



Aintree Davenhill Primary School Newsletter

Friday 25 September 2026

It's National Teaching Assistant Day today and National Teacher Day on Monday 5 October! We have fantastic teaching assistants and teachers at Aintree Davenhill, and I am extremely grateful for all their hard work. Every day, they bring patience, kindness, enthusiasm and dedication into our classrooms, helping every child to learn, and feel valued. The hard work from staff goes far beyond what can be seen and the difference made to the children is immeasurable. I'd like to say a huge thank you to them all!

THANK YOU!



Attendance

Well done to Reception and Year 2 whose attendance has been fantastic since we returned to school!

What a great start they have made to this school year!





Dates for the diary...

- **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.
- **23 October** - Y2 Great Fire of London Workshop
- **26 - 30 October** - Half term
- **31 October** - National closing date for Secondary school applications
- **5 November** - Flu Immunisation
- **9 & 11 November** - Parents' evening (more information to follow)
- **13 November** - School photographs

HOUSE TEAM COMPETITION

This week the winning house team is....

ABBHEY

with 9,277 points

2. Rose- 8,872

3. Valley- 8,611

4. Mill- 8,324



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.



Meet the Teacher Sessions

Teachers were delighted to meet you during the drop-in sessions. We hope you found them helpful and feel well-informed about what your child will be learning this year.



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.

Flu Immunisations

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

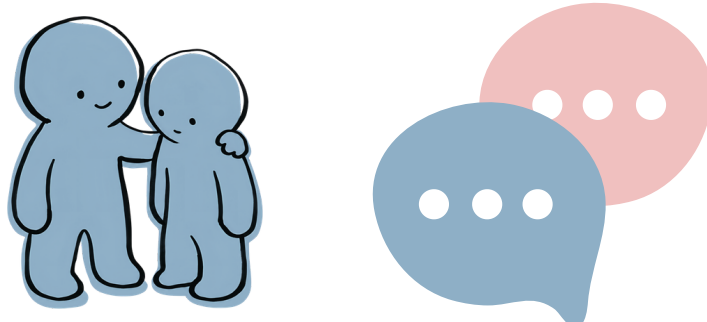
PLEASE BE AWARE THAT PARENTS MUST CONTACT THE IMMUNISATION TEAM REGARDING ANY QUERIES.

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





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.

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>

Social Signature

Last week, we received a lovely message from a parent whose little boy had been admitted to Alder Hey Hospital. The parent received one of the encouraging messages that our current Year 3 children wrote last year (as part of our Social Signature project), along with a tea bag and a biscuit! The parent wrote, 'It was really appreciated in a tough time. He (Zachary - Year 3) should be very proud of himself for making others feel better and picking us up. **Keep being kind and keep supporting those around you!** Thank you also to the school, what a great thing to do with the children. You are teaching them the most important things in life! Thank you Davenhill.

We were really proud to receive such a message and the Year 3 children were thrilled to hear about the difference they had made. How wonderful that the parent who is going through a difficult time with his child being ill, took the time to say thank you to the children. We love to receive such positive messages it's a real encouragement to us all.



Year 4's award



This week, we found out that our current Year 4 children have been nominated for an Aintree Parish Council Civic award for their work last summer in Harrow Drive playing fields, in particular planting and looking after the sponsored raised flower beds. The beds are beautiful and the councillors have received lots of compliments about them!

I am really grateful to Mrs Martin for leading the Social Signature work last year and for the teachers for identifying important charities that the children could support. Not only did the charities benefit from the work but the children gained so much from being involved in this work.



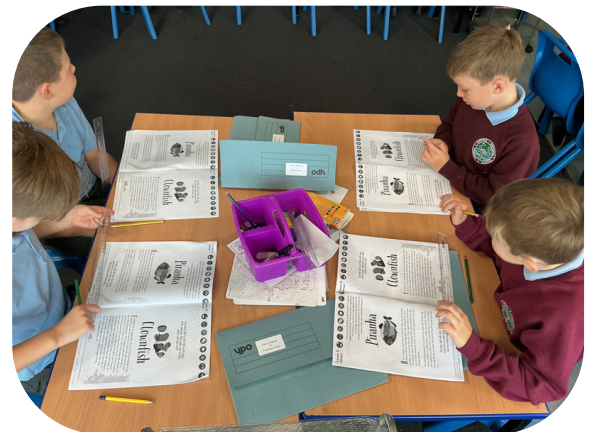
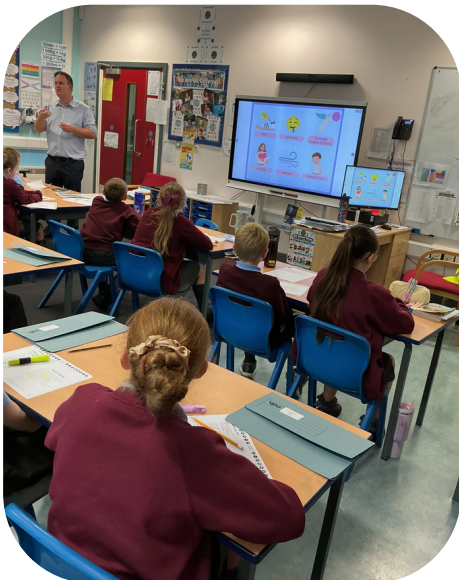
Ready Steady Read Together

We are very excited to be launching our new Ready Steady Read Together reading scheme across Key Stage 2!

Ready Steady Read Together is an engaging reading approach that gives children the opportunity to explore **high-quality, carefully selected texts** while developing their fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and confidence as readers. The scheme places a strong emphasis on **reading aloud together, echo reading and choral reading**, helping children to develop expression, pace and accuracy.

The children have already been enjoying exploring our new texts and have been particularly excited to discover **new characters, stories and vocabulary**. It has been wonderful to see children sharing their ideas, discussing the texts and becoming increasingly enthusiastic about reading.

We are looking forward to continuing our Ready Steady Read Together journey and, most importantly, **inspiring our children to develop a lifelong love of reading!**





Anti-bullying Ambassadors 2026-27

Our team of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (ABAs) have already taken part in their first meeting where we discussed their role and each of them shared what they are aspiring to achieve in their role. This year's team is made up of continuing and new Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, all from Year 6.

We discussed how as an Anti-Bullying Ambassador, they are role models for other children and that in their role they will help to promote kindness, respect and inclusion across our school.

Over the coming weeks, the ABAs will take on their first official role supporting the KS1 children on the infant playground during lunchtime breaks. Miss Taylor will introduce them to the KS1 children during an assembly and explain that there will be ABAs out on the playground each lunchtime to support them during play. We're looking forward to seeing our newly formed team of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors develop over the course of the year!



The Big Survey



We would really appreciate your support in helping your child complete The Big Future survey, led by **Dame Rachel de Souza**, the Children's Commissioner for England.

The survey gives children and young people an important opportunity to share their views about what it is like to grow up in England today, including their experiences, concerns, hopes for the future and what they would like to see change.

The survey only takes around **5 minutes** to complete. Younger children may need some help reading or understanding the questions, but it is important that the answers reflect your child's own thoughts and views.

Please take a few minutes to sit with your child and support them in having their voice heard.

The survey can be completed here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>



The closing date is Friday 23 October 2026.

Thank you very much for the support in helping our children have their say.

