Aintree Davenhill Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 13 November 2026

We had a good first week after the half-term holiday, and it's great to see how well the children have settled back in! The children were keen to let us know what they had been upto during the break and it is lovely to see that they returned rested and ready for a very busy half-term ahead. Since we returned, Miss Taylor, Miss Siveyer and I have really enjoyed spending time in classes and seeing how much the children are considering their handwriting and the presentation of their work.



Well done to Year 5 and 6 whose attendance has been fantastic during the last two weeks!



Children in Need

On **Friday 20 November 2026**, we will be raising money to support Children in Need. Children can wear their own clothes on the day, with Pudsey-related or spotty clothing if possible. It would be great if they could bring in a small donation, which will be sent to Children in Need.

Our School Council has chosen for the children to spend some time during the day playing board games with their partner classes. It would be lovely if the children could bring a board game into school with them so that everyone can enjoy this shared activity.

HOUSE TEAM COMPETITION

This week's winning house team is....

ABBEY

with 2,429 points





2. Mill - 2,411
3. Rose - 2,348
4. Valley - 2,130

Dates for the diary...

- **16 November**- Odd Sock Day
- **17-20 November**- Book fair
- **18 November**- Year 2 canal river trust visit to school
- **20 November**- Children in Need (Delayed due to school photos!)
- **27 November**- FODS Christmas Raffle and own clothes day.
- **3 December**- Flu Immunisation Team (for children who were absent)
- **4 December**- Christmas Jumper Day
- **9 December**- Christmas Lunch
- **16 December**- School Disco
- **17 December**- Christmas Assemblies
- **18 December**- Staff Pantomine
- **4 January**- Inset Day

Attendance

Our attendance last half-term was excellent overall and the children undoubtedly benefited from this. They settled well in class, were happy in school, re-established good relationships with the children in their class, and built good relationships with new adults who are now looking after them. In addition to this, the children made excellent progress in their learning.

This half-term is another crucial time for the children. Unfortunately when we returned, more than a class full of children were absent – straight after a week's holiday from school.
At Aintree Davenhill, the absence that we feel is impacting learning the most, is the time missed for a holiday during school time because it not only impacts the children whilst they are away, the effects last after they return to school. Last school year, the Department for Education compared our school to 20 other similar schools, in size, in context, etc. and our school attendance in 2025-26 was ranked as the lowest out of all these similar schools. Our advisor from School Improvement Liverpool Officer has also raised concerns about the number of holidays taken in school time at Aintree Davenhill compared to other schools.

Holidays during school time are impacting so much on the children's learning, and on children's attitude to learning when they return to school after their peers. Our teaching staff want to make sure that the children make as much progress in their learning as possible and they wanted me to convey this message to you all about the impact of these holiday absences. Please do not take your children out of school for holidays.

Scholastic Book Fair

Next week we will be holding our first Scholastic Book Fair of the school year. This is an exciting opportunity to promote and celebrate reading in our school! The book fair will be open for families to visit at 3:20pm in corridor outside the large hall. The dates are as follows:

Tuesday 17th November (Nursery and Reception)
Wednesday 18th November (Year 1 and Year 2)
Thursday 19th November (Year 3 and Year 4)
Friday 20th November (Year 5 and Year 6)

Families with more than one child in school can choose to visit on any one of the year groups' days applicable to your children.

At the fair, you will be able to purchase and order a wide range of books for children of all ages. We will be accepting card payments, contactless and apple pay. No cash will be taken. We had an incredible response during our last book fair and it was clear that the children are really enthusiastic to read and buy new books. The funds raised from the last Book Fair were used to purchase books for each class. The children were able to choose their own books for their classrooms which was very exciting.

Your support at our Book Fair enables us to continue to enhance the selection of books we have available in school. We look forward to seeing you there!



Parent's Evening

We hope you found your recent meeting with your child's class teacher useful! The class teachers throughly 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.

MADCOS FOOTBALL TEAM

The boys from Aintree Davenhill showed incredible grit, teamwork, and school pride during the first stage of the MADCOS football tournament for the year. While the final results didn't go our way on paper, the team battled hard in every match, competing with relentless energy and sporting spirit against tough opponents. Every player gave their absolute all on the pitch, holding their heads high and representing Davenhill with total distinction and passion.



Christmas Performances

for EYFS and KS1

Last week, the children in Nursery, Reception, and Years 1 and 2 brought 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, 20 November 2026**, 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!



FOD's Christmas Raffle



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

On **Friday 27 November 2026**, 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 and more are available at the school office.

Den Building Fun in Y1 and Y2

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children have been having great fun exploring our new den-building equipment! They have loved working together to create their own dens, using crates, cones, fabric and pegs to bring their ideas to life. It has been wonderful to see their creativity, imagination and problem-solving skills in action as they work together, share ideas and find ways to make their structures stay up. There has been lots of teamwork, communication and laughter along the way! We look forward to seeing what wonderful creations they come up with next!





EYFS & KS1 Park Area Play

We love seeing the children enjoying our **new park area play equipment!** However, our School Council have noticed that it is not always being used safely or respectfully before and after school.

The children are fantastic at following our rules during the school day, so please help us to **reinforce the same expectations outside school hours.**

🚨 **PLEASE REMEMBER:**

Cafe/Shop Role-Play Area

❌ **DO NOT** climb on the roof

❌ **DO NOT** climb through the window

❌ **DO NOT** climb along the worktop area

✅ Only climb on the actual play equipment

Around the Park Area

❌ No running

❌ Do not swing on the ropes around the outside of the equipment

✅ Use the equipment **safely and respectfully**

👨‍👩‍👧 **Please remember**: Parents/carers are responsible for the **safety and supervision of their children** when using the equipment before or after school.

⚠️ **KS2 children should not use the park play area**, as it is not suitable for this age group.

We would really appreciate your support in reinforcing these messages with your children. **They know the rules — let's make sure we keep everyone safe and look after our new equipment!**

💛

Thank you for your support!

Christmas is coming
at Aintree Davenhill



Over the coming weeks in school, we have many things to look forward to in the build up to Christmas, including…

- **Christmas Performances for Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2**
- **Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day** – Friday 4th December
- **Christmas Parties for each year group.** There will be dancing, games and time to eat party food! (On party day, the children will eat lunch as usual. Please send into school a packet of crisps, a drink and a cake or biscuit in a named food bag for your child to eat during the party).The children can come to school dressed to party so school uniform does not need to be worn (sensible shoes are still a must!). Dates for each year group party will be shared on your child's class story.
- **Christmas Lunch** – Wednesday 9th December. The children can come to school wearing a Christmas accessory if they would like to!
- **Christmas Assemblies** – Thursday 17th December
- **Our Staff Pantomime** – Friday 18th December

As we get closer to December, we will decorate areas around school including each classroom!