



Newsletter



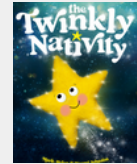
FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2023

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

MATTHEW 5:16

ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

This week it was the turn of our KS1 Department to tell the Christmas Story. They did it in style with their performance of the Twinkly Nativity. We are so proud of all of our cast and team. We hope it was a lovely start to your Christmas.



Next Week it is the turn of our KS2 Department and their Christmas musical of 'No one wraps like an elf'. This will be performed by our KS2 performing arts group on Monday at 2pm and 6pm. Tickets can be purchased through Shop on School Money.



This Sunday at St Aidan's Church - there is a Church Nativity Beacon Service starting at 10am. Everyone is welcome and you can go dressed in your Nativity Costumes to enjoy a Christmas Nativity.



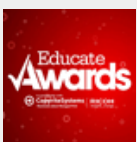
Please see the attached PDF about Holiday Activities & Food

St Helens Council - Household Support Fund have provided £45 Asda vouchers to help families who are in receipt of benefits based free school meals. They will be available from the School Office on Monday 18th December 2023. If you would like to check to see if you are eligible please click on the below link and apply online: <https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

Can parents please pay their outstanding club, nursery and dinner balances through School Money.



Our last day is Thursday 21st December and this will be our annual Polar Express Day. Children can come dressed in pyjamas or Christmas jumpers. EYFS will have a Snowman and Snow Dog Day.





We ask all our families to park with respect to the community in which we are situated within .

Immediately outside school we have the zig zag parking lines. These indicate that you must not park or drop off in this area. We have been in touch with the local council about having these repainted but we do know that the lines are still visible.

Parking across driveways causes issues with access for our residents. We kindly ask that you do not do this.

School parking will now be monitored by our local police.



**St Aidan's C of E Primary School
And Nursery**
Let your light Shine - Matthew 5:16

Our school provides a secure, caring and stimulating environment appropriate to the needs of all children.
Come along and join us at our

Open Evening
For children starting Nursery and Reception in 2024
Wednesday 10th January 2024 from 1pm until 5.30pm

If you are unable to visit us at our Open Evening please call our School Office to arrange to view our school and nursery facilities

01744 678042

**We have Nursery Places available for
2 & 3 YEAR OLDS
Nursery sessions are 8.45am - 3.30pm**

We also offer Breakfast Club from 7.30am and Afterschool Club until 5.30pm

London Fields, Billinge, WN5 7LS 01744 678042
www.billingestaidans.co.uk

We have another open day
for children who start
Reception
in 2024.
Spread the Word
that we are open for visits .

Applications for a September
2024 place close on 15th
January 2024.

OPEN TO EVERYONE
£5 PER YEAR
£3 PER VISIT FOR 15 ITEMS



ST AIDAN'S CHURCH, BILLINGE. WN5 7LA
OPEN EVERY FRIDAY 11.30AM - 2.00PM
(STARTING 1ST DECEMBER)

A WARM SPACE & WELCOME AWAITS YOU ALL

CHRISTMAS @ St. Aidan's CE Primary School 2023



Wednesday 13th December

9.00-10.30 Toddler Group Christmas Party
Visit from Santa
Gift for all children

Wednesday 13th December

2pm KS1 Nativity - Year 1 parents invited

Thursday 14th December

2pm KS1 Nativity - Year 2 parents invited

Monday 18th December 2023

No one wraps like an elf – KS2 Christmas Production 2pm & 6pm

Wednesday 20th December

2pm KS2 Christmas Service @ St Aidan's Church

Thursday 21st December

Our Annual Polar Express Day Y1-6 – Pyjamas or Christmas Jumpers

Nursery & Reception (Snowman and the Snowdog Day)

SCHOOL CLOSSES 3.30pm

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Attendance Matters



Class Attendance

Week commencing: Monday 11th December 2023

Reception	93%
Year 1	91%
Year 2	86%
Year 3	87%
Year 4	86%
Year 5	90%
Year 6	93%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - 89%

**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:		
Monday 4 th September 2023	Friday 27 th October 2023	Bank Holiday
Friday 22 nd December 2023	Thursday 2 nd May 2024	Good Friday 29 th March 2024
Monday 3 rd June 2024		Easter Monday 1 st April 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:		Bank Holiday
Monday 2 nd September 2024	Monday 2 nd June 2025	Good Friday 18 th April 2025
Monday 21 st July 2025	Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	Easter Monday 21 st April 2025
1 x Inset Day to be confirmed once the Government Election is confirmed		Monday 5 th May and 26 th May 2025
To be taken before 25 th January 2025.		

Dates for your Calendar

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

December 2023

WE ARE GETTING VERY CLOSE TO CHRISTMAS !!!!

18th December 2023

Christmas Show

2pm & 6pm

at

‘No One Wraps Like an Elf’ KS2

Tickets on sale through School Money.

20th December 2023

KS2 Carol Service in Church 2pm

21st December 2023

POLAR EXPRESS DAY - CHILDREN CAN COME TO SCHOOL IN PYJAMAS OR CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

School closes on the evening of 21st December 2023 at normal time



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 |
| 11th January 2024 | School Assembly with PC Beardsworth |

February 2024

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1st February 2024 | World of Glass Assembly |
| 6th February 2024 | Young Voices Concert/Trip (Manchester) |
| 8th February 2024 | Safer Internet Day |
| 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)

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 1st 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 2nd 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 22nd 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 10th 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.

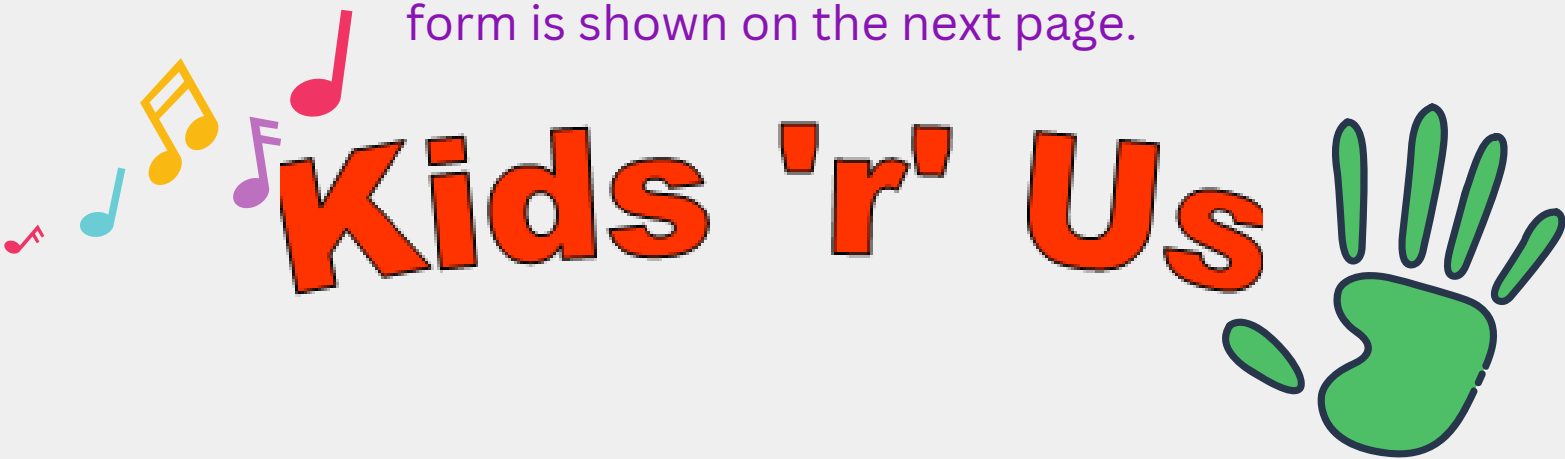
Costs: Breakfast Club - £4.50 per child.

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

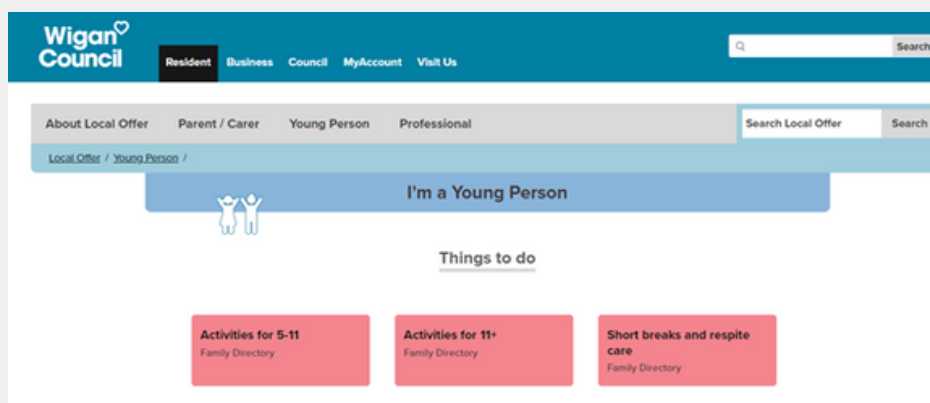
There are a number of support groups and play groups that take place weekly in the Wigan area. These are inclusive activities for children with SEND.



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



<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

