



# ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Newsletter 1

### 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Welcome back to school! It is hard to believe that the children have only been back at school for two weeks. They have done a wonderful job of settling back into school routines and are enjoying their new classes. 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.

#### Class Names

For administrative purposes, we have changed the class names this year. Each year group will have a class named S and a class named P as initials for St Patrick. The classes are named as follows:

Reception S – Mrs Shirley	Reception P – Miss Jessup		
1S – Mrs Hosker	1P – Mrs Hopgood	2S – Mrs Bedwell	2P – Mrs Hatton
3S – Mrs Molyneux	3P – Mrs Palmen	4S – Mr Holmes	4P – Mrs Williams
5S – Mrs Farley	5P – Mrs Taylor	6S – Mrs Garlick	6P – Mr Kelleher

#### School Values

It was lovely to have our first assemblies of the year, last week. At the end of each assembly children had to 'Go Forth' and decide as a class which values they felt were important for our school community and in the wider world. Children had lots of terrific ideas and could talk confidently about their thoughts. As a school, we will be focusing on the following six values (one each half term) that were the most prevalent during class discussions: Helping Others (Altruism), Friendship, Courage, Respect, Trust and Loyalty.

Class teachers chose children who were setting a super example for others to receive the first Headteacher Award, in our assembly. Congratulations children!

George L – 1S	Maria W – 2S	Ollie G – 3S
Gabriella G – 1P	Sophie A – 2P	Regan K – 3P
Daisy-Mae McC – 4S	Finn M – 5S	Charlie B – 6S
Evie H – 4P	Skye C – 5P	Zain C – 6P

#### 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 year group explored a different value (see above) which supports them in trying to be more like Jesus. It was wonderful to see children and staff embracing the day in different ways. Please see <https://st-patricks-catholic-southport.secure-primariesite.net/class-pages-1/> on the website to watch a short video of the children singing our Come & See song as part of the celebrations. More photographs from the Mission Day will be uploaded on the website next week. 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!

Kiara P – Rec S	Evelyn G – 1S	Leo K – 2S	
Gabriel B – Rec P	Theo R – 1P	Beth G – 2P	
Niamh T – 3S	Logan W – 4S	Joseph T – 5S	Molly W – 6S
Felicity B – 3P	Oscar H – 4P	Meredith P – 5P	Joseph S – 6P

### Congratulations Ciara, Sylvie & Charlotte

Over the summer holidays Ciara, Sylvie and Charlotte decided to raise some money for Queenscourt Hospice. They spent several weeks making bracelets which they sold on 10th August, outside Ciara's house. The girls raised a tremendous £135 for this very worthy cause. What a wonderful example to us all! Please see <https://www.stpatrickschurchtown.com/news/detail/well-done-ciara-sylvie-charlotte/> for some photographs of the girls in action.

### 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.

### 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. If you would like to take attend Mass, 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 Council

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 **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> 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. The NHS has provided some guidance for parents regarding when to keep children off school in relation to health matters. This information can be found on <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> Please note that, in line with Government guidance, 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 below for the impact in terms of lessons missed when children are absent from school.

<b>Attendance during one school year</b>	<b>equals this number of days absent</b>	<b>which is approximately this many weeks absent</b>	<b>which means this number of lessons missed</b>
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

### PTA

We really appreciated all the parents who supported school last year by organising, helping with and/ or attending different events run by the PTA. It was great to get the PTA up and running again and we would like to be able to have different events again this year. We will be having an initial PTA meeting in the next few weeks to discuss people's ideas about the year ahead. We will contact parents with the date of this meeting a little nearer the time.

## 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://www.stpatrickschurchtown.com/class-pages-1/>, 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](mailto:RS@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[1S@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:1S@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[2S@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:2S@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[3S@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:3S@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[4S@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:4S@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[5S@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:5S@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[6S@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:6S@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[RP@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:RP@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[1P@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:1P@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[2P@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:2P@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[3P@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:3P@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[4P@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:4P@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[5P@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto:5P@stpatricks.sefton.school)

[6P@stpatricks.sefton.school](mailto: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.

## Homework

Children will be starting to have homework tasks from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Homework provides an opportunity for children to embed their learning and secure key knowledge, concepts and skills. Homework is given out on Mondays and children have a week to complete it. 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.

## Dinners

Many thanks to Chris and her team for all their tremendous work preparing children's hot dinners. A little reminder that dinner money is £12.10 per week and £82.28 for this half term. Many thanks to people for paying dinner money promptly. This is greatly appreciated. Please note that we need two weeks notice in the event that children are changing from hot dinners to packed lunches or vice versa, as changes have an impact on food orders and organisation in the kitchen. We have accommodated some last-minute changes this week but are unable to do so moving forward.

## After School Clubs

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

**Monday: Circuits** – Year 6

**Tuesday: African Drumming** – Year 5

**Wednesday: Basketball** – Year 6

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

## Parents Evenings

Advance notice that we will be having Parents Evenings on the following dates:

**Key Stage 2** – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November & Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

**Key Stage 1** – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November & Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November



