



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

www.st-austins.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

4th December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

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.

John Pridmore – We wish to thank Fr David for organising a motivational speaker John Pridmore to speak to our Year 5 and Year 6 children today. We heard how his life of crime changed once he found God. Very inspirational.

Advent Mass at the Cathedral – Our RE ambassadors and Y6 children are looking forward the annual Advent Mass. As in previous year the children take a small gift and present this at the altar. These gifts are then distributed to children who are less fortunate.

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. For details about the admissions process please see the Local Authority link [Liverpool City Council Admissions](#)

We have now completed our three successful tours of our school. Our year 6 children have proved themselves, once again, to be true ambassadors showing prospective parents around and answering any questions posed. We have one last session which will be held on Tuesday 9th January – 4.30pm – 5.30pm for any parents who were unable to attend the daytime sessions.

Staffing – We are delighted to announce three new members to the St Austin's family. Miss Allen, Miss Sadiq, and Mrs Murphy who is doing a sterling job as our new lollipop lady. Welcome all!

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 via the ParentAPP 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 will be returning to school on Monday 11th December for a catch-up session for children who were not in school at the last session. 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.

Attendance & Punctuality – We have always prided ourselves in our fantastic attendance at St Austin's school. This term we have seen a dip, probably due to sickness at this time of year. However, we ask that you try your utmost not to book holidays in term time, as this contributes to our reduced attendance figure, which are now monitored by the Department for Education (DfE). Please only keep your child off school if they are genuinely too ill to attend. Thank you for your support with this.



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we will love and serve as Jesus taught”



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British Athletics Cross Country Challenge – Congratulations to Henry, Annie and Freddie who represented Liverpool at the Cross-Challenge event on Saturday 25th November 2023. They all ran a fantastic race and should be extremely proud of their achievements. Please check Twitter/X and the article in the next Christmas edition of “Our School” newspaper.

Kingswood Colomendy, Residential - Thank you to those parents who attended the information session after school on Thursday. For those parents who could not attend, the presentation can be found on Year 6 class pages on our website.

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.

Class Star Charts - The school council have devised a star chart system for all donations brought to school for the Christmas fair. The class counsellors will tally up the donations and complete the chart in KS1 hall. We appreciate all donations, no matter how small all go towards a successful Christmas Fair.

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.

Instagram - Alongside the launch of our new website next year, we will be moving from Twitter/X to Instagram. You can find us on Instagram at @StAustinsSchool - please give us a follow now, ready for 2024.

Community Christmas Dinner - We are looking forward to inviting our neighbours, governors and all those who help in our parish community and church to attend our annual Christmas lunch with a musical ensemble from our Y2 children and the choir to get us all in the Christmas spirit.

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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