



Newsletter



FRIDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2023

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

MATTHEW 5:16

ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we draw to the end of November we can feel the children's excitement growing as Christmas trees pop up and Nativity songs are filling the corridors. Christmas at St Aidan's is very exciting and we are all looking forward to sending this Christmas together.

Thank you for all your kind donations for our PTA Christmas Fayre. The Christmas Fayre is taking place next Friday 1st December 2023 from 3.30pm until 5pm. Raffle Ticket forms have been sent home with children. Please return them to the school office as soon as possible.



The whole school has been invited to the St Aidan's Church Toy Appeal Service this Sunday. Donations of unwrapped new toys can be donated. The service starts at 10am. This is a relaxed service and all are welcome.



Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner is on Friday 8th December

Get your Christmas jumpers ready for Friday 8th December. This day is also our Christmas Dinner day - A separate letter has been sent about this.



St Aidan's Pantry School Christmas Appeal

To celebrate the official opening of the St Aidan's Pantry on 1st December we would like to launch our Advent Appeal. We understand that the cost of living is a stress for many of our families so we would like to encourage our whole school community to access the pantry either by using it or donating to it. Donations can be handed into the school office as we did for Harvest. We have had so many wonderful donations which have been handed over to Church already.

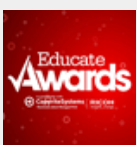
Let's help our community and our families.



Term Dates for 24-25

Please see below the new term dates for the academic year 2024-2025. We have given these out with plenty of notice so that holidays are not booked in term time.

Please scroll to the end of our newsletter as new notices could be added



St Aidan's Church Billinge Christmas Tree Festival 2023

Programme of Events in Church



Opening Times

Friday 8th December

10:00 - Opening Service with the local schools

Come and join us for the switching on of the lights!

Friday 5pm - Children's Christmas Film Night

Come along and watch a short Christmas film with your child/ren. Hot Chocolate and goody bag included. Only £3 each (Pay on the door)

Contact Alison to book a place and for more details

Saturday 9th December – Church Open 10:00am – 3:00pm

Refreshments available

Sunday 10th December - Open 12noon - 3pm

4pm – Carols by Candlelight – Annual Carol Service

held in church. Open to everyone.



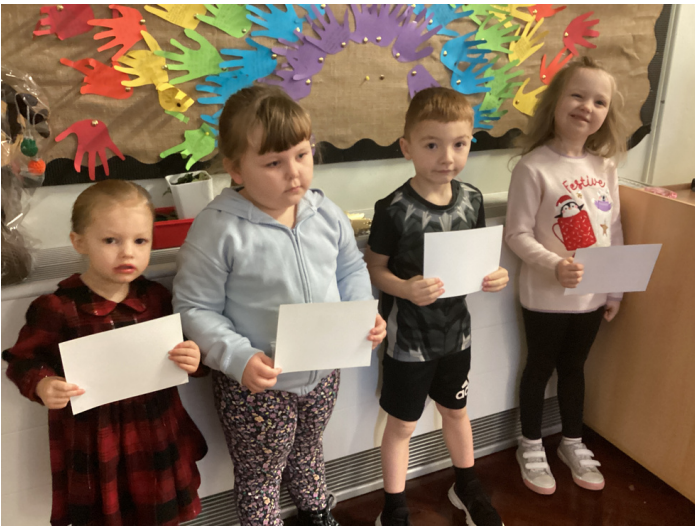
The trees will remain in church for the Christmas Season; there will be a range of events held in church with lots of visitors.

This is an ideal, cheap way to advertise your business or group.

Please contact Alison if you would like to sponsor a tree
or find out further information.

Alison – 07837549722

SHINE
SHINE
SHINE



Attendance Matters



Class Attendance

Week commencing: Monday 20th November 2023

Reception	97%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	93 %
Year 3	97%
Year 4	88%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	95%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - 93%

Well done to Reception and Year 3 for 96% or over on attendance this week.
ATTENDING SCHOOL IS SO IMPORTANT PLEASE HELP US TO ACHIEVE 96%
ACROSS SCHOOL

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

School Holidays 2024-25

St Aidan's C of E Primary School School Holidays 2024 – 2025



Re-open after the Summer holiday on the morning of	Tuesday	3rd September 2024
Close for the Autumn half-term holiday on the evening of	Friday	25 th October 2024
Re-open after the Autumn half-term holiday on the morning of	Monday	4 th November 2024
Close for the Christmas holiday on the evening of	Friday	20 th December 2024
Re-open after the Christmas holiday on the morning of	Monday	6 th January 2025
Close for the Spring half-term holiday on the evening of	Friday	14 th February 2025
Re-open after the Spring half-term on the morning of	Monday	24 th February 2025
Close for the Easter holiday on the evening of	Friday	4 th April 2025
Re-open after the Easter holiday on the morning of	Tuesday	22 nd April 2025
Close for the Summer half-term holiday on the evening of	Friday	23 rd May 2025
Re-open after the Summer half-term holiday on the morning of	Tuesday	3 rd June 2025
Close for the Summer holiday on the evening of	Friday	18 th July 2025
Closed Inset Days:		
Monday 2 nd September 2024	Monday 2 nd June 2025	Bank Holiday
Monday 21 st July 2025	Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	Good Friday 18 th April 2025
1 x Inset Day to be confirmed once the Government Election is confirmed		Easter Monday 21 st April 2025
To be taken before 25 th January 2025.		Monday 5 th May and 26 th May 2025

Dates for your Calendar

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

December 2023

1st December 2023

PTA Christmas Fayre 3.30 pm to 5pm

5th December 2023

ALTRU DRAMA (Whole School) PINOCCHIO (PM)

6th December

EYFS Nativity (Nursery)

2pm

7th December

EYFS Nativity (Reception)

2pm

8th December 2023

Christmas Jumper Day/School Christmas Lunch and Father Christmas visiting.

13th December 2023

KS1 Nativity Year 1

2pm

14th December 2023

KS1 Nativity Year 2 (Updated 08/11/2023)**

2pm

18th December 2023

**‘No One Wraps Like an Elf’ KS2 Christmas Show
Tickets on sale soon. Matinee special too**

2pm & 6pm

20th December 2023

KS2 Carol Service in Church 2pm

**21st December 2023
2023.**

School closes on the evening of 21st December

Dates for your Calendar

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

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.

March 2024

5th March 2024	Parents Evening
6th March 2024	Parents Evening
7th March 2024	World Book Day
7th March 2024 3.30pm to 4pm.	TellTale Books Pop Up Shop
28th March 2024	Easter Egg Hunt in school
28th March 2024	School closes in the evening for Easter Holidays

Dates for your Calendar

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

April 2024

15th April 2024 School re-opens

May 2024

2nd May 2024	Inset Day
6th May 2024	Bank Holiday
13th - 16th May 2024	KS2 SATS (**Updated 10/11/2023)
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)



St Aidan's PTA

invites you to our

Christmas

FAYRE

**ON FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER
2023**



FROM 3.30PM UNTIL 5PM.

**AT ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL,
LONDON FIELDS, BILLINGE**

FREE ADMISSION



**REFRESHMENTS/CAKES/TOMBOLA/CHRISTMAS
RAFFLE/STALLS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES**



**ST. AIDAN'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL
SPORTS CLUBS**



**GILCHRIST
SPORTS
COACHING**

School Football Clubs - A wide range of football activities from Shooting, Dribbling, Passing, Small sided games (1v1, 2v2, 3v3), Tournament style matches and more.

Monday Football	13 th November- 11 th December	3:30pm- 4:15pm	Years 1 & 2	5 sessions	£22.50
Thursday Football	16 th November- 14 th December	3:30pm- 4:15pm	Years 5 & 6	5 sessions	£22.50
Friday Football	17 th & 24 th November, 8 th & 15 th December	3:30pm- 4:15pm	Years 3 & 4	4 sessions	£18.00

Scoot Fit- Brand new sports club incorporating the use of the schools Scoot Fit equipment. A combination of scooting and fitness challenges around our scooter track.

Monday KS2	13 th November- 11 th December	8:00am- 8:50am	All Years	5 sessions	£22.50
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For more information please contact via email:

gilchristsportscoaching@hotmail.com

If you would like your child to attend the club please can you complete the booking form below, along with payment. Please use the link or scan the QR Code.

<https://forms.office.com/r/LqdjQUfsXJ>



Can all Parents/Guardians please complete the new booking form before attendance. Thank you

PE and School Sport

Upcoming Events

27/11/23 KS1 Boccia

1/12/23 Year 6 Sportshall Athletics

Snow White *and the* 7 Dwarfs



21st-24th February 2024

Wed-Fri 7:15pm, Sat 12:00pm Matinee and 6:00pm

St. Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School, Rookery Avenue, Ashton-In-Makerfield WN4 9PF

Tickets Adult £12:00 Concession £9.00 available from

TICKETSOURCE

www.ticketsource.co.uk/nados1

or www.newtonados.com or Phone 07734582924

Written by Ben Crocker www.bencrockerpantomimes.com

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.

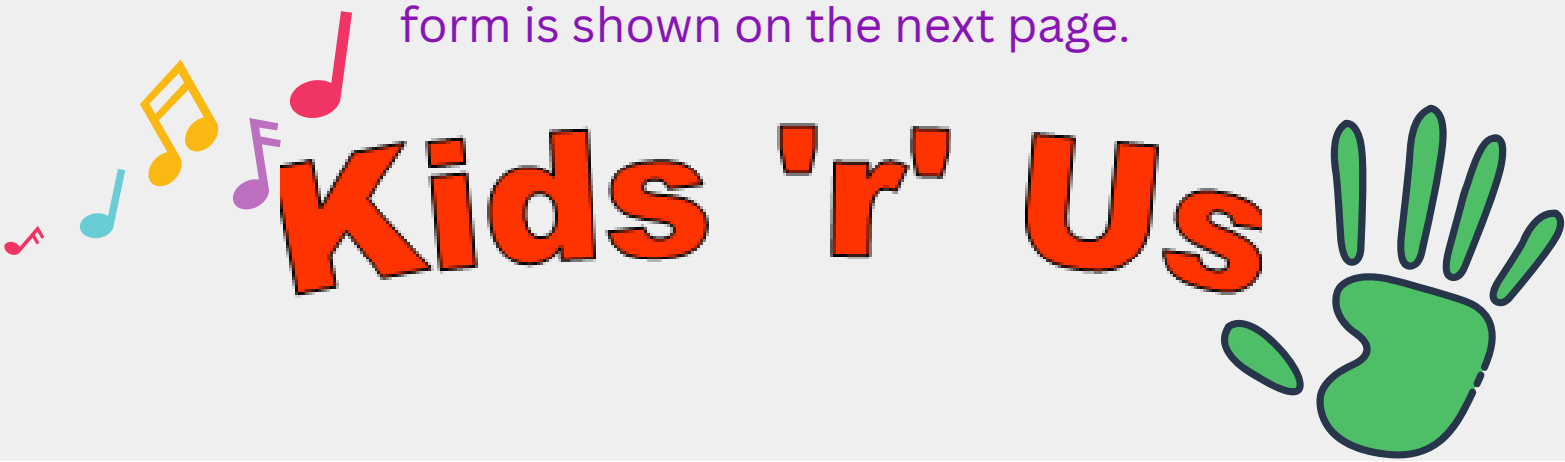
Costs: Breakfast Club - £4.50 per child.

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 8th January to 9th February 2024

Week Commencing	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC
08/01/2024										
15/01/2024										
22/01/2024										
29/01/2024										
05/02/2024										

Please tick the appropriate box.

Costs: Breakfast Club: £4.50 per child

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

Please return to school no later than Friday 15th December 2023 — copies can be forwarded by email to:
staidansb@sthelens.org.uk

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.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SEND Support

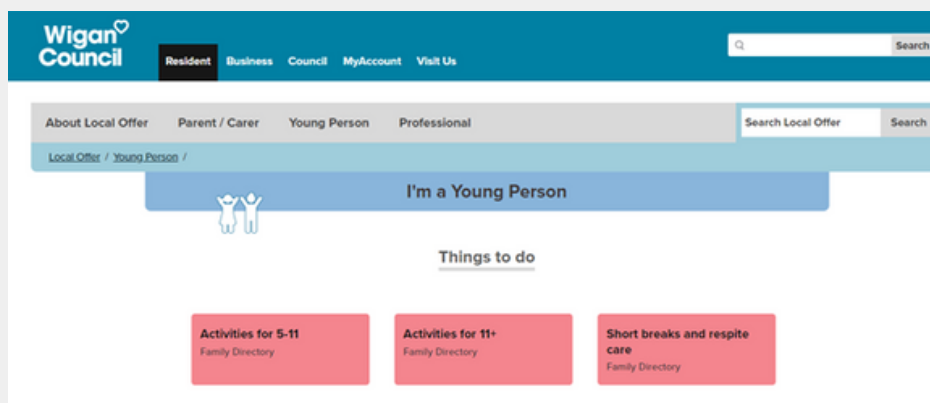
There are a number of support groups and play groups that take place weekly in the Wigan area. The are inclusive activities for children with SEND.



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

