



ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter 1

13th September 2024

Welcome back to school! It has been wonderful to see everyone returning safely after the summer break. The children have settled brilliantly into their new classes and I am so proud of them. A special welcome to our new children and parents who have joined our school family this year. We hope that your time at St Patrick's is very happy.

Headteacher Award - Kindness

It was lovely to have our first assemblies of the year, last week. As we come back together as a school community, treating each other with kindness is an essential component of who we are. Class teachers chose children who have been kind to others to receive the first Headteacher Award of the year. Congratulations children!

Kiara P – 1S	George L – 2S	Lilah H – 3S
Poppy W – 1P	Lula R – 2P	Elkie C – 3P
Oliver B – 4S	Logan W – 5S	Jacob J – 6S
Mason O-B – 4P	Eli J – 5P	Skye C – 6P

Isla J in 2P received a very special Headteacher Award for donating some of her hair to The Princess Trust during the summer holidays. What a fantastic thing to do – well done Isla!

School Mission Day

We had a very special day in school yesterday as we all celebrated our Mission Statement, which is at the heart of everything we do in school.

*Faithfully following in the footsteps of Jesus,
we serve, love and learn together inspiring each other to excellence*

As part of the day, each class decided on some different activities that they would like to do to explore the Mission Statement. It was wonderful to see children and staff embracing the day in different ways. Please see <https://st-patricks-catholic-southport.secure-primariesite.net/news/detail/mission-day-1/> for photographs from the Mission Day. Children who have tried their best to follow our Mission Statement since coming back to school received the Headteacher Award this week. Well done everyone!

Evie P – Rec S	Edward P – 1S	Charlotte S – 2S	
Grace D – Rec P	Benjamin M – 1P	Poppy C-M – 2P	
Isla C – 3S	Emme D – 4S	Lucas D – 5S	Mary W – 6S
Olivia B – 3P	James B – 4P	Archie D – 5P	Lois McG – 6P

Safer Schools – Merseyside Police

Merseyside Police have done a tremendous job over the last few months and we are very grateful for all their hard work. A special thank you to Constable Kriss Hubbard who made himself available for the Coffee Morning on 10th September and then came into school to work with children in Year 6 on 11th September. Kriss led a variety of drama activities with the children before holding a Q&A session, giving the children an opportunity to find out more about his work. Thank you Kriss!

School Discos

Children will be able to have some fun with their friends and show off their dance moves at our upcoming school discos. The dates/ times of the discos are as follows:

Key Stage 1: 11th October – Reception 4.00 – 5.00pm / Years 1&2 - 5.15-6.15pm

Key Stage 2: 18th October – Years 3&4 - 4.00 – 5.00pm / Years 5&6 - 5.15-6.15pm

Tickets will be priced at £3.00 each and include a drink and a snack. They will be on sale nearer the time.

With You Always

Lots of children in Year 4 will be starting the With You Always programme soon at St Patrick's and St Marie's Churches. This programme prepares children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) later in the year. This is a very special time for our Year 4 children as they start this journey together. Information regarding the programme was emailed to parents in July. If you haven't received this information and would like your child to take part, please contact the School Office.

Welcome Mass/ Mass Times

All our children love seeing Fr John in school and we are looking forward to taking them to Church where they feel very much at home. Children in Key Stage 2 are having a **Welcome Mass on Tuesday 24th September at 10am**. If you are able to come to Mass and would like to do so, it would be lovely to see you there.

If you would like to take attend Mass at the weekend or on weekdays, please see below for the current Mass times:

St Marie's: 12 noon Tuesday to Saturday, 8.30am and 10am on Sunday

St Patrick's: 10am Thursday, 6pm Saturday, 11.30am Sunday

Election of the School & Eco Councils

Children in Key Stage Two will be learning about Democracy over the next couple of weeks, whilst preparing for the election of the School Council and Eco Council. Children are invited to prepare a manifesto which they will present to their class or Key Stage (Years 5&6) on **Wednesday 25th September**. Following the presentations, children will be voting for two School Councillors and two Eco-Councillors per class. Councillors have an important role in school sharing all pupils' ideas and suggesting developments that can benefit our school community. Good luck to everyone who would like to put themselves forward.

Attendance

It is very important that children are in school as much as possible so that they do not miss out on the wealth of activities and experiences that take place. So much happens within the school day and it can be very hard for children to catch up on missed learning and social interactions with peers. We work in line with national and local authority guidance to support high levels of attendance. This guidance can be found on <https://st-patricks-catholic-southport.secure-primariesite.net/attendance/> A little reminder that we are unable to authorise holidays in term time and taking children out of school to go on holiday could result in a fixed penalty notice for parents. We are only able to authorise absences in the most exceptional circumstances. Please see page 10 of Sefton's Attendance Strategy for the actions outlined in the event that a child's attendance drops below 96%.

Communication - Class Emails

We are keen to work in close partnership with parents and families to support all our children in the best way possible. There is lots of useful information for parents on children's Class Pages on the school website <https://st-patricks-catholic-southport.secure-primariesite.net/class-pages-2/> , as well as photographs uploaded throughout the year of the children in action. If you have a query or concern for your child's class teacher, you are welcome to send them an email on their class email address which will be activated next week.

RS@stpatricks.sefton.school

1S@stpatricks.sefton.school

2S@stpatricks.sefton.school

3S@stpatricks.sefton.school

4S@stpatricks.sefton.school

5S@stpatricks.sefton.school

6S@stpatricks.sefton.school

RP@stpatricks.sefton.school

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4P@stpatricks.sefton.school

5P@stpatricks.sefton.school

6P@stpatricks.sefton.school

Please note that teachers have 48 hours to respond to communication from parents. They are always keen to resolve any queries as quickly as they can but are, understandably, unable to speak with parents during lesson time. Many thanks for your support with this. Please see <https://www.stpatrickschurchtown.com/leadership-management-policies/> for more information in our Communication Policy.

School Fencing

Thank you to parents, children and staff for accommodating the new routines in place whilst we are waiting for the fencing at the front of school to be replaced. Children have settled into their playtimes and are enjoying playing in different areas around school. There have been further developments with the project this week and things are moving forward as planned.

Homework

A little reminder that homework is given out on Mondays and children have a week to complete it. Homework provides an opportunity for children to embed their learning and secure key knowledge, concepts and skills. It will inevitably take a little time for children to get back into the routine of completing homework after the summer holidays. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions or queries about this.

Coats

We have already experienced a variety of Great British weather since returning to school and it can change very quickly indeed. Please send children into school with a waterproof jacket or coat each day. We endeavour to take the children out to play every day so that they get some much-needed fresh air and exercise.

Parent Pay

This year, we have introduced ParentPay as our method for receiving payments for children having school dinners in Key Stage 2. Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding during this introductory period. Inevitably, there have been a few teething problems and we have appreciated everyone's kindness whilst these have been resolved. Thank you also to those of you who have already activated your accounts and made payments. We would encourage everyone to sign up to ParentPay even if you are not currently paying for hot dinners as later in the year, this system will be used for collecting money towards our school trips for all year groups. We have sent out further notifications about this today. If you have any enquiries about Parent Pay, please contact the school office.

After School Clubs

This half term we are running the following After School Clubs:

Monday: Circuits – Year 6

Wednesday: Basketball – Year 6

Clubs run from 3.30pm – 4.20pm, following which children can be collected from the Main Entrance.

We endeavour to provide a range of After School Clubs that children can access during their time at our school, free of charge. Last year, we were delighted to offer 455 places in different clubs. Many thanks to all the staff who gave their time so generously to do this.

We recognise that we have many parents and grandparents who have a wealth of talents and so much to offer our school community. If you would like to get more involved in school life, either by leading an After-School Club or coming into school to help within the school day, we would be very grateful. Please contact the school office if this is something that you would like to discuss further.

Contact Details

As part of our Safeguarding procedures, we require the contact details of at least two different adults per child. This is to ensure that we can reach someone quickly in the event of an emergency. If your contact details change, we ask that you let school know as soon as possible so that we have the correct details. Many thanks for your help with this.

SEND Communication Focus Group Sessions

There are a number of SEND Communication Focus Groups Sessions taking place over the next fortnight. Please see <https://st-patricks-catholic-southport.secure-primariesite.net/sefton-send-updates-and-events/> for more information.

