



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

Newsletter 6th September 2024

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Welcome Back!

It is with great pleasure we welcome back all our pupils for the new school year. Everyone looks extremely smart in their uniforms and have started the term very positively.

We would like to offer a warm welcome to all our Reception children who have attended school for the first time this week and our new members of staff, Mrs Keevil – Year 6 teacher, Miss McKeon – teaching assistant, Mrs Todd – teaching assistant & Mrs Walker – midday supervisor. #TeamTeresa

Can we please remind parents of the following:

- Jewellery and earrings of any kind are not allowed. If you are unable to remove studs from recently pierced ears they MUST be covered with plasters.
- Nail polish and make-up is not allowed.
- Long hair, both boys & girls, should be tied back with appropriate, small hair fastenings in school colours. No extreme hairstyles or hair extensions.
- Please clearly label ALL your child's uniform, including P.E. kit.
- Handbags are not suitable for school – Please ensure your child has a small appropriate bag for their schoolwork/ P.E. kit. Storage is limited and children with large bags will be asked to leave them at home.
- No nut products for snack or lunch. We are a NUT FREE SCHOOL due to children with severe allergies.
- If your child needs to bring their mobile phone, please collect a permission slip from the office. Mobiles should be handed to the office before registration and collected at the end of the day.
- If your child has any medical needs such as allergies or asthma, can you please contact the office to make sure that our records are up to date and that we have any relevant medications in school. If your child, no longer needs medication in school can you also let the office know.

At St Teresa's Catholic
Primary school we are...



This year we will be continuing with our core School Values and asking our pupils to be **READY** to learn be **RESPECTFUL** to everyone and be **SAFE** in school.

We appreciate your continued support in upholding these values and encouraging your child to do the same.

Meet the Staff – We have listened to your comments and suggestions and so this year, in order to encourage as many parents/carers as possible to attend, even if you have previously attended, we have made some changes.

Next week information will be sent home for each year group. This will be followed by a meet the teacher drop-in session between **3:15pm & 4pm on Wednesday 19th September**. Feedback from this event would be appreciated so we can continue to improve how we provide information.

All our teachers will be available to greet you and answer any questions you may have about day-to-day arrangements. There will be a further chance for you to speak in more depth on how your child has settled into the new school year during our parents evening at the end of October.

School Meals – School meals are available at the cost of £2.95 per day (£14.75 per week). If you would like your child to have a meal, please confirm at the office. Payment can be made via our SchoolMoney app. All infant children can receive a free school meal under the universal offer, however if you are eligible for benefit related free school meals you can apply anytime.

Please apply through the council website: [FSM CLAIM 3 \(sthelens.gov.uk\)](https://www.fsmclaim3.gov.uk), you can also collect a paper copy via the school office.

Breakfast Club/After School – Breakfast club is available from 7:50am to the start of school at the cost of £3 per session. After School Club is available from 3:15pm to 5:15pm at the cost of £5 per session. If you would like your child to attend, please collect a form from the office. Payment is made via the SchoolMoney app

Have you heard the news?

Rock Kidz is officially coming to school on the 10th of September to deliver the most exciting rock 'n' roll workshop in the UK! Throughout the school day they will be transforming the whole school into Rockstars and inspiring them to be the best they can be. Their experienced team will be teaching key messages such as self-esteem, anti-bullying, aspirations and inclusion through their unique Rock Kidz songs.

Children can come to school dressed as Rock stars

- please be mindful the children will be in their costume for the whole school day.



Attendance is everybody's business

As a school we encourage children to achieve good attendance in a manner of ways:

Punctuality Prize Draw – weekly

Class Trophy highest % attendance – weekly

Termly certificates & rewards

St Teresa's cannot authorise time off for family holidays during term time and parents do not have the right to take their child out of school for such holidays.

Parents **must** apply for leave of absence during term time in **all** instances. A form, to request in writing a leave of absence, is available from the school office or alternatively it can be requested via email.

Parents must apply to the Headteacher **at least 2 weeks before** the intended absence and provide necessary

evidence of the exceptional circumstance. The Headteacher will decide if the leave will be granted and how many days will be authorised.

Where the Headteacher does not grant an application for leave of absence and parents decide to take the leave anyway, the absence will be unauthorised, and the parents may receive a Penalty Notice Fine.

Penalty Notice Fines can be issued to each parent for each child concerned.

From the 2024 to 2025 school year, penalty notices are considered where there is an unauthorised absence of **10 sessions (5 school days) within a rolling 10-week period.**

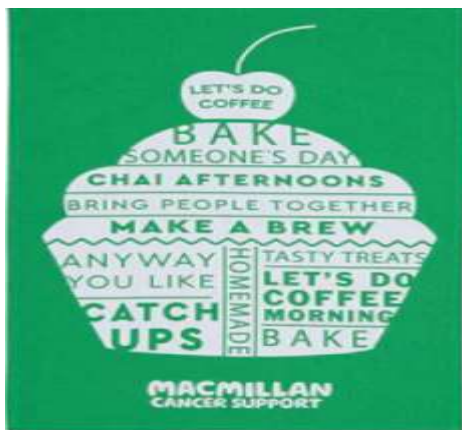
The local council can give each parent a fine of £80 per child, rising to £160 if you do not pay within 21 days. From the 2024 to 2025 school year, each parent will only get up to 2 fines for the same child in a 3-year period. If you get a second fine in 3 years, it will be £160. If you do not pay the fine in 28 days, you may be taken to court for keeping your child out of school.

If your child is off school 3 or more times within the 3 years you will not be fined but may be taken to court, where you could get a fine of up to £2,500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court could also give you a Parenting Order.

Term Dates for the school year are available on the school website - [Term Dates | St Teresa's Primary School \(st-teresas.st-helens.sch.uk\)](#)

Attendance Ladder





Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

27th September -2pm

In support of Macmillan, we will be hosting a cake sale and raffle in the school hall. Any donations of shop bought cakes will be gratefully received and can be brought to school the morning of the 27th.

We are pleased to be able to re-instate the infamous St Teresa's Bake-Off Competition, this is open to all ages. Please bring your entries, clearly marked with your name, to the school office on the morning of the 27th.

All families welcome to come along and support this great cause.

Official lines of Communication

Phone: 01744 678667

e-mail : stteresa@sthelens.org.uk

Twitter: @TeresaCatholic

Website: [St Teresa's Primary School \(st-teresas.st-helens.sch.uk\)](http://st-teresas.st-helens.sch.uk)

SchoolMoney: please download the app to your phone. Guidance on how to use the app is attached. If you are not receiving SchoolMoney communication, please contact the school office.

Teachers2Parents please download the app to your phone. Guidance on how to use the app is attached. If you are not receiving School Money communication, please contact the school office.

The school website will contain all information needed under your child's "class page".

Newsletters are sent weekly via Teachers2Parents, a paper copy will be available at the office if needed. They are also available on the school website, under Parent Information.

Extracurricular activity information will be sent by letter/Teachers2Parents.

The Office staff are always happy to help with any general queries.

Ongoing Sessions		
	7:50am to 9:50am	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Monday		Rugby Club – Yrs 3 &4
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		Sports Club Yrs 1 & 2
Friday		

Dates for Your Diary		
Tuesday 10 th September	ROCK KIDZ day	Whole School – dress up day
Thursday 19 th September	Unity Peace Garden Blessing	More details to follow
Friday 27 th September	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon	School Hall 3:15 – 4pm
Tuesday 15 th October	St Teresa's Feast Day	More details to follow
Thursday 24th October	School Closes – 3:15pm	