



Newsletter



FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 2024

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

MATTHEW 5:16

ST AIDAN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024

Welcome Back

The spring term is always full of hope and ambition when many of us make resolutions or promises and the children are ready to continue making progress in their learning. It has been good to see the children looking smart and ready to learn – we very much appreciate the support you give your children for a successful school life. Maximum attendance gives your child the best chance of success. Attendance Awards will happen over the next few weeks rewarding 100% attendance and pupils with 96+% for last term.

ONLINE SAFETY

Christmas is a time when many children get new devices and have first online experiences. Please read the online newsletter which is attached. Help your child to keep themselves safe.

ADVERSE WEATHER

Please follow the link https://www.billingestaidans.co.uk/serve_file/10591949 to our Adverse Weather policy on the school website. There is a forecast for wintery conditions next week but we are fully prepared and we even have a new gritting machine for the paths to help Mr Williams.

Payment for toast will be live on Monday 15th January. Those who have requested toast will receive this from Monday.

CENSUS DAY SPECIAL LUNCH

January 18th 2024

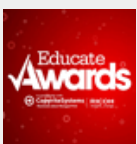
Please do take up a school meal on this day as it is very important for our school funding. The more children who attend and have a school lunch on Thursday will result in the school receiving more funding from the government.

School Census Day is on Thursday 18th January 2023. If your child receives Universal Free School Meals (Reception to Year 2) or Benefits Based Free School Meals they will be offered a free school meal on this day. (packed lunches can still be sent into school with your child)

If there are any specific dietary requirements and/or allergens that we should be aware of, please email the school office directly: staidansb@sthelens.org.uk.

Parking and road safety for children: parking in a way that inconveniences our neighbours and puts pedestrian safety at risk continues to happen at either end of the school day. We encourage you to report these instances to the correct authorities. We are working closely with our local police on this matter.

DOGS ON SCHOOL PREMISES - Unfortunately, dogs are not allowed within the school premises. We ask that family members stay with your dog outside the school gates.



Attendance Matters



Class Attendance

Week commencing: Monday 8th January 2024

Reception	94%
Year 1	98%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	97%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - 95%

ATTENDING SCHOOL IS SO IMPORTANT PLEASE HELP US TO ACHIEVE 96% ACROSS SCHOOL .

Well done to Years 1, 2 and 6 on their 96% or above attendance for the week.

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

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:		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.

January 2024

22nd January 2024 Year 5 Crucial Crew (New)

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 TellTale Books Pop Up Shop
3.30pm to 4pm.**

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 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.

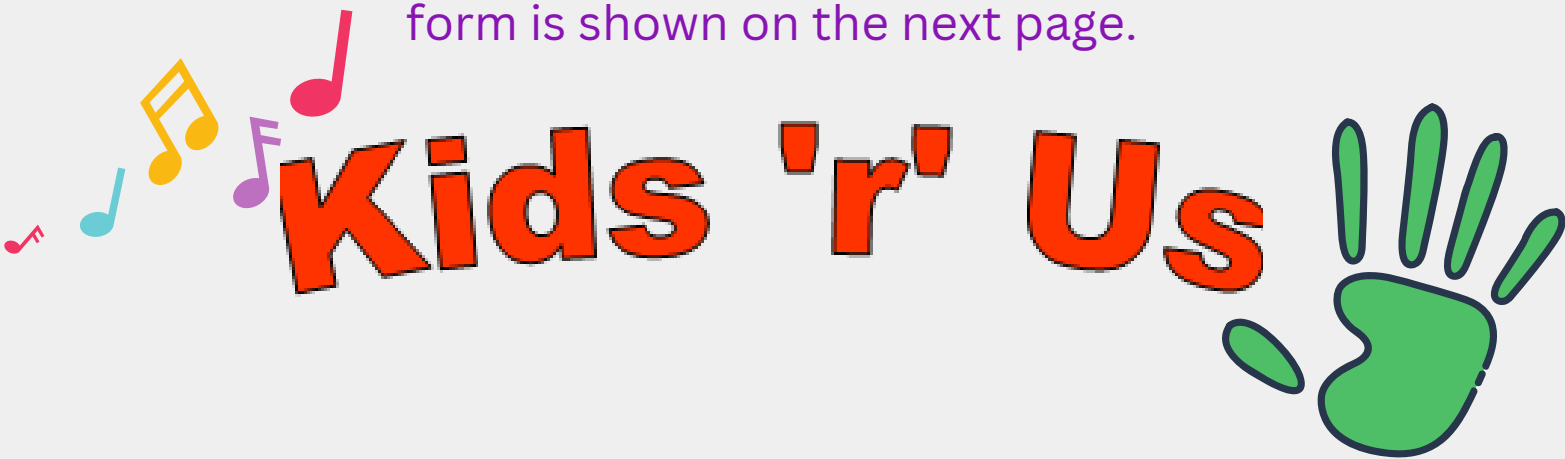
Costs: Breakfast Club - £4.50 per child.

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

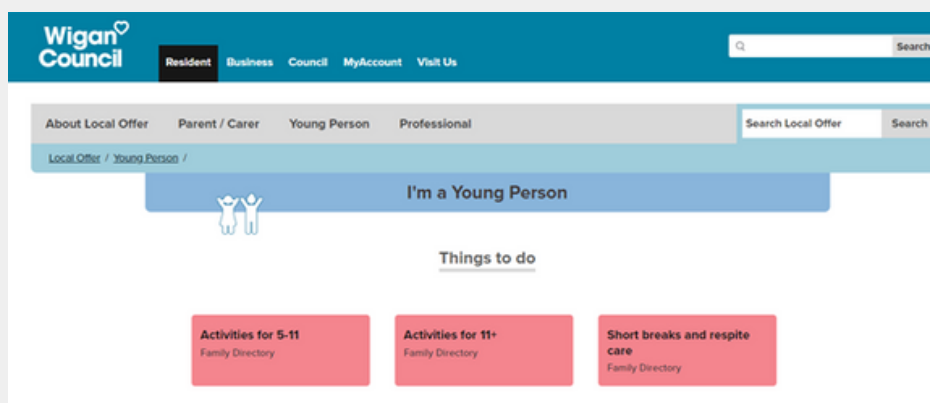
There are a number of support groups and play groups that take place weekly in the Wigan area. They are inclusive activities for children with SEND.



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



<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

