



A welcoming family of God.
Growing and achieving together with Jesus by our side.
"I am the vine, you are the branches".

Newsletter 3rd October 2025

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Congratulations to **Year 1** for **great** attendance this week 96.7%

132 pupils achieved 100% attendance this week – keep up the good work!!

School Target – 96%

School Attendance – **95%**

Lockdown Practice – All schools are now asked to complete regular lockdown practice as part of their health and safety procedures in the same way that they would practice fire drills and evacuations. We have already completed a speedy fire evacuation practice and have weekly "Friday Fire bell" practice. This week our school had a very successful lockdown practice in the guise of a World War 2 air raid, which is a current history topic for our year 6 pupils. We are very proud of how all the children participated – well done!!

Sponsored Spooky Sports fun event - Thursday 24th October

Following the success of our **Sponsored Spooky sports fun event last year for the whole school** — children can come to school dressed in spooky outfits to take part in our sponsored spooky sports event which will be timetabled throughout the day for each class. This event supports our commitment to improving the health of our pupils and enables pupils to have fun whilst working collaboratively to raise funds for school. **Pupils must wear suitable footwear: pumps or trainers and bring a water bottle.**



Gates will be open at 8.30am on 24th October for children to start an early walk and if family and younger siblings also want to join in – we will complete 10 laps of the playground at this time until 8.45am. (Costumes for parents are optional!!)

A copy of the sponsor form is attached, alternatively you can collect a form School.

Parents Evening – Wednesday 22nd October - This will be the first progress check in with your child's teacher and we encourage as many parents as possible to attend. Appointment letters will be sent home next week, please ensure you have requested your appointment times by Friday 10th October. If you would like to make an additional appointment with Mrs Brookes, please contact school to book in advance.

Online safety: We have been alerted to a Tik Tok group aimed at Y6 children which could contain children from different schools and potentially adults. Please remember to monitor how your child uses their phone. Many thanks to the vigilant parents who make us aware of these online dangers. As a reminder, children must be 13 yrs of age to have a Tik Tok account, therefore, I would not expect to see **any** of our pupils posting videos or comments on this social media platform.

Packed lunch/School Meals waste collections

The council are changing the way that school meals waste is collected and we have been informed that only hot dinner food will be allowed to be placed in the special bins from next week. We have always tried to encourage the children to bring their rubbish home from packed lunches so that it can be correctly recycled and you can see what they are/are not eating from what you provide. Inevitably, some items slip through the net, however, we will be insisting on the PL children bringing their rubbish home from next week. Please make this as simple as possible for your child by not over packing lunches with lots of plastic boxes and bags for different food items.

We have also been informed that all kinds of juice drink are now not "school approved drinks" for lunchtime and the choice of drink for school meals will be milk or water moving forward. This is a decision that has been made by the St Helens catering service taking inspiration from Public Health colleagues, and also from projects and pledges that have been implemented over recent years nationally, supported by Food Active – a healthy weight programme commissioned by local authority public health teams, NHS organisations, and Public Health England teams at both regional and national level.

Sweets in school: there are a growing number of children who are bringing small bags of sweets to school as part of their daily packed lunch. **Sweets are not allowed in school – we will be closely monitoring this over the next few weeks.**



NHS
flu: 5 reasons
to have the vaccine

- 1. Protect yourself**
The vaccine will help protect you against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect your family and friends**
Having the vaccine will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid lost opportunities**
If you get flu, you may be unwell for several days and not be able to do the things you enjoy

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Most children have the nasal spray vaccine which is the preferred vaccine. A vaccine option is also available which does not contain gelatine from pig/bovine gelatin.

Flu immunisation
Helping to protect your child from flu

Flu vaccinations

Please can we ask all parents to follow the link below and complete your Childs flu form with a consent or decline as soon as possible. You can either select the nasal spray for the best protection or the alternative injectable flu vaccination if required.

<https://econsent.merseycare.nhs.uk/>

If you require any further support, please contact the school Immunisation team on 0151 351 8805 who will be happy to help.

New approach to homework :

Reading

ALL year groups will be bringing a book home to read each week. Reading is the gateway to all other learning, and we ask for your support to encourage our screen loving children to immerse themselves in reading for at least 10 minutes every night. Junior children should be able to read at pace with increasing stamina and regular reading practice at home will be hugely beneficial. It is our aim to revamp our library during the next few months as it is a rich resource for the children to use for books for reading for pleasure. We will have a fluid system of borrowing and returning books one at a time so that there is no limit on how many books children read at home during the week.

Infant children will, of course continue to have a strong focus on phonic knowledge and will bring books home suitably matched to the sounds they know.

Online Sites such as TT Rock Stars and Spelling Shed help to build vital practice for basic skills and are strongly recommended for regular short bursts of learning at home. We will continue to monitor the regular use of these sites.

Independent Learning: We are going to be moving away from a traditional worksheet-based approach this year with the belief that more children will engage with independent home learning when it is rooted in their own interests.

We will be introducing opportunities for your child to engage in more detailed topic-based learning during the year, based on their interests and skills from across the curriculum and through a variety of different media.

All children will be encouraged to complete an open-ended project of their choice - preferable independently for older children and with some adult guidance for our KS1 children - before the end of each term (3 in total for the year as a minimum) and show the finished project in school. We will dedicate some of our Celebration assembly time to projects presented. These could be in the form of a written piece of work (story, poem, report, science experiment, historical research), a piece of music, media presentation, dance/sport, photos, pictures, historical artefact researched over time.

This of course is not an exhaustive list, and we look forward to celebrating the creative talents of our pupils!

We would greatly appreciate your feedback about this new way of working as the year goes on.

Year 4 Harvest Assembly – Tuesday 21st October at 9:15am, School Hall



We're excited to invite Y4 parents and carers to our Harvest Assembly on Tuesday 21st October at 9:15am (refreshments to follow). The children have been working hard to prepare songs, poems, artwork, and have been busy learning their lines to celebrate the season of giving and gratitude. We look forward to seeing you there for this special event! Please support our Church food bank by bringing any donations of long life food, i.e. tins, cans, pasta, rice, biscuits etc. Miss Thompson 😊

Ongoing Sessions

	7:50am to 9:50am	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Monday		Rugby - KS2
Tuesday		Choir practice
Wednesday		Cheerleading & Dance
Thursday		Fun & Fitness Years 1 & 2
Friday		

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 8 th October	Nurse drop-in	8:45am
	St Teresa's open Day	9:30-10:30am 3:30-4:30pm 6-7pm
Tuesday 21 st October	Harvest Assembly	9:15am School Hall
Wednesday 22 nd October	Parent's Evening	
Thursday 24 th October	Spooky Sponsored Walk	
Friday 24th October	School Closes – 3:15pm	

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

OPEN DAY 2025

Wednesday 8th October 2025

9:30am & 3:30pm & 6:00pm

Come and visit our welcoming, family-orientated school where children thrive within a nurturing and safe environment. As a "Good" school (Ofsted 2021), we pride ourselves on our rich and varied curriculum and range of learning experiences for all pupils. We look forward to welcoming you into our St Teresa's family.

Please call or email our school office to book onto our open day.

**01744 678667
stteresa@sthelens.org.uk**

Don't worry if you can't make this date. We would be more than happy to meet you and show you around at a time that is more convenient. Please ring the school to arrange.

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School
Devon Street
St Helens
WA10 4HX

Primary School

Admissions online portal opened on Monday 15th September and closes on Thursday 15th January 2026. Please use the following link to apply [Admissions](#) .