



# Aintree Davenhill Primary School Newsletter

Friday 18  
October  
2024

## TT Rock Stars Tournament

A huge well done to everybody who took part in last week's TT Rock Stars tournament. After a great week of times tables, Year 5 and 6 were the overall victors. Here are the top three performers for the whole competition. Congratulations Callum, Dylan and Maisie!



## Dates for the diary...

### October

#### Friday 25th

ZOE's Place  
NON UNIFORM DAY  
School finishes 3:15

#### W/c Monday 28th

HALF TERM

#### Thursday 31st

National Closing Date for  
Secondary school  
applications

### November

#### Friday 8th

Matt Oldfield Author Visit

#### Monday 11th

Parents Evening

#### Tuesday 12th

Parents Evening

#### Wednesday 13th

Parents Evening

## Changes to Contacting Class Teachers

I am concerned about the sheer volume of messages from parents via ClassDojo that teachers are expected to respond to on a daily basis. Despite our requests, teachers are still receiving these messages during the evenings and at weekends. As a result of this, **after half-term**, we are making some changes with regards to how parents contact class teachers.

- 1) If you need to discuss a concern about your child or an incident that has happened in school, please speak to the teacher in person or call the school office to request a phone call conversation, or to arrange a meeting with the class teacher.

Teachers will no longer respond to messages about these matters via ClassDojo.

- 2) Teachers will not respond to any messages that they receive after 5:00pm until the next school day.

## Reading

*"Books are a uniquely portable magic."*

*Stephen King*



One of the most important gifts we can give our children is to help them learn to read, thereby ensuring their success in school and beyond. Confident, active readers possess the ability to utilise their reading skills to explore their passions and satisfy their curiosity about the world. Reading serves various purposes: it entertains, inspires imaginative journeys, fosters connections with others, enables the acquisition of new skills, and enhances knowledge across diverse subjects such as history, science, and the arts.

The journey of becoming a proficient reader is complex. Children do not learn reading-related skills in a linear fashion; rather, they develop multiple competencies concurrently. These include decoding, achieving fluent reading, expanding their vocabulary, comprehending texts, and embracing the inherent joy of reading, which enriches their understanding of the world.

To maximise progress in reading, a collaborative approach between home and school is essential. Any support you provide will significantly contribute to your child's reading advancement. We are proud to implement various initiatives within our school to motivate our children to engage earnestly with their reading, both in the classroom and at home. Your involvement is invaluable in this essential aspect of their education.

### **Reader of the Week**

Again, this year, we continue to emphasise the significance of home reading in fostering a love for literature and enhancing literacy skills. We are excited to announce that we will be selecting a 'Reader of the Week' across all classes. Each week, one child will be celebrated as a 'Star Reader' for their dedication to reading. This recognition will be awarded during our Key Stage Celebration assembly, with Reception children earning their accolades in their Class Celebration.

In Nursery, Reception, and Years 1 and 2, the 'Star Reader' will also receive a reading reward selected by their class teacher, which may include a reading teddy or a prize from the class prize box. We encourage you to ask your child about their reward each week!

For children in Years 3 to 6, we have introduced a selection of 'reward coupons' alongside their certificates. Options include an extra playtime with friends, helping out in Nursery, or selecting a prize from the prize box. Encourage your child to engage with reading at home, as it is integral to their ongoing development.

### **Home Reading Challenge**

We would like to emphasise the significance of home reading as part of our educational ethos. Each week, we encourage you to read with your child at least three times. This collaborative effort not only enhances their literacy skills but also fosters a love of reading. Our Home Reading Challenge rewards children for their commitment; the class that reads the most at home will enjoy 'Books and Biscuits' in the school library or on the book bus.

Thank you for your continued support.



## Amazing Achievements

We are thrilled to share some fantastic news about one of our pupils, Reuben, who is truly making waves in the world of golf! As a proud member of the West Derby Golf Club Junior Section, Reuben recently attended a presentation evening where he was celebrated for his remarkable achievements over the past year.

Amongst a number of accolades, he received the prestigious Order of Merit Trophy, having scored the highest points across qualifying events for the entire Junior Academy. His impressive haul also includes the Junior Masters Trophy, the Honourary Life Trophy, and the Junior Captain Trophy. As an added honour, Reuben's name is now engraved on the shields that will grace the cabinets at West Derby Golf Club for years to come.

In August, he showcased his talent by finishing in 3rd place at the European Junior Golf Tour held at Wigan Golf Club. Reuben is out on the course most weekends, and he is also a member of the Formby Hall Golf Club Junior Section and the esteemed Tommy Fleetwood Academy. His collection of medals and awards has continued to grow over the last year, and we are especially proud to announce his invitation to compete in the 2025 World Championship in Ireland next July, where he will engage in thrilling competition with junior golfers from over 40 countries hopeful for the title of Champion of Champions.

Reuben's hard work and tenacious attitude has led to these incredible successes after just a year of being part of the golf clubs and academy. We cannot wait to see what next year brings!



## House Team Competition

This week, the winning team was **VALLEY!** Well done!



1. **VALLEY**(2542 points)
2. **ABBEY**(2503 points)
3. **ROSE**(2475 points)
4. **MILL**(2312 points)



## Cross Country

A huge congratulation to all runners who took part in this week's Cross Country event at Merchant Taylor's playing fields. Despite the wind and rain, everybody got around the course and should be proud of their performance. A special mention to Jake in Year 5 who managed to finish 3rd overall in his race, holding off some stiff competition.



## Boys' Football

Aintree Davenhill boys were lucky enough to take part in a MADCOS league match last week. The game was against St Thomas's Primary. The boys played well in a scrappy first half, which ended with Aintree Davenhill, leading 2-0. The second half began well with some excellent passing and much improved movement around the pitch. The game ended with a 5-0 win to Aintree Davenhill. A big thank you to the boys and parents for your ongoing support!



## Home Reading Challenge

This week, **2M** won our Home Reading Challenge! Well done!

Please hear your child read as often as you possibly can.



## Non-uniform Day to Raise Funds to Save Zoe's Place



Zoe's Place has been providing palliative and end-of-life care to children up to five-years-old in Liverpool for more than 30 years, but unfortunately after failing to secure funds for a new £3.5 million hospice trustees announced it would close for good at the end of 2024.

**We want to play our part in helping to save the hospice so on Friday 25 October 2024, we will be having a non-uniform day to raise funds for Zoe's Place.**

Children are able to wear their own clothes (appropriate shoes for playtimes, please) and we would ask parents if they are able to donate to Zoe's Place via the link: [Donate - Zoë's Place Baby Hospice \(zoes-place.org.uk\)](https://zoes-place.org.uk)

Well done to Grace in 5B who has raised £200.00 for Zoe's Place. It is lovely to see how community-minded the children at Aintree Davenhill are!

## Parents' Evening - 11 and 13 November 2024

You should have received a letter about Parents' Evening which will be held on Monday 11 and Wednesday 13 November from 3:30-6:15pm. If you haven't done so already, please make sure that you contact your child's class teacher for an appointment time. It is vital that teachers are able to speak every parent about their child's attendance and progress this term.

## Shoe Appeal

We are collecting **flat black school shoes in all sizes, in reasonable condition**. They will be taken by a party of Ormskirk Rotary Club members to Uganda to be reused by some of the 1500 orphaned, homeless or destitute children in the care of the Molly and Paul Childcare Foundation living in Kamuzinda Children's Village. If you can help, please send in shoes by Wednesday 15 January 2024.

We will not be able to accept them after that date. Thank you.

## Team Around the School

Janie Cowley, an Early Help Worker and Denise Higgins, a qualified social worker, will be in school every Wednesday. If any parents would like to drop in and ask for any help or support, Janie and Denise would be more than happy to speak to you. If anyone would prefer to speak to Denise via a phone call, her work number is 07816116160 and her working hours are 9:00-5:00.

## Contact Information

Please remember to update school if you have a change of address, change of telephone number, change of email address, or if any of your children's emergency contact details have changed. Any changes can be emailed into [admin.aintreedavenhill@schools.sefton.gov.uk](mailto:admin.aintreedavenhill@schools.sefton.gov.uk) or alternatively please advise school office through ClassDojo.

It is essential we hold the most up to date information for your child in case of an emergency.

## Litter on the Playground and Around the School Site

The School Council and the Eco Council have been working hard to ensure that our school is free from litter. Through our monitoring of the litter dropped in school, the children feel that this doesn't happen often during school time but at the start and end of the school day. We would ask you all to help us with this by encouraging your child/ren to dispose of litter from home time snacks in the bins provided or to take home the wrappers with you.

Thank you for your support with this!



## Year 6 Secondary Admissions Applications

For all children in Year 6, it is now time for parents and carers to apply for their child's place at secondary school for Year 7 2025 entry. Parents and carers who live in the Sefton area must make the application online using the Citizen Portal (Sefton's online application facility).

**The national closing date for secondary school applications is 31 October 2024.**

Parents and carers living outside of Sefton will need to apply for a secondary school place for your child via the local authority in which you live.

You should have received a letter via school containing more detailed information.

## Starting Primary School in September 2025

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

For all children in Nursery it is now time for parents and carers to apply for their child's place at Primary School for Reception 2025. You **MUST** apply through your home Local Authority regardless of where the school you are applying for is located. As long as you live within Sefton, you apply through Sefton even if your preferred school(s) is outside of Sefton.

**Closing date for applications to start Primary School is 15 January 2025.**

**If you do not live within the Sefton area you must apply through your home Local Authority for a Sefton school.**

## Aintree Davenhill Primary School Attendance

Average school attendance for **14 Oct 2024 — 18 Oct 2024** was **96.1%**. Our school target is **96.5%**

