



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

## Newsletter 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

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**Joint winners this week for Reception & Year 5 – Congratulations** 🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉

**139 PUPILS** achieved 100% attendance this week – keep up the good work!!

School Target – **96%**

School Attendance – **94.5%**

Please read the important information at the end of the newsletter from Merseyside Police, Gov.UK, and Dental Support.

**Mrs 'V'** – This week we have said a fond farewell to Mrs Van den Bossche as she leaves us to spend more time with her family. Mrs V has provided much valued academic & pastoral support for our oldest children for the last 6 years and her presence around school will definitely be missed. Everyone at #TeamTeresa wish her all the best for the future.

**Student Teacher** – Miss Egan, who has been teaching our year 5 class leaves us today. She has fully immersed herself in school life at St Teresa's and we wish her the very best for her future career.

**Viking Day** - Year 5 have enjoyed a day living out the life of a Viking. During the morning, they explored Viking artefacts. In the afternoon they took part in a battle.



### **School Grid**

Further information regarding the changes to the school meals system has been sent today. The changes will come into effect from **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June**. Please look out for further information directly from School Grid.

**St Teresa's Movie Night** – What a great night was had at movie night. The children had lots of fun and we raised more funds for our playground. As you can see the playground is being updated with new and exciting things for the children each day.

Please keep your eye on our Facebook page for more updates.

**Sports Day – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025** – We will be holding the St Teresa's sports day on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Please ensure that the children have a full PE kit, pumps/trainers in school on the first day of term in case we need to change the day at short notice. Unfortunately, our playground facilities do not allow for spectators, but we will update the website with lots of photos and details of the winners

Ongoing Sessions		
	Morning	Afternoon
<b>Monday</b>		Choir practice (4:15pm)
		KS2 Girls football (4:15pm) - £2.50
<b>Tuesday</b>		Yr 5 Dance class (4:30pm)
		Cricket Club (4:15pm) KS2 - £2.50
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>		Sports Club Yr 6 (4:15pm) - £2.50
<b>Friday</b>		



We are writing to inform you about recent incidents involving young people engaging in anti-social behaviour within vacant buildings in St Helens. Activities such as trespassing, and lighting fires not only pose serious risks to their personal safety but also endanger the wider community.

In collaboration with Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service, we would be very grateful if you could reinforce the following safety advice with students and parents:

**Avoid Abandoned Buildings:** These locations may be structurally unsafe, contain hazardous materials, or present significant fire risks to children and young people.

**Fire Safety Awareness:** Setting fires in vacant buildings is extremely dangerous and can escalate rapidly, leading to life-threatening situations.

**Legal Consequences:** Trespassing / criminal damage and arson are criminal offences with legal repercussions.

**Emergency Response:** If students witness unsafe behaviour or suspect a fire risk, they should immediately call 999 and report it.

To ensure all families are aware of these dangers, we kindly request that you send out a notification to parents, reinforcing this guidance and encouraging them to speak with their children about the risks.

For additional fire safety advice, please refer to [Safety Advice | Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service](#).

If you have any information regarding individuals involved in recent fire-setting incidents, please contact Merseyside Police at 101 or submit a report online via [Home | Merseyside Police](#).

Alternatively, you can provide information anonymously by calling Crimestoppers at **0800 555 111**.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our community safe.



## Final phase of childcare expansion: get 30 hours childcare - apply now

From this September, 15 hours childcare for working families with children under 3 will expand to 30 hours, meaning eligible working families can now apply for 30 hours of childcare from the term after their child turns 9 months until they reach school age.

This expansion is designed to support your child's early education and help you better balance work and family life. It's the final phase of the childcare expansion, which could save families up to £7,500 per year. **Apply for your childcare code by 31 August** to start using the support from September

What you need to do:

[Check if you're eligible](#): Working parents in England may be entitled to up to 30 hours of childcare per week for children aged 9 months to school age, during term time (38 weeks per year).

- [Apply online via GOV.UK](#): If you're eligible, apply now for your childcare code - you'll need this to access your hours.
- **Apply by 31 August**: To start using your hours from 1 September, make sure you apply before the deadline.
- **Speak to your childcare provider**: Check that they offer the hours and confirm their arrangements.
- **Keep your code up to date**: you'll need to reconfirm your details every 3 months via your GOV.UK account.

You'll get a reminder when it's time. Already using 15 hours childcare for working families? You don't need to reapply for a new code. Simply continue to reconfirm your details every 3 months on your GOV.UK account and your existing code will update automatically to enable you to take up 30 hours from September.

For a step-by-step guide on how to apply, watch the video below with Early Years Educator, Steff, explaining the process:

[How to get help with the cost of childcare: government-funded support in England](#)  
[Get free childcare if you're working: Apply for free childcare - GOV.UK](#)



## Dental Support for Early Years children

We are thrilled to announce an upcoming event that promises to be both fun and beneficial for our community – the **Smile Squad**. This initiative is a collaborative effort between St Helens Family Hubs, the University of Liverpool School of Dentistry, and St Helens Wellbeing Service (CHCP), aimed at promoting early years oral health care. Can you please circulate and where possible support families attendance?

### Event Details:

- **Date:** Wednesday 4th June 2025
- **Time:** 10.00am to 2.00pm
- **Location:** Central Link Family Hub, Westfield Street (off Peter Street), St Helens WA10 1QF




**What will the Smile Squad team do?** A Smile Squad team member will conduct a brief oral health check for each child. This check will not replace the usual dental check-up, but it will help identify if further assessment is needed. We can also assist families who do not currently have a dentist. Our goal is to help ease children's dental anxiety and ensure they receive the care they need.

**Additional Activities:**

- Tips and tricks for maintaining healthy teeth and gums, provided by the Smile Squad team and St Helens Wellbeing Service (CHCP).
- Free samples of toothpaste and toothbrushes.
- Meet and greet with Croc-o-Smile and Captain Tuck, our friendly mascots.

**Why are we doing this?** Healthy teeth are essential for a child's well-being and development. Tooth decay and sore teeth are preventable, and we understand that accessing dental care can be challenging for some families. This event aims to bridge that gap and provide valuable resources and support.

**Contact Information:**

-  Email: [childrenscentres@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:childrenscentres@sthelens.gov.uk)
-  Call: 01744 673420
-  Text: 07761 045427