



FRIDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2023

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

MATTHEW 5:16

## ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Welcome Back to a New School Year!

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to St Aidan's ! As we embark on a new academic year, I want to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to both new and returning families. It is an honour to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful school community, and the whole St Aidan's staff team are excited about this academic year .

### A Fresh Start

The summer break has provided us all with a much-needed opportunity to relax, recharge, and reflect on the past year's successes and challenges. Now, as we step into a brand-new school year, I am filled with hope and excitement for what lies ahead.

### Continuing Our Partnership

At St Aidan's, we strongly believe in the importance of a strong partnership between parents, teachers, and our amazing pupils. Together, we can create an environment that nurtures the growth and development of every child. I am confident that by working hand in hand, we can achieve great things this year.

### Building on Success

It is with great pride that I reflect on the accomplishments of our school community in the previous year. Our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and enthusiastic students have all played a significant role in our success. I want to express my gratitude for your unwavering commitment to your child's education and their overall well-being. We hope to build on our partnership with Hope's Therapy Dogs , Ann Rawsthorne Peer Massage, Happy Hands Keyboard Tuition , St Helens Music Service, Gilchrist Sports, St Helens Chamber and not forgetting our amazing Church St Aidan's

### Hopes and Dreams

As we begin this new school year, I encourage you to dream big and set high aspirations for your child. Our dedicated team of teachers are ready and eager to provide a challenging and supportive learning environment. We will foster a love of learning, encourage curiosity, and instill our school christian values of Hope, Love, Friendship , Forgiveness, Truth and Perseverance. These are values that will guide our students throughout their lives.

Your paragraph to impress evening.aph text





# Newsletter



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## ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Communication is Key

Open and clear communication is vital in ensuring the success of our partnership. I encourage you to reach out to us with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have. We value your input and look forward to working alongside you to create the best possible educational experience for your child.

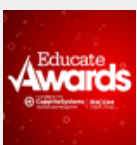
### Upcoming Events

As the new school year gets underway, we have an exciting range of events and activities planned. From parent workshops to school trips, each experience will serve to enhance your child's learning journey and create lasting memories. Please stay tuned for further details and ensure that you mark the dates in your calendar.



This week the whole school have been looking at the story of the Magical Yet. We have discussed a positive growth mindset and how we may not be able to do things YET but we can learn to do things. Please talk to your child about this and encourage them to keep on trying and practising.

Your paragraph to impress evening



# Permissions for School

During this year, we would like to share our fantastic work, experiences and events through our Facebook, Twitter, local newspapers and school website.

Before we can do this we need to ask parents for their permission.

In the next week, parents of children from Year 1 to Year 6 will receive a permissions survey through School Spider.

Please complete as soon as possible so that we can update our records and share our fabulous work.

The permissions are for photos and work to be used on the school website, local newspapers, social media and working partnerships.

Permission has already been given for Nursery and Reception.

# It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited



Let's do whatever it takes  
to support people living with cancer.

Place: Billinge St Aidan's CE Primary

Date: Friday 29th September 2023

Time: 09:30-11.30am

Contact: Debbie Sutcliffe 01744678042



Scan this QR code to donate  
to our event if you are unable  
to attend.



**MACMILLAN**  
CANCER SUPPORT



**COSTA**  
COFFEE



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (248907), Scotland (SC031992) and the title of Hon (2016). Also operating in Northern Ireland. MACMILLAN\_Footer2

**Please share with family, friends and local community.  
There will be a raffle with prizes donated from local  
businesses.**

**Tours of school will also be available for any  
prospective parents.**



# Newsletter



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## ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Our Beacon Curriculum can be found on the school website. [Click here...](#)



### SIX STEPS TO...

	Have a go yourself.
	Are there any resources on your table or in your classroom that could help you?
	Look around the room. Can you see anything displayed that will help you?
	Check your workbook, activity sheets and knowledge organisers. Do these remind you of how to answer the question?
	Ask your partner. Can they explain the question to you?
	Put your hand up to ask an adult.

**...ST AIDAN'S SUCCESS**

BEACON Principles

Bulging Brains Explain and Explore Complete task Own our learning

<b>B</b>	<b>Bulging Brains can Bring it Back</b>	Recently, a growing body of research has shown that the practice of remembering previously studied information (i.e. retrieval practice) is more advantageous for long-term retention of BRAIN memory.
<b>E</b>	<b>Explain and Explore to make things Easy</b>	'Knowledge is power'. Knowledge does much more than just help hone our thinking skills: it actually makes learning easier. Gaining knowledge is a continual process over time. Those with a rich base of factual knowledge find it easier to learn more — the rich get richer! The more you know, the easier it is to learn. Learn in small steps, by modelling, by following procedures, scaffolding and asking and answering questions.
<b>A</b>	<b>Access Amazing vocabulary</b>	Vocabulary is critical to our success. Vocabulary growth is directly related to school achievement. Vocabulary helps us to think and learn about the world. Expanding our knowledge of words provides unlimited access to new information.
<b>C</b>	<b>Complete task</b>	We apply previous and new knowledge, skills and understanding to different situations. We are encouraged to use our broader knowledge, work collaboratively, use problem solving skills and be creative. We should also be able to complete tasks independently and take responsibility for our own learning; we can 'overlearn'. Developing ourselves as independent learners, including where to look for help, is important as it helps us to stay motivated and improve our academic performance.
<b>O</b>	<b>Own our learning</b>	
<b>N</b>	<b>New learning - how much have we learnt?</b>	What have we learnt? How much have we learnt? What do we know now that we didn't before? Reflect on <b>what</b> we have just learnt, keep retrieving past knowledge and know <b>how</b> what we have learnt helps us in all that we do.

### Year 6 - Local Study - The St Helens Pals - Autumn Term

**Year 6 - Local Study - The St Helens Pals - Autumn Term**

**Timeline:** 1914: Austria attacks Serbia; 1914: First battle of Marston; 1914: First use of poison gas; 1914: Battle of Ypres; 1914: United States enters war; 1914: Russia withdraws; 1914: Germany surrenders.

**Map:** Shows the Western Front with labels for France, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

**Text:** In World War I, two main alliances formed between countries: the Allies (including France, Great Britain, and Russia) and the Central Powers (including Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire). These alliances played a significant role in shaping the course of the war and its eventual outcome.

**St Helens Pals:** Pals units were groups of soldiers in World War I who enlisted and trained together, often made up of friends, relatives, and coworkers from the same town or community. These units were intended to promote camaraderie and morale among soldiers, but they also led to devastating losses when entire communities were decimated in battle.

**Recruitment:** The St Helens Pals were recruited in World War I through a public recruitment campaign led by the Mayor of St Helens, Sir David Gamble. The campaign encouraged men from the town and surrounding areas to enlist together and serve in the same unit, with the promise that they would be able to stay with their friends and colleagues. The St Helens Pals became part of the 30th Division of the British Army and fought in several major battles, including the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

**ENLIST TO DAY**

**ST HELENS PALS BATTAL SOUTH LAN**

**Cor SECTION 3**



# 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 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Close for the Autumn half-term holiday on the evening of	Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Re-open after the Autumn half-term holiday on the morning of	Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
Close for the Christmas holiday on the evening of	Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Re-open after the Christmas holiday on the morning of	Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Close for the Spring half-term holiday on the evening of	Friday	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Re-open after the Spring half-term on the morning of	Monday	19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Close for the Easter holiday on the evening of	Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Re-open after the Easter holiday on the morning of	Monday	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Close for the Summer half-term holiday on the evening of	Friday	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Re-open after the Summer half-term holiday on the morning of	Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Close for the Summer holiday on the evening of	Tuesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024

### Closed Inset Days:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

### Bank Holiday

Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Easter Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024  
May Day 6<sup>th</sup> May and 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024

## ***Dates for your Calendar***

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

### **September 2023**

11th September 2023 10am	Reception photo by Wigan Observer
15-17th September 2023	Y6 PGL Weekend
21st September 2023	St Aidan's Sports Day
26th September 2023	European Languages Day - French Day children can come dressed in blue, white and red.
29th September 2023	09-30 - 11.30am Macmillan Coffee Morning

### **October 2023**

10th October 2023	Hello Yellow Day - Young Minds
11th October 2023 3.40 to 5.30pm	Meet the Teacher in class
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	Y6 Learning to Work
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	School closes on the evening of 21st December 2023.

### **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 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

### **April 2024**

15th April 2024	School re-opens
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### **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)

# 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).



# Attendance Matters



## Class Attendance

Week commencing: Monday 4th September 2023

Reception	100 %
Year 1	97 %
Year 2	97 %
Year 3	99 %
Year 4	94 %
Year 5	96 %
Year 6	93 %

**INCREDIBLE RECEPTION 100% on your first week - ice cream next week !**

# 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.**


# Sports

Extra Curricular Clubs start next week with Gilchrist Sports.

Please see below form which has been given to children to bring home.



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



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	11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> September, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	3:30pm-4:15pm	Years 1 & 2	7 sessions	£31.50	
Thursday Football	14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup> September, 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> October	3:30pm-4:15pm	Years 5 & 6	6 sessions	£27.00	
Friday Football	15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup> September, 6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> October	3:30pm-4:15pm	Years 3 & 4	6 sessions	£27.00	
Dodgeball Club - Combination of different dodgeball activities such as dungeon dodgeball, tunnel of doom, Dr. Dodgeball, Toilet tag dodgeball, dodgeball tournaments plus more.						
Monday KS2 Dodgeball	11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> September, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	8:00am-8:50am	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	7 sessions	£31.50	

If you would your child to attend the club you can complete the booking form below, along with payment. Payment should be paid via bank transfer using the following details:

Account Name: Adam Gilchrist      Reference: Your child's name  
 Account Number: 51145278      Sort Code: 60-70-08  
 For more information please contact via email: [gilchristssportscoaching@hotmail.com](mailto:gilchristssportscoaching@hotmail.com)

Children should be collected / dropped via the school playground. Children should arrive in suitable sports wear and should bring their own drink.

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

Please fill in registration form below and return to School Office (if your child is attending the clubs):

Child's Name..... Year.....

Club(s) Attending: .....

Child's medical or dietary needs: N/A or please list:.....

Email Address for future sports clubs: .....

1. Emergency contact: Name.....Number.....  
 2. Emergency contact: Name.....Number.....

I give permission for my child:

- to receive any basic first aid treatment if required.
- to have their photograph / video to be used on Gilchrist Sports Coaching social media:

Signature.....

**PE Days - we will notify you by School Spider for School updates on PE Days**



## 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 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

For further information please contact Sara Dolan on 01744 675615  
or [Saradolan@sthelenscarers.org.uk](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Saradolan@sthelensCarers.org.uk)

**CARERS  
TRUST**

St Helens Carers Centre

# SEND Support

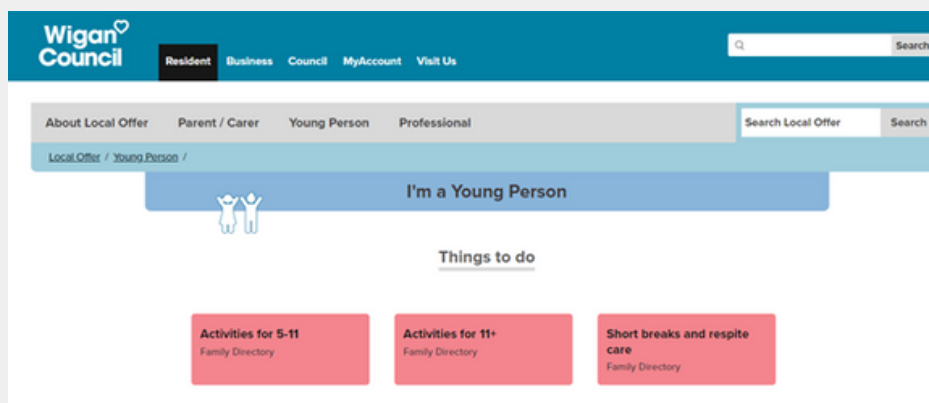
There are a number of support groups and play groups that take place weekly in the Wigan area. They are inclusive activities for children with SEND.



For children and families who live in the Wigan area, Wigan also offers 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](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>



# 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](mailto:staidansb@sthelens.org.uk) or phone the school office on 01744 678042

The new booking form for Tuesday 5th September to Thursday 26th October 2023 is available from club. A copy of the booking form is shown on the next page.

**Kids 'r' Us**

# Kids R Us

## Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Child's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

For bookings from 5th September 2023 until Thursday 26th October 2023

Week Com- mencing	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC	BC	ASC
4/09/2023										
11/09/2023										
18/09/2023										
25/09/2023										
02/10/2023										
09/10/2023										
16/10/2023										
23/10/2023										

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 Tuesday 18th July 2023 — copies can be forwarded by email to:  
staidansb@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.

# 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 our committee please contact Mrs Sutcliffe, School Business Manager on [staidansb@sthelens.org.uk](mailto:staidansb@sthelens.org.uk).

Thank you.

**FUTURE EVENTS:** to be confirmed .....