



Newsletter: Friday 6th September 2024

It's been so good to welcome everyone to school this week after our summer break. Everyone looks so smart in their uniform and in school ready to learn. In the spirit of Pope Francis we have declared this a 'Year of Hope'. This is especially important given the awful events in Southport and around the country during the summer. We will continue to build a peaceful community and educate against hate. On Tuesday I set our challenge for the year ahead using Pope Francis' words: **So, my suggestion is this: each day, try to share a word of hope with others. Try to sow seeds of hope in the lives of your friends and everyone around you.**

The start of the school year is always so full of hope and looking forward to all the opportunities and experiences that will be on offer. We've been busy populating the school calendar for the term and will get dates out to you hopefully next week when they've all been double checked. Thank you for making the move over to the new communications app Teachers 2 Parents – hopefully this will be a far smoother way of keeping in touch with school.

Our Year 4 families will be starting their First Holy Communion journey next week with the first of the parent meetings. Please keep an eye out for communications from church and if you have any questions please contact one of the catechists or the Parish office on 7222231. Our extra-curricular clubs start next week, we are lucky that we have dedicated staff who work so hard to provide these opportunities for our children. Thanks to Mr Brady and Mrs Pyper for all their hard work with the administration of it all.

As soon as our Reception children start the next application cycle for school opens. If you are applying for a place in Reception or Year 7 for September 2025 the online applications are open <https://liverpool.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/how-to-apply/> Year 6 families your application must be in by 31st October and for starting in Reception it is the 15th January. We will be having open days for prospective families:

- Thursday 3rd October 2024 4:30pm – 6:30pm
- Thursday 7th November 2024 4:30pm – 6:30pm
- Thursday 9th January 2025 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Maple class helped Miss Douglas today in our Celebration of the Word about Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta. We certainly had lots of things to reflect on about how we can make a difference in the world. She said: "...We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop...." She also encourages us to do everything with great love!

There has been much in the news about the changes to the rules for attendance and the codes we use in school and the increases in fines for term time holidays and unauthorised absence. As a school we have a very good attendance and so many children are on or above the target of 97% year on year. Good attendance means that children are having all the experiences and learning in school that they need to leave us as well rounded individuals





ready for the next stage of their education. There will be times when children are not well enough to come to school. It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell – this website may help you out. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. There are circumstances when absences will be authorized, including illness however the DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be an exceptional circumstance. If you have any questions about attendance please contact myself or Mrs Pyper at school.

There will be the usual reminders about lost property throughout the year. I am sure – but if we could all start off with making sure that all items of clothing and equipment are marked with your child's name, it really does help in returning abandoned belongings to their owner. The warm weather means lots of jumpers and cardigans end up being removed.

We have been allocating all of our leadership roles in school this week – we have school council, eco monitors, young leaders, prayer leaders and so many more! We have also had our Year 6 children applying to be on our Junior Leadership Team, myself and Mr Heery have the pleasure of reading all the letters and we'll be arranging our interviews with the children next week! The letters are so full of pride in belonging to our community and have wonderful suggestions for the future!

The weather today has been so good and it always brings many more smiles – I hope that it continues over the weekend! Enjoy the next two days and we will see what next week will bring!

David Delaney
Head Teacher

