



Aintree Davenhill Primary School Newsletter

Friday 11 September 2026

Welcome Back!

We have been pleased with how the children returned to school on the first day of our new school year. It was lovely that so many children returned to school with a smile after dropping the children off after the 6-weeks holiday!

In our assemblies on the first day, we spoke about how it is normal to feel excited or a little worried about a new school year or sometimes we can have a mixture of both feelings. We explained that the adults in school feel this too and we are here to help. It was great to see that in a really short-time, the children have settled into their new classes and have made a great start.

Our new Nursey and Reception children have made a brilliant start to school and the adults working with them have been impressed with how well they have been using the resources in the classrooms and outdoor areas.

We have also been able to welcome new staff to Aintree Davenhill

Miss Johnson- School Admin Team

Mrs Moore- Teaching Assistant (Reception)

Miss Wormald- Higher Level Teaching Assistant (Year 3)

Mr Hallmark- Teaching Assistant (Year 5)

This school year, we are continuing to focus on our values of respect, determination, courage, and inspiration, excellence, equality and friendship. They are important for the children because they help them understand how to treat others, face challenges and learn in a safe, fair caring environment. These values guide how the children learn, play and work together every day.



Dates for the diary...

- **15 September**- Year 2 Meet the Teacher Session- 3:30-4:00pm.
- **17 September**- Year 4 and Year 5 Meet the Teacher Session- 3:30-4:00pm.
- **17 September**- Nursey Curriculum Evening- 5:00-6:00pm.
- **21 September**- School Tour for Nursey and Reception applicants-10:00am.
- **22 September**- Year 6 Meet the Teacher Session- 3:30-4:00pm.
- **23 September**- Year 3 Meet the Teacher Session- 3:30-4:00pm.
- **23 September**- Reception Curriculum Evening- 5:00-6:00pm.
- **24 September**- Year 1 Meet the Teacher Session- 3:30-4:00pm.
- **7 October**- School Tour for Nursey and Reception applicants- 10:00am.
- **9 October**- Hello Yellow Day.
- **16 October**- Harvest Assemblies.
- **19 October**- School Tour for Nursey and Reception applicants- 2:30pm.
- **31 October**- National closing date for Secondary school applications.

HOUSE TEAM COMPETITION

This week the winning house team is....

ABBEY

with 3,759 points

2. Valley- 3,695

3. Mill- 3,343

4. Rose- 3,212





A huge well done to Sophia in Year 3 who was so inspired by our Social Signature work last year that she spent her summer holidays raising money for Alder Hey Hospital by making bracelets at home and selling them to friends.

Through Sophia's hard work, she managed to raise an amazing £340.78 which they were able to present to Alder Hey. Well done, Sophia. You're amazing!



Meet the Teacher Sessions

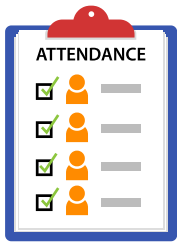
Our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions will be drop-in sessions again this year as we had lots of positive comments from parents about the change in format last year.

Information packs will be sent out again and then we will host drop-in sessions at the end of the school day, giving you the opportunity to meet your child's new teacher. We encourage all parents to take full advantage of this time to introduce yourselves and ask any questions you may have. It's a wonderful chance to get to know the teacher who will be supporting your child's learning this year. Teachers are looking forward to see you all!



Harvest Assemblies

Our Harvest assemblies will take place on **Friday 16 October 2026**. 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.



Attendance Matters

Our attendance last year was at 94.5%. The national average for 2025-26 was 94.7%.

We were so pleased to see so many children attend school this week. Thank you. We would like to remind families that we are here to help and if we can provide any support to you with regards to your child's attendance, please come and speak to us. We will post our attendance leaflet and some other attendance information on Class Dojo to provide a reminder of our procedures.

At the end of the 2025-26 school year, children had missed a total of over 1800 sessions (900 school days) due to holidays. Please do not book holidays in term time.

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. Please do contact us if you are unsure.

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

HELLO
YELLOW DAY!

To raise awareness for World Mental Health Day on Friday 9 October 2026, we will be taking part in #HelloYellowDay. We would like to invite the children to come to school wearing something yellow (if they don't have something yellow then own clothes). We aim to make the day as big and bright as possible so that we can show everyone in our school community that they are not alone with their mental health.

Mr Curtis is leading the event and children will be doing activities at different times throughout the day to encourage them to think about and look after their mental health.

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 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 in 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.



Home-School Partnerships

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 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 who is trying to help you without shouting at them.

In the first instance you should raise any concerns to your child's class teacher, then **Miss Taylor** (Assistant Headteacher EYFS & KS1) or **Miss Siveyer** (Assistant Headteacher KS2). If you believe the matter remains unresolved after doing this, then please ask to speak to **Miss Clay**.

During the year, we may ask to meet with you, depending on how they are settling in, making progress, to offer support with your child's attendance, or if we feel a discussion would help to support them more effectively in school. Please make every effort to attend these meetings, as they give us an important opportunity to share information, talk through any concerns, and agree the best next steps together.

Flu Immunisations

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

The immunisations will take place on Thursday 5 November 2026.

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.

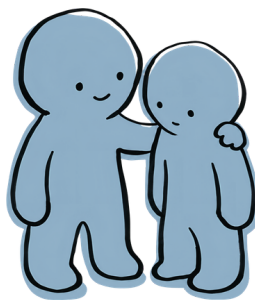
PLEASE BE AWARE THAT PARENTS MUST CONTACT THE IMMUNISATION TEAM REGARDING ANY QUERIES.

All communication must be to the team and not to school as they hold all the relevant information. Helpline number is 0151 247 6130. If you change your mind, about your child having flu immunisation having submitted the consent form, you must contact the team directly before Thursday 5 November 2026.

Team around the school

Janie Cowley, our Early Help Worker, will be in school every Wednesday. If any parents would like to drop in and ask for any help or support, she would be more than happy to speak to you. If you would like to call her instead, her work number is below:

Janie Cowley- 07815645471



Home Reading

We would ask for your help with your child's reading. It is so important that all of our children continue to practice 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.

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:



Allowed Snacks

- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Cereal bars
- Crackers, rice cakes etc
- Yoghurts (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, etc. 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.



Year 6 Secondary Admission Applications

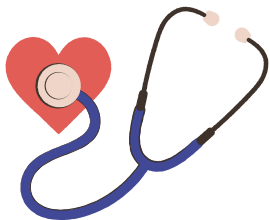
For all children in Year 6, it is now time for parents and carers to apply for their child's place at secondary school for Year 7 2026 entry. Parents and carers who live in the Sefton area must make the application online using the Citizen Portal (Sefton's online application facility).



The national closing date for secondary school applications is
31 October 2026

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 in.

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



Medicines

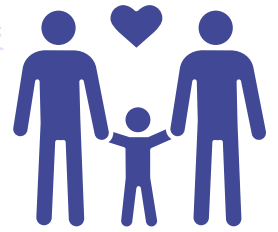


We want to emphasise the importance of returning your child's medication to school as soon as possible after holidays, etc. This ensures that we can provide the necessary support for their health and well-being throughout the school day.

Additionally, please keep us informed about any medical needs your child may have. Open communication allows us to create a safe and supportive environment for all our students. Thank you for your cooperation and support.



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 of more support, Sefton has launched a Social Care Advice Line for SEND.

The 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.

New Playground Equipment for Reception and KS1



The children in KS1 have been so excited this week to play in our new 'Park Area' which is in the position of the former 'Castle Area'. Some of the money raised from the Santa Dash has gone towards the development of this area.

We are always incredibly grateful for the support that our families and the wider community give to school in order to support us in providing additional equipment and resources for the children. Thank you to everyone involved including the children and school staff who were great sports taking part in the Santa Dash!

While the children are getting used to the new area, we are taking turns in classes to access it. As the children in Reception develop their routines, they will also have the opportunity to play in 'The Park' over lunchtime.

In addition to 'The Park' there are also lots of other play opportunities available to the children. In the caged area, the children are able to play with a selection of games equipment such as balance boards, balls, bats, hoops and ankle skips.

On the main playground area, the children can choose to play with the fabric and pegs to dress up and play imaginatively or access the chalk to be creative with. There are also two quiet areas for those children that want a quieter and slower break after eating lunch. They can access the gazebo area to write and draw on whiteboards or they can sit in the 'Book Hut' and read a book.

Our new Year 2 children will take it in turns each half term to be monitors for each of the areas to ensure that everything is put away correctly and looked after. The chosen monitors for this half term are taking their roles very seriously and already doing a great job!

SCHOOL MEALS



Your child's meal pattern from last year will be carried forward to the new academic year. Please contact the school office if you would like to make any changes. You can find the current menu on our website and if you would like a copy of your child's meal pattern please request this on the office Dojo. When your child is marked in on the register their meal pattern is automatically applied and KS2 pupils will be charged for any school meals. School is unable to refund any school meals if you have not informed us about changes to your child's meal pattern.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

From the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year, pupils in Reception to Year 6 from households in receipt of Universal Credit will be entitled to receive a free meal. Please contact your local authority to make an application. If you have an infant child in receipt of universal free school meals, please still make an application to your local authority as the school may receive additional funding which can be used to support your child's learning.

- <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/apply-free-school-meals>



Online Safety- Parents

The National Crime Agency and Internet Watch Foundation have issued new guidance to help parents make informed choices about sharing images of their children online. It covers reviewing privacy settings, revisiting consent with your child as they grow, and what to do if you're worried.

The parent's guidance can be found here:

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/>

School crossing vacancy



Sefton Borough Council's excellent School Crossing Service is currently looking to recruit people to become School Crossing Patrols. We are appealing to Parents and Grandparents of our children that have a few hours to spare each week.

We offer **£13 per hour plus travelling expenses** where applicable. You would also be entitled to holiday pay plus a retainer fee when the schools are closed.

There is no upper age limit.

If you, or anyone you know would be interested in becoming a Patrol please telephone the School Crossing Office on:



0151 288 6154