



ST. LEO'S AND SOUTHMEAD CATHOLIC NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL
 SERVING THE COMMUNITY
 LICKERS LANE
 WHISTON
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22nd May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you are all happy and well? Please would you read the following information, some of which contains dates for the future? Thank you.

Internet Safety

As you are aware the Internet can be an excellent resource to help learning, however it can also be a very dangerous tool. It is important that children are always supervised when using the internet for obvious reasons. We have helpful information for Parents on our school website about bullying, grooming and abuse. Please have a look. We **do not** allow children to have mobile phones in school in Years Nursery to Year 5 so please do not allow your child to bring one. If a child in these year groups is seen with a phone it will be taken and placed in the office for collection by an adult. This is to protect the Health and Safety of **all** of our children. We do not allow children in Year 6 to bring a phone to school unless we have a letter of request from his/her parent. If this is agreed the child **must** hand the phone to Miss Allen on **arrival** and can collect it from her at home time. Thank you for your cooperation with all the above, I am sure that you understand that we must protect the safety of **all** of the children.

Nursery Places

If you know of any young children (age 3) who do not attend a nursery please let their parents know that we have Nursery places available and would be happy for them to visit. Please encourage them to contact Mrs Clarke in the school office who will be happy to help. We offer five mornings or five afternoons.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the children in Year 4 who recently made their First Holy Communion. The Mass was lovely and the children were a credit to their families – well done children.

Friday 30th June – Traditional Board Games

On 30th June we will be teaching the children about Traditional Board Games. They are an excellent, fun way of teaching the children to count, problem solve, share and take turns. Computer games have taken over and the traditional games are not being used. On the day, if your children have traditional games, they can bring them into school –

E.g. Ludo, Snakes and Ladders, Frustration, Dominoes, Bingo, Lotto (number and words), Jigsaws, Scrabble or Monopoly etc.

All of the above help your child's learning. The children will research where, when and how the games were made. The children will also design their own traditional game to play.

The children are welcome to wear their own clothes on this day and for this we ask for £1.00 to raise money for school funds. I am sure that the children will have a great day.

General Election

I am not in any way trying to influence your political views but please, please go along and vote. The future of education is an investment not a cost and your vote will and does count. Children cannot vote for themselves and rely on us to speak for them. They are entitled to a fully funded education. Thank you.

Reception Class

Mrs Cassidy is currently absent from school as she is unwell. Please be assured that the children are still being taught the relevant curriculum and we are making sure that they are all happy and not unsettled. Miss Ryan is supporting the supply staff during Mrs Cassidy's absence.

Photographs, Certificates, Trophy's, Medals

If your child is involved in any clubs outside of school and wins an award of any kind, please would you allow us to take a photograph to display on our board in school? Thank you.

Elizabethan Fayre – Prescot – Saturday 3rd June

The ever-popular Elizabethan Fayre will return to Prescot on Saturday 3rd June, re-creating the town's famous Tudor Fayres and celebrating its wonderful heritage. Entertainment will have a distinctly Tudor feel with traditional craft demonstrations and hands-on workshops in pottery, willow making, candle making, calligraphy and wood turning. There will be exotic animals and native species for visitors to handle, including fox cubs, barn owls, lizards and guinea pigs – which were one of the favourite pets of the Elizabethan era. The ever-popular birds of prey demonstrations and circus skills workshops will also be back.

New for the first time will be a living history village, giving visitors the chance to immerse themselves in the everyday life of a Tudor village complete with blacksmith and apothecary.

There'll also be the chance to try out some archery with Now Strike Archery, the people behind the village. Visitors will enjoy performances by Mucky Mountains Morris dancers and there will be the chance to have a go at this traditional dance. There will also be Tudor dancing and visitors can try out these steps too!

In honour of Shakespeare there will be short, family-friendly 'pop up' performances of 'Romeo and Juliet' by MATE productions. They will go on to perform a complete outdoor production of 'The

Tempest' in the church's woodland garden on Saturday 10th, Sunday 11th June and Saturday 15th July.

The popular bell tower tours of Prescot Parish Church will again be on offer and, new this year, tours of Prescot Church and Cemetery. The Fayre will take place in and around Prescot Town Centre, Eccleston Street and Prescot Parish Church on Church Street from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Support for struggling families in Knowsley

As a family, are you finding it hard to manage at home, worried about your future or losing your home? Is this making your children feel anxious and unhappy, or are they struggling at school? Do you need support with practical issues, such as housing problems, your benefits or paying the bills?

We are here to help.

Our free service is able to offer long-term support to all the family. We can give you practical and emotional support, and we work closely with other local agencies to enable you to manage in your home and reduce the risk of your family becoming homeless.

Shelter Knowsley provides support to families who feel vulnerable, may have been homeless before, and have difficulty managing at home. Our staff are professional support workers who know that being homeless or threatened with losing your home is very difficult for the whole family. Call us on **0344 515 1570**.

Free Child Care for Working Parents

If you are a working parent and need full child care the Child Care Service System has also now gone live for parents with children up to the age of 4. This means that parents wishing to access the 30 hours free childcare entitlement from September, will now be able to apply using the system. Here is a link to the online Childcare Service:

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/ul/par/app/applynow> We are working in partnership with Little Treasures.

Attendance

It is wonderful that we have so many children who have achieved 100% attendance this term, huge congratulations to all of them, it is a fantastic achievement. Please can I remind you that I am not allowed to authorise any request for holidays.

Geography Week – Monday 12th June – Friday 16th June

The children will all be learning geographical skills throughout this week. There is information on our website about the topics that each class will be doing. The children enjoy looking at maps, world globes and an atlas to find where countries, cities, rivers and oceans are located. It can be a fun game to play at home with your child. The teachers will provide more information to the children in their class about what they will be doing in Geography Week.

Information Meeting for Parents of children starting Reception in September

There will be an information meeting on Wednesday 5th July at 2 O'clock in the school hall. We very much look forward to seeing you. (Letters will be sent out soon.)

Whit holiday

School closes on Friday 26th May at 3.15 p.m.

School opens on Monday 12th June.

I hope that you have the opportunity to spend some quality time with your children.

Please may I take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do? Thank you for your encouragement and support, your children are fantastic.

A very happy, proud Headteacher

Mrs J Grundy

Security

As you are aware it has been reported in the news that an attempted abduction was made of a child on her way to school. It is our school policy that all children in Nursery to Year 5 must be brought to school and collected from school by an adult (over 18). Thank you.