Support
 - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income, as assessed by HMRC, of no more than £16,190)
 - Working Tax Credit 'run on' - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Once eligible, your child will continue to receive free school meals in primary or secondary school until they finished their current phase of education i.e. primary (Year 6) or secondary (Year 11). From 1 April 2025, if your child moves between primary and secondary school you will need to reapply for free school meals.

[Apply for free school meals](#)

Pupil Premium

Your child's school will also receive additional funding if you are in receipt of a qualifying award listed above. It is therefore important that you claim free school meals and the pupil premium even if your child does not wish to take a school meal or your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and already receives an infant free school meal.

In previous St Helens Council have provided vouchers to parents to help when your child is on a school holiday. To be eligible for the vouchers you must be in receipt of benefits based free school meals.

IF YOU LIVE IN A SURROUNDING LOCAL AUTHORITY - YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE THEIR FORMS WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THEIR WEBSITE.



Breakfast and After School Club

Our school runs a Breakfast and After School Club. It is open from 7.30am to the start of the school day and from the end of the school day to 5.30pm. It is operated by St Aidan's staff.

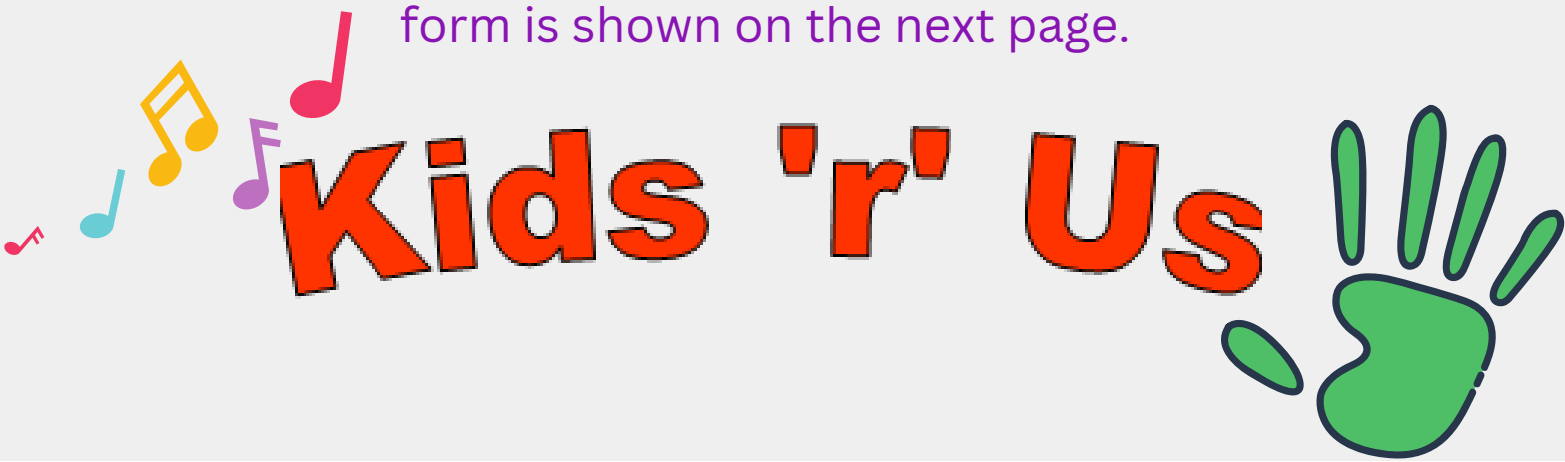
Costs: Breakfast Club - £4.50 per child.

After School Club - £6.00 per child (more than 1 sibling is £5.50 per child)

The fees are payable through School Money and should be cleared at the end of every half term.

To book or amend places - please send an email to staidansb@sthelens.org.uk or phone the school office on 01744 678042

The new booking form for Monday 8th January 2024 to Friday 9th February 2024 is available from club. A copy of the booking form is shown on the next page.



Kids R Us

Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Child's Full Name: _____ Class: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

For bookings from 6th November 2023 until Thursday 21st December 2023

Week Commencing	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC
6/11/2023										
13/11/2023										
20/11/2023										
27/11/2023										
4/12/2023										
11/12/2023										
18/12/2023										

Please tick the appropriate box.

Costs: Breakfast Club: £4.50 per child

AfterSchool Club: £6.00 for one child £5.50 for two or more children

Please return to school no later than Monday 23rd October 2023 — copies can be forwarded by email to: staldansb@sthelens.org.uk

If you wish to keep these bookings throughout the academic year, please sign below and we will update our system

I wish to keep the above bookings for the rest of the academic year _____ (please sign)

Reminder

I understand that a place will be available unless informed otherwise, and will need to be paid for in advance.

I understand that non-payment of fees will jeopardise my child's attendance at the club.

I understand that if a place is no longer required, then it will be cancelled at the earliest convenience (24 hours for a credit), to allow the place to be accessed by another child. Under 24 hours, payment will still be required.

I understand that if my child does not attend the club when a place has been confirmed, then I will still be charged, as a place has been reserved.

I understand that if my child is late being collected (after 5.30pm), then a late charge of £10.00 per child, will be charged.

I will inform staff of any changes in details as soon as possible.



PARENT CARERS

Listen 4 Change would like to invite you to their parent carer coffee mornings!

These are an opportunity to meet other parent carers in a relaxed setting for a cuppa, cake and a chat. You can also enjoy a game of Bingo!

No need to book, just come along for the whole morning or drop in anytime between 10am – 12pm

@ The Carers Clubhouse, 18 Cotham Street,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA10 1SJ (opposite Town Hall)

On
Friday 7th July 2023
Friday 8th September 2023
Friday 6th October 2023
Friday 10th November 2023
Friday 1st December 2023

For further information please contact Sara Dolan on 01744 675615
or Saradolan@sthelenscarers.org.uk



Listen 4 Change would like to invite you to their **evening** get-togethers!

For parents and Carers of Children and young people with **SEND**.

Why not come along? No need to book.

From 18.30-20.00

Tuesday 11th July 2023

Tuesday 12th September 2023

Tuesday 14th November 2023

@ The Carer Clubhouse, 18 Cotham Street,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA10 1SJ (opposite Town Hall).

This will be an opportunity to meet other parent Carers in a relaxed setting for a Cuppa, a Chat and a game of bingo.

For further information please contact Sara Dolan on

01744 675615 or Saradolan@sthelensCarers.org.uk

**CARERS
TRUST**

St Helens Carers Centre

SEND Support

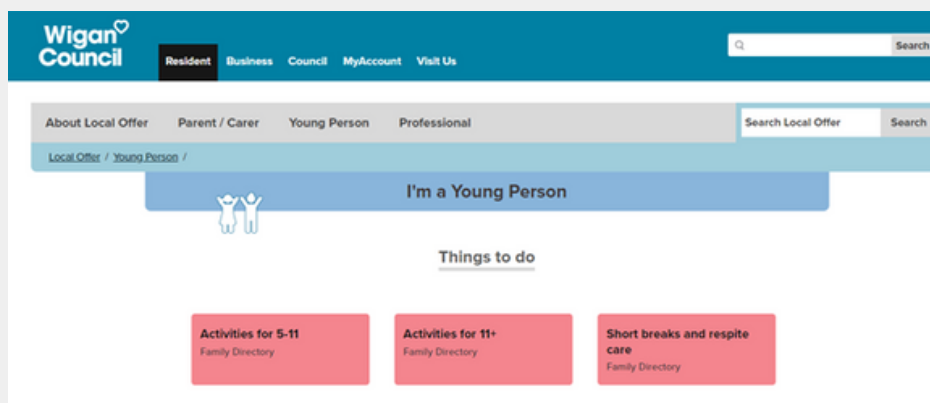
There are a number of support groups and play groups that take place weekly in the Wigan area. These are inclusive activities for children with SEND.



For children and families who live in the Wigan area, Wigan also offer a number of services and activities for children with SEND.

Please click on the link below to access the A-Z Directory of what's on offer.

http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/wigan/fsd/results.page?familychannel=5_2&sr=0



<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disability/Local-Offer/Young-Person/Things-to-do/Index.aspx>

PTA @ St Aidan's

Welcome to St Aidan's PTA. We are a committee of parents, teachers and friends - who meet every term in school.

We are a charitable group, established to raise money, support the school, create a community and make a difference to our children.

Our PTA have previously organised Summer Fayres, School Discos, Christmas Activities and raffles. We are constantly looking for new fundraising ideas.

In the past they have helped fund the purchase of new technology, playground equipment and presents for children. As you can imagine the list is endless.

Each year, as our children move on to the high school we lose some valuable support. We would love to gain new support to continue enabling our children to enjoy the benefits that the PTA brings.

Your support is really valuable to our children and always appreciated.

If you would like to join then please contact Mrs Sutcliffe, School Business Manager on staidansb@sthelens.org.uk.

Thank you.

FUTURE EVENTS: to be confirmed

