



Newsletter

Friday 26th September 2025

Meet the Teacher Sessions

It has been lovely to see so many parents 'dropping in' to our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions after school over the last few weeks. I know that school staff have really enjoyed meeting you all and having the chance to speak to you about any of your queries. Thank you!

It's hard to believe that we are half-way through this half-term already - the weeks seem to be flying by. The children have settled well and they have benefited from all the arrangements staff have put in place to help them navigate the experience of the transition to a new class. Our older children have been a fantastic help to some of our younger children in school which has been lovely to see.

We are spending time this half-term reviewing our school values. Over the last two weeks, we have been looking at determination (the importance of having a good attitude and not giving up), and respect (respect for ourselves, for others and for property). We would really appreciate you speaking to your children at home about these values too!

Dates for the diary...



02nd October 2025 - Pupil Choice Menu

10th October 2025 - Hello Yellow Day

31st October 2025 - Secondary school admissions closing date.

13th November 2025 - Flu Immunisations

Important Reminders

Children should have a pair of trainers to wear when playing games outdoors and a pair of pumps for indoor use. A pair of pumps and a pair of shorts should be left in school for children to wear for their gymnastics lessons. Children are able to come into school in their P.E kit of trainers and tracksuit bottoms but they are not able to wear these items when using the gym equipment so need shorts and pumps in school. Pumps cannot be worn outside as this damages the grip needed for gymnastics.

P.E Kit:

Black shorts

Black plain tracksuit

Plain white t-shirt

Plain black slip on pumps (for indoor use)

Trainers (for outdoor use)

It is important that if the children are wearing their tracksuit or shorts for P.E lessons they should be plain black. There should not be any images, logos or stripes. Leggings are not part of our P.E uniform, children should wear a tracksuit.

Long Hair

Long hair should be tied back for school. For safety reasons in P.E lessons, it is essential that long hair is tied back.

Make-up and Nail Varnish

Children should not wear any make-up for school and will be given a facial wipe to remove it if they do. Nail varnish shouldn't be worn for school and children are not allowed to come to school wearing acrylic or artificial nails.

Earrings

Children should wear small stud earrings. Again for safety reasons, we ask that earrings are not worn on days that the children have P.E lessons (this includes swimming sessions). If children forget, they will be asked to remove the earrings. If they are unable to remove the earrings independently, then unfortunately they will not be able to take part in the P.E lesson.

School Shoes

School shoes should be black sensible shoes or black trainers.

House Team Competition

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



1. **ABBY** (4232 points)
2. **MILL** (4091 points)
3. **ROSE** (4007 points)
4. **VALLEY** (3980 points)



Are You Missing Out?

Our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to a free school meal regardless of their family's income, however by registering for means tested free school meals, if your child is eligible, school will receive additional funding from the 'pupil premium' grant. This enables us to offer;

- targeted additional support for an aspect of their learning
- free places at our Breakfast Club
- free school jumpers or cardigans
- support to pay for school trips
- support to pay for your child to be included in after school activities that have a fee

If you think you may be entitled to means tested free school meals please contact your local authority.

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/schools-learning/grants-and-funding/free-school-meals/>

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/free-school-meals/>

<https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/education-and-schools/financial-support/free-school-meals>



Early Years School Tours

We are holding a number of early years school tours for September 2026 Nursery and Reception applicants.

Thursday 9th October 2025 10:15 am

Thursday 27th November 2025 10:15am

Wednesday 7th January 2026 2:30pm

If you would like to book onto a tour please contact the school office on 0151 5261162 or by email admin.aintreedavenhill@schools.sefton.gov.uk

We look forward to welcoming you and showing you our wonderful school.

Community Park Project

Dear Children,

We are very excited to let you know about a special community project happening in your area! The project is all about improving the local play area (Harrow Drive Park), making it an even better place for you and your friends to enjoy.

We would love to hear your ideas about what you think would make the park more fun, safer, and even more exciting. To take part, we are asking you to create a drawing that shows the improvements you would like to see. This could be new equipment, colourful designs, or anything else you think would make the play area amazing. Maybe you could think about the environment and sustainability too!

Once all the drawings have been collected, they will be looked at carefully and shared with the project team. Your ideas will help us decide what changes to make. This scheme has already worked really well in other local areas, and the children's ideas have made a big difference.

If you would like to join in, please complete your drawing and hand it in to Mrs Martin or Mrs Bannon, by Friday 17th October 2025.

We can't wait to see your creative ideas!

Thank you for helping us to make our park the best it can be.

Stay Safe Project

Year 5 and 6 will be participating in a Stay Safe Project session during the afternoon of Tuesday 7 October (Year 6) and Friday 10 October (Year 5).

The Stay Safe Project is focused on educating young people on ways in which they can stay safe in their community. During the session they will look at 5 steps to stay safe:

1. Stick together
2. Keep to the plan
3. Stay aware
4. Be assertive and
5. Know your get outs.

There will be open discussions in relation to each of these steps and the children will be taught what each of these mean through different interactive activities.

We hope that these sessions will be beneficial to the children.



Hello Yellow Day



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our school will be taking part in Hello Yellow on Friday 10th October 2025 (World Mental Health Day) to raise awareness of young people's mental health and to support the important message shared by YoungMinds, the UK's leading charity for young people's mental health. No young person should feel alone with their mental health – and that's why Hello Yellow matters.

We're taking this opportunity as a school community to come together and show our children that they are not alone and that we are here to support them.

On the day:

- Children are invited to come into school wearing something yellow or their own bright, colourful clothes.
- Morning lessons (Phonics, English, Maths) will continue as usual, so the children benefit from routine and structure.
- In the afternoon, we'll enjoy a "Pens Down" wellbeing session, with a strong focus on speaking, listening, mindfulness, and creative activities.
- Activities will include outdoor walks (weather permitting), collaborative class activities, mindfulness techniques, and a whole-school doodling activity.

Most importantly, we would also like to highlight the support available from YoungMinds for parents and carers, should you ever need advice or reassurance:

- Online resources: www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/
- Free Parent Helpline: 0808 802 5544 (open 9.30am–4pm)
- Online chat service to speak with trained professionals if you are concerned about your child's mental health: www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline/

Thank you for supporting this important day - together we can help make sure no young person feels alone with their mental health.

Best wishes,

Mr Agar

PSHE and Oracy Lead

Home-School Partnership

We know how important it is to work closely with you as parents as we know how much of a difference it can make to the children's educational outcomes.

We value you sharing any information about your child that will help us to support them in school - we want them to feel happy and safe. We are also happy to discuss any concerns that you have about any of our procedures or our approach.

We would ask that you do come and speak to us in these instances as a face to face conversation or a phone call provides the opportunity for us to ask questions in order to find out further information that might be needed. ClassDojo messages are great for sending quick messages but not for matters that need far more information.

We understand that you will be concerned if your child comes home from school upset - this is something we would not want to happen, and we will make every effort to investigate your concerns and try to resolve them as quickly as possible.

We ask that you speak respectfully to the member of staff at school who is trying to help you without shouting at them.

MADCOS (Maghull and District Cluster of Primary and High Schools) Code of Conduct
MADCOS has created a Code of Conduct that we are asking all parents of children attending MADCOS schools to support and adhere to. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with it.

Let's work together for the good of our children!



Harvest Assemblies

Our Harvest assemblies will take place on Friday 17 October 2025. On the day of the assemblies, it would be great if the children could bring in some items of food that we will send to the South Sefton Food Bank. We are aware that they are short of tinned rice pudding, tinned potatoes and bottles of diet cordials.



Cross Country

We had roughly 40 children attend the first Sefton Schools' Cross-Country race at Litherland Sports Park last Tuesday.

All children performed brilliantly with so much determination on show.



It was brilliant to see our Year 4 children out in force for their first experience of school cross country.

Thanks to all of the parents for taking your children.



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors 2025-26

Our team of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (ABAs) have already been hard at work this school year to develop their role by taking part in Peer Mentor Training. This year's team is made up of continuing and new Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

During the training session, the children had the opportunity to learn about how they can support their peers in their role as an Anti-Bullying Ambassador. They explored and discussed the qualities of a Peer Mentor including being a good listener and trying to understand the feelings of others. They also learnt how to keep themselves safe as a Peer Mentor by talking to each other, seeking advice from trusted adults and not promising to keep any secrets that someone may have shared with them. They are all keen to develop in their role and we certainly have the foundations of a strong team! They were respectful to each other and open and honest with their thoughts and ideas throughout the training. We will continue to meet each half term for training and to plan opportunities to promote our anti-bullying messages across school.

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have promised to:

- Be passionate and committed about stopping bullying in our school
- Know what bullying is and what type of behaviour is and isn't bullying
- Work with their peers and staff to stop bullying in our school
- Be kind, empathetic, a good listener and support their peers
- Help to run events in our school to raise awareness of bullying and promote kindness
- Celebrate the things that make you and others special and unique
- Keep everyone up to date with all of the brilliant Anti-Bullying work that the school does.



Over the coming weeks, the ABAs will take on their first official role supporting the KS1 children on the infant playground during morning and lunchtime breaks. Miss Taylor will introduce them to the KS1 children during an assembly and explain that there will be three ABAs out on the playground each playtime to support them during play. After half term, the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will participate in some Play Leader Training with Active Sefton to further support them with this part of their role. We're looking forward to seeing our newly formed team of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors develop over the course of the year!

Snack and Packed Lunch Reminders

As part of our ongoing commitment to being a 'healthy school', we would just like to remind you that at break times, the following snacks are permitted:

- Fruit
- Veg
- Cereal bars
- Crackers, rice cakes etc.
- Yoghurt (e.g. frubes etc.)

We ask that you avoid giving your child crisps, pastries, chocolate covered items, etc. during break times.

Packed lunches should also not contain any sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks. Such snacks can have a detrimental effect on children's focus throughout the day. We suggest a biscuit/small cake as a treat in packed lunches. We are a 'nut aware' school and so would ask that children do not bring to school any food that contains nuts as children within our school can have a severe allergic reaction even to indirect contact with nuts.

As part of our weekly PSHE lessons, we work hard on teaching the children about good nutrition and a healthy, balanced diet. We ensure the children are aware that such treats are fine on occasion, however, staff have become increasingly concerned by the amount of less healthy snacks that are being consumed on a daily basis on the playground and in the lunchroom.

We appreciate your ongoing support. If you have any queries or concerns, please speak directly with your class teacher.

Sefton Social Care Advice Line for SEND

In recognition that families of children and young people with complex needs and special educational needs often need a bit more support, Sefton has launched a Social Care Advice Line for SEND.

This advice line is staffed by two experienced social workers with a good knowledge of the Local Offer in Sefton. Parents are invited to use this phone number to find out more about what a Social Care assessment for a child entails to help families make an informed decision before approaching Social Care, and to talk about what other help might be available. Voicemails will be responded to within 7 days at which point the social worker will return the call for a discussion.

The telephone number for our Social Care Advice Line for SEND is 0151 934 2196.

The social workers will not create a referral or record any family details when families ring for advice using this phone number.

All referrals for social care assessment or concerns about a child should continue to be referred through our Integrated Front Door. Please note, this number is not the contact number for the duty social worker in our Children with Complex Needs service and should not be used for this purpose.

Flu Immunisations

We have received some initial information about the NHS Nursery and Primary School Based Flu Immunisations this year (Nursery-Year 6).

The immunisations will take place on Thursday 13 November 2025.

You will be sent more detailed information and an e-consent form. If you are unable to access this e-consent form, please ask the school office for a paper copy.

Parents are advised to complete the online consent forms even if they don't wish for their child to be vaccinated.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT PARENTS MUST CONTACT THE IMMUNISATION TEAM REGARDING ANY QUERIES. All communication must be to the team and not to school as they hold all the relevant information. The Helpline number is 0151 247 6130.

If you change your mind about your child having the flu immunisation having submitted the consent form, you must contact the team directly before Thursday 13 November 2025.

Home Reading

We would ask for your help with your child's reading. It is so important that all of our children continue to practise to read regularly. Whilst adults in school make every effort to hear the children read, we are not able to do this as often as we would like and so we would ask that you hear your child read at home at least three times a week.

Team Around the School

Janie Cowley, an Early Help Worker, and Bryony McIntyre, a social worker, will be in school every Wednesday. If any parents would like to drop in and ask for any help or support, they would be more than happy to speak to you. If you would like to call them instead, their work numbers are below:

Janie Cowley - 07815645471

Bryony McIntyre - 07967334387

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 2026 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 2025.



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.