



Newsletter

Friday 11th November 2025

Welcome Back!

We made a good return to school after the half-term holiday, and it's great to see how well the children have settled back in! Staff have enjoyed hearing all about their adventures and experiences over the holiday.

This half-term, our focus remains on being **READY, RESPECTFUL** and **SAFE** while embracing our values of respect, excellence, determination, equality, friendship, and courage. We are dedicated to ensuring each child understands and demonstrates these values.

We recognise that this half-term can be rather busy, but let's not forget the excitement it brings! With various activities lined up, we're looking forward to creating even more memories together. Here's to a productive and enjoyable half-term ahead!



Dates for the diary...

18th November 2025 – School Photograph Day

27th November 2025 – School Nursery/Reception Tour

(10:15am). Please contact the office if you wish to book on.

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** (5209 points)

2. **MILL** (5015 points)

3. **ROSE** (4961 points)

4. **VALLEY** (4779 points)



⚽ Football ⚽

Congratulations to our football team who made it 5 out of 5 wins with a 3-2 league win over St George's Primary School on Tuesday night.

After being in control at 3-0, the team were pegged back with two quick goals. They showed excellent grit and determination to regain control of the game and showed the team work required to support each other towards securing the victory.

As always, our team represented us perfectly with the correct attitude to playing fairly throughout. Thank you to the parents and families for your support especially when it got a little nervy towards the end.



Attendance Matters

Our attendance last school year was well below our school attendance target of 96.5% and was at the national average for 2024-25. Whilst we know that illnesses impacted attendance last year, we were really concerned by the number of holiday requests we received and the number of absences that were referred to the Sefton Attendance Support Service for fining.

We are expected to follow Sefton's procedures for issuing penalty notices for holidays. As a school, we do not benefit in any way from holiday fines; the impact on school is the extra work it creates for members of staff processing referrals to the Attendance Support Service.

Please be aware that Sefton expect parents to make an absence request from the headteacher, at least 20 days prior to the holiday being taken.

If your child is absent from school, it is important that you keep in touch with us on a daily basis via a phone call to the school office. A reason for absence should always be provided when your child does not attend school.

Being ill should not be a reason given when your child is absent for a holiday. It puts the children under pressure when they return to school after having been away and it's unfair to other parents who inform school about a holiday and receive a fine.

We make regular contact with the parents of children who are absent, and if we are unable to make contact with a parent then we may make a home visit or ask our Team Around the School worker or our Attendance Officer to visit on our behalf. If we believe that children are absent due to a holiday, we will refer it to the Sefton Attendance Support Service. It is up to parents to provide the evidence that a holiday wasn't taken at this time.

Please do not book holidays during term time – we really need your support with this.

If you are unsure whether your child should attend school when they may be ill in some way, the information found from the link below may be of help to you.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Punctuality is also extremely important. Did you know that Reception and KS1 children have their phonics lessons at 9:15am every day? These sessions are crucial in developing early reading. Our KS2 children can be involved in small group support at this time too.

There is a clear link between attendance and a child's achievement - the more time a child is present in school, the more likely the child will fulfil their potential.

A school has to take a register of all children first thing in the morning and at the start of the afternoon. The register will remain open for around 30 minutes.

If a child arrives late to school but whilst the register is still open they are marked as late (L on the attendance register). If a child arrives at school after the register is closed, this is classed as an unauthorised absence (U on the attendance register) unless there is a valid reason such as attending a medical appointment.

Being punctual for school means making sure your child is at school and ready to learn at the start of the school day. There are many ways to ensure your child is on time for school, from making sure their school bags are packed the night before to making sure they get up with plenty of time to eat and get ready. Lost minutes mean lost learning. Did you know that being late 15 minutes every day is the same as missing around 2 whole weeks of school over a full academic year? A few minutes here and there does matter - all that lost time adds up.

Being late doesn't only affect your child, it disrupts other children in the class as well as the teachers trying to teach a lesson. It also means that office staff have to take a lot of children to class who have arrived late for school. However, if you do think you are going to be late, please do not keep your child off school for the rest of the day. Being late and in school is better than being absent.



Parents' Evening

We hope you found your recent meeting with your child's class teacher useful! The class teachers thoroughly enjoyed the conversations and appreciate your engagement. We trust that the record sheet provided will serve as a helpful reference for you moving forward. Should you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's class teacher.

If you were unable to attend the meeting, please get in touch with your child's class teacher to arrange another appointment; it's really important that you connect.



Reminder



Just a reminder that children should only bring water to drink during the school day.

Children are able to have juice only at lunchtime. Keeping to water during the rest of the day helps protect children's teeth and supports overall health. Thank you.

Switch Off Fortnight

Running from Monday 10th November to Sunday 23rd November 2025, schools all around the UK will take part in two weeks of energy-saving action.

Switch Off Fortnight is a fantastic way for schools to lead by example making a difference while teaching pupils the importance of conserving energy. This campaign is all about cutting energy waste, reducing carbon emissions, and showing pupils how small changes make a big impact.



Sefton Schools Cross Country

A huge congratulations to Isla, Ivy-Rose and Halle who have been selected to represent Sefton Schools in the upcoming British Cross Challenge. This is the biggest cross country race of the year with athletes competing from all around the UK.

If the girls are lucky, they may be able to spot some Olympians taking part in the adult races, attempting to qualify for Team GB.

We wish them all the best in their upcoming race and look forward to hearing how they get on!

Well done girls!





Santa Dash



We are excited to announce that we will be holding a Santa Dash on Tuesday 9 December 2025! This fun-filled, sponsored run will see your child take part with their class while some festive music sets the perfect jolly atmosphere. On the big day, children are invited to come to school dressed in a Santa suit, something festive, or in the traditional Christmas colours, along with their trainers to ensure they're ready to run!

The aim of this event is to raise funds to purchase new playground equipment. We were disappointed when our much loved 'castle', enjoyed by our Reception and KS1 children, became too worn down to be repaired. Unfortunately, we don't have the funds available to replace it. Thus, our vision is to redesign the 'castle' area for our children to enjoy, and every little bit helps!

Your child will be bringing home a sponsorship form for the event soon. We would be incredibly grateful for any support you can provide, and please ask that all sponsor forms and donations are returned to school by Monday 15 December 2025. Your generosity truly makes a difference, and we thank you for your continued support!

Home Time Reminder

We'd like to remind everyone that during school hours, our children are instructed not to climb trees in the school grounds to ensure their safety and to protect our lovely trees.

However, we've noticed that after school, some children have been climbing the trees while unsupervised. We kindly ask that you help us maintain a safe environment by closely supervising your child while on site. Let's work together to keep our school grounds safe and enjoyable for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Christmas at Aintree Davenhill



Christmas Performances for EYFS & KS1



Today, the children in Nursery, Reception, and Years 1 and 2 are bringing home a special letter about our exciting Christmas performances this year. Inside their book bags, you will find all the details! At the end of the letter, there is a slip for you to fill out and return, so you can reserve tickets for the performance your child will be part of. Do remember, ticket allocation is limited to a maximum of two tickets per family.

Please make sure to send the completed slip back to school by Friday, 21 November 2025, so we can finalise our arrangements.

We kindly ask all parents attending the performances to refrain from taking photographs or recordings. This is to ensure the safety and privacy of all our pupils, and we truly appreciate your cooperation in this matter. It is very important that all parents comply with this request if they wish to attend school events.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the performances!



FODS Christmas Raffle



Our fantastic FODS team is organising a 'Christmas Raffle' to raise money for school which will benefit all of the children.

On Friday 28 November 2025, children can come into school in their own clothes. The 'fine' for doing this is that they should bring into school with them a chocolate item which will be used to create a range of Christmas hampers full of festive, tasty treats and these will be raffled! Booklets of tickets for the draw have already been sent home.

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.