



St Austin's
Catholic Primary School
Riverbank Road
Liverpool L19 9DH
Tel: 0151 427 1800

www.st-austins.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

17th November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Ofsted – On Monday all parents/carers should have received a copy of our Section 8 Ofsted report. I am extremely proud of the outcome which I believe accurately reflects our whole school community. Thank you to everyone who was able to complete the parent view, and those who took the time to engage with the Inspector on the playground. Thank you to pupils, parents, carers, governors and staff - who have enabled us to receive such a positive report. Congratulations and well done to all!

Parish News – For information regarding St Francis of Assisi Church, you can see their weekly newsletter at the following link [St Wilfrid Parish Newsletters](#)

First Confessions – The preparations for the Sacrament of First confession started this week in St Francis of Assisi, with two further sessions during November. Children will receive the Sacrament on Monday 11th December at 2.00pm in St Francis of Assisi Church. Staff will escort the children to Church, where they will hand the children over to the parents, and return to school, please ensure you are at Church for 1.45pm. If you wish your child to attend after school club, please return them to school after the service as staff are unable to do so. Further details will follow.

Relationship and Sex Health Education – Thank you to the majority of parents/carers who have already confirmed that they have read and understood the Journey in Love programme.

A parent/carers guide to the RSHE programme 'Journey in Love' scheme was available at school during both open nights. This programme has been approved and recommended by the Archdiocese of Liverpool and the Bishop's council. 'A Journey in Love' follows the guidelines set out by the Catholic Church. St. Austin's RSHE policy is in accordance with Catholic teaching and consistent with the Catholic mission and ethos of our school. This policy can be found on our school website. However, the materials, due to copyright, cannot be published. If you need to see the materials, please call into the school office, and sign the APP to confirm you have read.

Admissions September 2024 – If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 they will be due to start reception class next year. The deadline for submitting your application forms to both the Local Authority and our school is 15th January 2024. We are holding 4 meetings, for parents/carers to visit the school and collect all the relevant forms. For details about the admissions process please see the Local Authority link [Liverpool City Council Admissions](#)

There will be a maximum of 2 adults per child allowed to attend, and strictly no children are allowed on this occasion. You **must** book a place at one of these meetings via our school office on 0151 427 1800 or email enquiries@st-austins.co.uk The two dates we have left are:

Wednesday 22nd November – 9.15am – 10.15am

Tuesday 9th January – 4.30pm – 5.30pm

If you already have children in our school, you do not need to attend the meetings, you can collect the relevant form at the school office or email enquiries@st-austins.co.uk to request a form electronically. There is a maximum of 30 adults per meeting. You will be shown around the school by our year 6 children.

Attendance & Punctuality – we take great pride in the fantastic attendance we have in St Austin's. This has started to slip of late. We are aware there are many bugs going round at the moment but please be rest assured that we will contact you if we feel your child is too sick to stay in school.

Trading cards - a number of children have been bringing trading cards into school. They are aware that this is not allowed. If your child does bring trading cards into school we will be asking the children to leave them at the school office for parents/carers to collect at the end of the day. Thank you for your cooperation in this.



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Scarlet Fever – This is on the rise across the city so please be vigilant if your child is showing any symptoms. Please inform school if your child has been diagnosed with Scarlet Fever by a medical professional as school needs to keep a record of the number of cases. For further information please see the following NHS link [NHS Scarlet Fever](#)

Anti-bullying week - This week's Anti-bullying theme is 'Make a Noise'. To start the week off, children across key stage two were chosen to represent St. Austin's in a visual signing choir at the Anglican Cathedral. We used sign language to perform three different songs and special guests such as John Lennon's sister and Liverpool's previous Lord Mayor, shared some poems and personal stories. In school we have been looking closely at what 'banter' means and have continued activities through our PSHE lessons.

Safeguarding online – As this has been anti-bullying week we have made aware of several incidents where children have received inappropriate online messages from their peers, which is currently being investigated. Can all parents/carers monitor their child's use of phones, laptops, iPad's and all other aspects of social media. Thank you for your support with this!

School newspaper - We are looking for budding journalists to contribute articles, reviews or stories for our school Christmas edition. We encourage all children from nursery right the way up to year 6 to pick up their pencil and write us an article. Your news reports or stories can be about absolutely anything. Or perhaps write us a review of your favourite film or book. Please email your completed reports, with any accompanying images to enquiries@st-austins.co.uk. Deadline for entries is Friday 8th December.

Breakfast Club and After School Club - A reminder that you must complete a contract if you would like your child to attend breakfast or after school club, and payment must be by bank transfer or childcare vouchers. No cash payments will be accepted. If parents are late in collecting their children a £5 penalty will be issued, this is a cost incurred by school to pay for additional hours to our security team who lock up the school premises.

Flu nasal vaccine – Our school health team visited school today to administer the flu immunisation to all children who have written consent. If you opted out of this immunisation and you have changed your mind please contact your GP or nurse practitioner at your surgery for further advice.

Cross Country Update – Good luck to Henry (Y6) Freddie (Y5) and Annie (Y5) children who are representing Liverpool at the Merseyside boroughs and across UK at the Cross-Challenge event on Saturday 25th November 2023 at Sefton Park. Congratulations, and the best of luck!

Young Shakespeare performance of Romeo and Juliet - On Monday morning, year 6 were treated to a fantastic performance of Shakespeare's famous tragedy 'Romeo and Juliet' by our friends at the 'Young Shakespeare Company'. It was a wonderfully immersive performance with many of our children taking on key roles of some of the characters in the play. The story was performed using the original Shakespeare script but the themes and plot-lines were explained by the cast in an entertaining and informative way. Year 6 are now studying another of Shakespeare's tragedies, 'Macbeth' and we are already loving the themes of treachery, ambition and deceit which make Macbeth one of Shakespeare's most loved plays. Please see our X (twitter) feed.

Kingswood Colomendy residential visit March 2024 – there will be a parent/carer meeting on Thursday 30th November from 4.00pm – 5.00pm here in school regarding the Year 6 residential visit from 24th – 27th March 2024. For those who are unable to make the meeting, a powerpoint of information will be sent via the school APP.

SAPTA Christmas Fair – will take place on **Friday 8th December from 3.30pm - 5.30pm** where there will be a grotto, stalls, tombolas and refreshments for everyone to come along and enjoy. If anyone can help out with the preparations please email enquiries@st-austins.co.uk and we will forward your details to SAPTA.

BRAKE Road Safety week 20th to 24th November 2023 – Every year **Openreach** are one of the many sponsors of the **Brake** campaign who visit local communities and drive home the message on Road Safety. This year's theme is 'Speed'. On Monday 20th November you will see two members of the Openreach team outside our school with posters, whilst speaking to the children about this year's theme, and helping everyone to cross the road safely.



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Uniform – A reminder that all uniform should be labelled with your child's name. As we have new jumpers, all maroon, it will be difficult to identify missing items, especially school tracksuits. If items of clothing are not collected from school we will recycle them to less fortunate families in this current climate. Thank you for your cooperation.

Coats - as the cold weather is setting in could you please ensure that your child brings a coat into school every day.

End of term – School will close on Friday 22nd December for the half term break at 2.15pm.

Start of term – School will open again on Tuesday 9th January at 8.45am.

Dates for the diary

8 th Dec	SAPTA Christmas Fair 3.30pm
18 th Dec (PM)	Infant Christmas Play
19 th Dec (PM)	Infant Christmas Play
20 th Dec	Pupils Christmas dinner
21 st Dec	SAPTA Christmas party
21 st Dec	Christmas jumper day – further details to follow
22 nd Dec	School closes at 2.15pm
8 th Jan	INSET Day for staff training – school is closed for all pupils.
9 th Jan	Start of Term – school opens 8.45am

Kind regards,

Colette Hickey
Headteacher



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