

St Clare's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 08/09/2023



Dear Parents & Carers,

I'd like to warmly welcome everyone back to school for this new academic year. A special welcome to all our new families, we look forward to working with you and watching your children flourish here at St Clare's. I hope you all had a wonderful break over the summer, the children have been telling us about all the lovely experiences they've had and came back happy and ready to learn on Tuesday. I'm thrilled to say all classes including our wonderful new Reception children in Australia class have settled in beautifully.

You may have seen on the news concerns about the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) found in some schools; forcing them to close. Our school recently had an inspection from the diocese and no RAAC was found so I'm thrilled to confirm we are not affected.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Beattie, Mr Gates, Mr Varey and Miss Blythin to our staffing team. Mrs Beattie has worked at St Clare's in the past and has rejoined us as a TA in South America (Year Two). Mr Gates is also a returning member of staff having previously worked as a teacher here. He has returned in a different capacity as our Forest School teacher and is very excited to offer Forest School provision to all the pupils over the coming weeks and months. Mr Varey joins us from CEPD as our new Sports coach. He has a wealth of knowledge and skills with a particular passion for football. Again, Mr Varey will be working with all the children providing them with excellent PE. Miss Blythin joins us in Australia class as a 1:1 support assistant.

With school budgets needing to be stretched ever further, it is imperative that I inform you we already subsidise trips heavily and if parents don't make their contribution then there is a risk that trips will no longer be able to go ahead. This would be an incredible shame as the children benefit hugely from the enrichment trips we offer. If you are experiencing any financial difficulty or need to discuss a payment plan, please talk to the office.

If you think you may be entitled to Pupil Premium Free School Meals please make an application online at <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/free-school-meals> All Key Stage One children receive Universal Free School Meals, but being Pupil Premium entitles you to additional support including further reductions on parental contributions to trips.

As I mentioned previously, we have launched a Facebook page. Initially we set up a profile but by being our friend we can see everything you post, so to protect your privacy we have now set up a page 'St Clare's Lache'. We are in the process of gathering consent so we can upload photos of everyone to Facebook. Please Like and Follow the new page as I plan to unfriend you from our profile so we can no longer see your profiles or posts. We will continue to post to X (previously known as Twitter). A form has been sent to you via your School Spider account to give permission for your child to appear on our Facebook page.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend, enjoy the sunshine whilst you still can.

Mrs Ward

LCward

No Nuts

We have a child in school with a severe allergy to nuts. The allergy extends to airborne contact. So no nuts or nut based products like chocolate spread are to be brought into school. Thank you for your understanding.



Swimming



With the upcoming closure of Northgate arena for refurbishment, we have explored other swimming pools for lesson and they were proving very expensive. So, we have decided to hire our own pool which is arriving at the end of October. The pool will be on the KS1 playground and all pupils from Year 3,4 and 5 will still access their full swimming entitlement along with any Y6 non-swimmers.

Attendance

Congratulations to all pupils who have excellent attendance. Every second counts. We appreciate there are occasions when pupils have got to stay at home, however we continue to closely track and monitor attendance.

Absences

	Week Ending 08.09.23	Week Ending
Australia	100%	
Europe	97.4%	
South America	98.5%	
North America	96.8%	
Africa	95.1%	
Asia	97.3%	
Antarctica	94.5%	
Whole School	96.8%	

Please can you send through reasons for pupil absences through School Spider. This will be quicker for you. Please ensure that you notify school of any changes in contact details, as we need to be able to get in touch with you at all times.

External Gate

PLEASE CLOSE
THE GATE
BEHIND YOU
THANK YOU

When you are entering or exiting the school during the day, please can you ensure the gate closes securely behind you, until the magnet catches. This is especially important during break and lunch times when the children are playing in the playground

After School Clubs

After school clubs have now been uploaded to School Spider. Please complete which clubs your child would like to participate in by Monday 11th September at 2.00pm, after this date/time the choices will be removed from School Spider to allow the admin staff to make registers for each club, you will be informed via school spider if your child has a place in their chosen clubs.



If you have any outstanding payments then these must be cleared before your child can access any clubs.

Pantomime



Once again we have a fantastic opportunity for all the children of St Clare's to visit New Brighton's Floral Pavilion theatre to watch this year's Christmas pantomime production of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' ...Oh yes we do! Information will be sent out to you next week via School Spider.

School Calendar

Wed 13th Sept:	After School Clubs Start Africa (Year 4) to Tattenhall Residential Trip
Thur 14th Sept:	Parent meeting for Menai Residential (Asia)
Tue 19th Sept:	Academy Photography in School
Thurs 21st Sept:	Open evening at The Catholic High School
Mon 25th Sept:	Asia (Year 5) to Menai Residential Trip
Thur 28th Sept:	QPHS Open Evening
Mon 2nd Oct:	Year 5/6 Tutoring Starts 3.30pm (invited pupils)
Tue 17th Oct:	Parents Evening
Wed 18th Oct:	Parents Evening
Thur 19th Oct:	Last Day of half term
Fri 20th Oct:	INSET Day
Mon 30th Oct:	Return to school

*Our school calendar will be updated
with each newsletter*



Helmets

Please can I ask you to encourage your children to wear a helmet when travelling to school on a bike or scooter.



Forest School

Europe loved their first session exploring the forest with Mr Gates.

