

# NEWSLETTER

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As

Journeying Together to Learn, Live, and Laugh with the Love of

God



### 2023-2024 Issue Number 34 Friday 21st June 2024

### OUR VALUE THIS A message from Mrs Young Dear Parents and Carers, HALF TERM IS: Our Reception trip to Manchester Airport was a huge success on Tuesday and the TRUTHFULNESS children had a wonderful time! As did Year 4 on their trip to Liverpool on Thursday. always behaviour was excellent and the children were buzzing with excitement all day. We are currently reviewing our Gifts of Gold experiences for next academic year and may be making some tweaks and changes to experiences on offer. Watch this space! It's been exciting to continue working with the LFC Foundation this week and we thank Mr Moon for arranging this for us. Finally we are excited to announce class teachers for next year: Reception - Mrs Bibby Year 1 - Mrs Lister Year 2 - Mrs Bond Year 3 - Mrs Battersby Year 4 - TBC/Mrs Atherton (we are appointing a teacher next week to cover the class until the return of Mrs Atherton from maternity leave.) Year 5 - Miss McDonald Year 6 - Mr Moon Class teachers will let you know about support staff at Meet the Teacher meetings in September. We are excited to announce that Mrs Moore will be joining our leadership team on 1<sup>st</sup> July as our Pastoral and Safeguarding Manager. She will be around at the start and end of the day so please do say hello and she will write to you about the support she can offer you and your child in due course. Mrs Briers will assume the role of Acting Head of School as an interim measure next academic year. We will write to you with more information about school leadership and 'who to go to for what' to assist you in September. Many thanks Mrs Young

### **School Matters!**



Attendance	
Whole School	89.2%
Reception	80.4%
Year 1	92.7%
Year 2	91.0%
Year 3	93.2%
Year 4	92.6%
Year 5	83.3%
Year 6	90.4%









## **Attendance Update**

We need to try really hard each and every week to make sure every year group is beating our <u>97%</u> target this will help us to succeed!

Our attendance this week is:

94.4%





## Summer Attendance Competition

At St James we place huge importance on regular school attendance—the research speaks for itself and proves that those with the highest levels of attendance achieve great things!

We therefore now invite you to take part in our Summer 2 Attendance Challenge.

What do you need to do?



<u>How can you win?</u>

Come to school every day, and most importantly on time, between

Monday 3rd June and Friday 12th July

What can you win?

A mystery box of toys, games and arts and crafts to keep you busy over the Summer Holidays.

### New Attendance Guidance

We are making parents aware of new Government guidance regarding unauthorised absences which comes into effect from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

From this date, if your child has 5 school days (10 sessions) of unauthorised absence within a 10 week rolling period, it is likely that you will be issued with a fixed penalty notice.

If your child then has a 2<sup>nd</sup> period of unauthorised absence within 3 years and triggers another fixed penalty notice, this fine will increase. If your child has a 3<sup>rd</sup> period, this will likely result in a prosecution. We will be sending you official guidance from St Helens as soon as we receive it.



## Journey Driver Focus:

RECEPTION	Daniel Jakucionis
YEAR 1	Nate York
YEAR 2	Alice Slater
YEAR 3	Mason Cliffe
YEAR 4	Roman McCabe
YEAR 5	Tommy Davies
YEAR 6	Layla Hooper







Whole School events Summer 2

Date	Event
17/06/24	Refugee Week
18/06/24	Reception School Trip - Manchester Airport
20/06/24	Year 4 Trip - Liverpool Museum and Ferry Ride
21/06/24	World Music Day
26/06/24	Year 2 Trip - World of Glass
01/07/24	Outwood Academy Induction Day
02/07/24	Outlook Academy Induction Day
02/07/24	Reception vision Test
03/07/24	New Hope Charity Day
09/07/24	Sports Day - Times to be confirmed
12/07/24	Reception Assembly 9.00am
16/07/24	Reserve Sports Day
17/07/24	Year4 Swimming - Last Finishes
18/07/24	Year 6 Leavers Service - St James' Church 9.30am
19/07/24	Close Closes for Summer 2pm

TUESDAY 2nd July 4.30 - 7pm

## ST JAMES SCHOOL HALL

## MOVIE SHOWING THE MITCHELLS VS THE MACHINES

HOT DOGS, POPCORN, SWEETS, DRINKS AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THE NIGHT



### PE Days Summer 2

Monday	Year 5 and
	Year 6
Tuesday	Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4
Wednesday	Reception,
	Year 1, Year 3 and Year 6
	*Year 4
	swimming
Thursday	Year 5
Friday	Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5

## <u>Clubs</u>

We are running the following after school clubs this half term:

- Monday-Fun Fusion Club for Y1, Y2 and Y3 with the Sports Coach
- Wednesday-LFC Football Club for Girls for Y4, Y5 and Y6 with LFC
- Thursday-Nature Club for YR with Mrs Boardman
- Thursday-Build-a-Book Club for Y1 and
   Y2 with Miss Hunter
- **Thursday-** Football Club for Y4, Y5 and Y6 with Mr Moon and Mr Atherton

### LDST Fundraising Day 2024 New Hope School and Orphanage

On 3rd July, all LDST schools will be taking part in a 'Charity Day' to raise money for New Hope. This year we are hoping collectively to help raise money to provide some solar power facilities, to improve water supplies and to buy new furniture and resources. Every penny we raise helps so much!

With this in mind, on 3rd July, children are encouraged to come into school dressed in red, black or yellow (the colours of the Ugandan flag) for a minimum £1 donation. This can be paid via school money (£1 minimum up to a **maximum of your choice!).** 

Thanks for your support - we hope to make a real difference to the children's lives!

### **Safeguarding Tip of the Week**

### Knife Crime

This week our safeguarding focus is on knife crime. Knife crime is a crime involving a knife or any other sharp object. There were 49, 489 knife crime offences recorded in England in 2023. This was an increase on the previous year.

Some adults and young people decide to carry a knife because: it makes them feel tough; they believe it earns respect; for street credibility; or they believe it protects them from others. There are no good reasons for carrying a knife as a weapon and 7 out of 10 young people who end up in A and E with a knife injury have been stabbed with their own weapon. Carrying a knife actually puts you at a higher risk of being injured. While most young people will never carry a knife it is important that everyone understands the seriousness of the issue and how important it to tell someone if you know that a friend or someone you know is carrying one.

The following contact details enables young people to pass on information about crime 100% anonymously .

https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless



**0800 555 111** 100% anonymous. Always.



### National Online Safety Tip of the Week

### **Promoting Physical Well-being**

A recent Sport England study found that less than half (47%) of children in the UK currently meet the Chief Medical Officers' guidelines of taking part in an average of 60 minutes or more of sport and physical activity a day. While this figure may see a rise during the Euros, taking this chance to get children and young people engaged in regular exercise could cement the increase in a more permanent way.

However, it can be tricky to know where to start, or how best to encourage young people to stay active – so, our Wake up Wednesday guide is here to offer some tips. This week, we're sharing expert advice on how to promote exercise and the importance of physical wellbeing for the younger generation. Please see the following poster. At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators PROMOTING PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Physical activity isn't only beneficial for our bodies; it also plays a role in promoting mental wellbeing. With both the Euros and the Olympics this summer, it's an opportunity to engage young people in regular exercise which can reduce stress, improve mood and boost self-esteem. Despite these benefits, many children face barriers to participating in physical activity.

#### MAKE IT FUN

Incorporate activities that children enjoy, such as playing games or dancing. Encourage participation in team sports or group activities to foster social connections and a sense of belonging.

#### 2 MIX MOVEMENT WITH LEARNING

Educational settings can incorporate movement breaks and physical activities to enhance focus, concentration and cognitive function. Embedding exercise into the curriculum can also reinforce learning and stimulate creativity. 'Revision walks' with podcasts and flashcards can benefit older learners.

#### 3 CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

Provide clear chances for physical activity throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors. Schools can encourage active play during breaks and at lunchtimes, while limiting screen time at home can help keep children up and

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## PROVIDE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

Praise and encourage children for their efforts and achievements in physical activity. Recognise their progress and celebrate their successes to reinforce positive behaviours. Educators could do this in several ways, such as applauding their efforts at assemblies or celebrating their accomplishments in newsletters.

### 5 VARIETY IS KEY 🙀

Introduce a selection of physical activities to keep children engaged and prevent boredom. From swimming and cycling to yoga and martial arts, trying different types of exercise can help children to discover what they enjoy most.

#### **Meet Our Expert**

Adam Gillett is a learning and development specialist who, as well as working for Minds Ahead, is associate vice principal for personal development at a large secondary school in Barnsley. He was asked to be part of an expert research group for the Department for Education, one of only three school leaders to be asked to do so.

## 6 ENJOYMENT OVER COMPETITION

Encourage children to focus on the enjoyment of physical activity rather than winning or achieving perfection. Emphasise effort, improvement and having fun rather than outcomes, to minimise the amount of stress that children can sometimes associate with sports and other competitions.

### 7 SET REALISTIC GOALS

Help children set achievable physical activity targets based on their interests, abilities and preferences. Celebrate their progress and successes to maintain motivation and enthusiasm.

8 MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE

Ensure that children have access to safe, suitable spaces for exercise at home, at school and in the community. Advocate for inclusive environments which accommodate diverse needs and abilities. Be a change maker in your community if facilities aren't already available.

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### 🤊 LEAD BY EXAMPLE 😤 🤓

Parents and carers can be positive role models by prioritising their own exercise and involving children in their fitness routines. Centle walks, bike rides or sports activities can be wonderful opportunities for bonding and staying active together.

#### 10 ENCOURAGE PERSISTENCE

Help children develop resilience and perseverance by encouraging them to overcome challenges and setbacks in physical activity. Teach them the importance of perseverance and the value of effort in achieving their goals.



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# Mental Health Support Team WELLBEING WEBINARS



Your MHST is running a series of webinars one Friday a month on a number of topics relating to mental health and wellbeing.

## **TOPICS AND DATES**

- Worry Management 19 January
- Parenting for Anxiety 23 Febraury
- Low Mood 22 March
- Neurodiversity 26 April
- Parent Skills for Behaviour 17 May
- LGBTQ+ 21 June
- Emotional Regulation 19 July







To register please email which

webinar you want to attend to

## events@merseycare.nhs.uk

Webinars will be recorded. No chat function will be available for safety purposes.



### **Community food pantries**

Pantries operate as a member-led neighbourhood hub and are just like a shop, in that you choose the food you want from the shelves. Members pay a small subscription each week they visit, and in return can choose groceries worth many times more, often saving up to £1,000 a year on shopping bills.

How it works.:

Step one: Find your nearest pantry (you must live in the area in which it is based).

Step two: Go along and join on the day it is open, remembering it is open to everyone in that community.

Step three: Pay your £5 membership each time you visit. Sit and have a cuppa while you wait for your turn.

Step four: Choose your shopping, which will always be worth more than your weekly membership fee.

Step five: Tell your neighbours and get them to join too.

For more information please see https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/6987/Food



Food banks provide emergency food and compassionate, dignified support to people locked in crisis. There are 10 food banks available to residents in St Helens Borough, five of which are managed by The HOPE Centre charity in St Helens and require a voucher from a relevant local agency.

St James are registered with St Helens Foodbank and are able to issue Food Bank Vouchers (subject to conditions). If you feel like you are struggling to put food on the table, please contact Mrs Maloney, in the School Office, for more information. We can also provide long term support through Early Help which Mrs Briers and Mrs Conant organise.







IGELS

HOPE UNITED

Men and Women's football teams made up of refugees from the community, versus teams made up from councillors, council staff, volunteer sector, and other members of the community.

Food tasters from Café Laziz & Family Entertainment



refugeeresettlementservice@sthelens.gov.uk