

Newsletter Issue 9: Friday 7 November 2025



St Ann's Church of England Primary School



Together, we aim high; with God's love, we can fly!



HISTORY WEEK

This week, the children at St Ann's have thoroughly enjoyed **History Week**! Each year group has been busy exploring a fascinating period from the past through exciting lessons, activities and visits.

Year 1 enjoyed a trip to their local train station as part of their learning about the **Rainhill Trials**. **Year 3** have been discovering how the **Industrial Revolution** changed Britain.



Year 5 have been learning about the **International Slave Trade** and took part in an engaging **online zoom session with Harewood House**, where they learnt about life on sugar plantations. **Years 2, 4, and 6** focused on different aspects of **World War II**: the evacuees, the Windrush generation and the Holocaust. It has been a wonderful week of learning, reflection and discovery.



KIDS GET THEIR SUPER POWERS BY
**ATTENDING SCHOOL
 EVERY DAY** ⚡

BE AN ATTENDANCE
 SUPERHERO!

Whole school attendance year to date <i>Whole School target 96%</i>	96.28%
Whole school attendance week ending 24 th October 2025	94.78%
Class with best weekly attendance	3S – 98.0%

Attendance Expectations

Children are expected to be in school **every day** unless they are unwell. All other reasons will be unauthorised. If your child is going to be absent, contact school and let us know before 9.25am. Children not in school may receive a phone call home or home visit. In line with our Attendance Policy, we are committed to supporting families in improving their child's attendance, before taking legal action.

#EveryMomentMatters



**Number of pupils
 with 100% attendance
 this week**

370

Punctuality

School gates open at **8.40am**
 School gates close at **8.50am**
 School starts at **8.55am**

Children arriving after 8.50am will need to use the main entrance. Children who enter school via the main entrance will be registered as late. Regularly missing the beginning of lessons has a negative impact on a child's progress and wellbeing.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES LED BY YMCA

🌟 Youth Voice – Lead the Change

We're inviting young people aged **11–18** to join our new **Youth Voice** project and become **young leaders** in their community.

📅 **Mondays & Thursdays** | 🕒 4pm–5:30pm

📍 YMCA Youth Hub, College Street

💬 Build confidence, inspire others, and make a difference!

📅 Youth Hub Autumn Programme (Sept–Dec 2025)

A packed schedule of weekday activities for 11–18 year olds, including:

- **Youth Café & Dinner**
- **Performing Arts & Breakdancing**
- **Cooking, Game Design & Digital Media**
- **Sports, History, Dungeons & Dragons, and more!**

All sessions are **free**, inclusive, and designed to support wellbeing, creativity, and connection.

👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 Family Matters Programme

Fun, creative sessions for families with children aged **5–11**, held at:

- **Sutton Family Hub – Wednesdays**
- **Newton Family Hub – Thursdays**

Activities include arts & crafts, games, challenges, and more, perfect for building family connections and having fun together.

We're passionate about creating safe, welcoming spaces where young people and families can thrive. If you know someone who might be interested, please share this email or the attached flyers. You can also contact us directly for more information or to get involved:

📞 **01744 455 030**

✉️ youthwork@ymcasthelens.org.uk

JOB VACANCY



School Business Manager

More than one location, The Three Saints Academy Trust

For more information check out:

<https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/jobs/school-business-manager-the-three-saints-academy-trust-st-helens-not-recorded>

OFFICE HOURS

We kindly ask for your patience and support during a period of reduced capacity in our school office. Please note that the office will close at 3:30pm each day until further notice. During this time, responses to calls and emails may take a little longer than usual, and we appreciate your understanding as we do our best to assist everyone.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

WANTED PARENT/ CARER VOLUNTEERS

We are looking to organise a Breakfast with Santa school fund raiser for the children this year.

Provisional dates are:

1 December

2 December

5 December

All Breakfasts with Santa will take place in our school hall 8.00-8.45am. However, Santa needs some parent/ carer helpers to manage his visit to St Ann's. If you would be interested in supporting school with this fund raiser, please contact us via the school email address:

stannsce@three-saints.org.uk

Thank you in advance for all offers of support!



CHILDREN IN NEED

On **Friday 14 November** we will be wearing our own clothes for Children in Need for a suggested donation of £2. Donations can be made via Arbor.



FLU VACCINATION

Flu Vaccinations for all children with parental consent will take place on Monday 17 November 2025.

COMING UP: PARENT WORKSHOP



We're excited to welcome the **HENRY team** into school to run a series of supportive and practical workshops for parents and carers. HENRY is

an organisation that helps families give children the best start in life – from healthy eating to emotional wellbeing.

The **first workshop** will take place on **Tuesday 25th November at 9:00am in the Studio** and will focus on **Understanding Behaviour** – a fantastic opportunity to explore why children behave the way they do and how to respond in positive and effective ways.

Future sessions will take place in the Spring and Summer Terms and will cover important topics like **fussy eating** and **looking after ourselves** as parents.

Places are available for all parents/carers, so please sign up via the **school office** to secure your spot. We'd love to see as many parents as possible – come along, connect with others, and pick up some really helpful tips!

FAMILY WORSHIP

Well done to 5E for a thought provoking Family Worship all about Remembrance Day.



Our next Family Worship will be led by **5G** and take place on **Friday 14 November at 9am**. Please enter the hall via the back door.

Everyone welcome

REMINDER

School is closed to all pupils on Friday 21st November due to a staff inset day.



A SPOTLIGHT ON: PHONICS



This week we are shining the spotlight on phonics. Being able to read is fundamental to all other learning. If children can read fluently, they can access all areas of the curriculum, understand the content, ask questions, and make good academic progress. Phonics, and learning how to decode words, is the first step in children's reading journey. We use the Read Write Inc. Phonics (RWI) scheme to deliver phonics across the school, supporting our pupils to become fluent and confident readers.

What is Phonics?

Phonics is the way children learn to recognise the sounds that letters make, how to blend those sounds into words and then how to read those words in sentences. Children begin by learning the individual letter sounds (e.g. m, a, s, d) then progress to learning the sounds made when two or more letters are grouped together (e.g. sh, ch, ee, igh) They practise saying the sounds daily so that they can recognise them when they are in words and can blend them accurately. Children have the opportunity to read books that contain words with the sounds they know. This helps them apply their sound knowledge in order to read phrases, and sentences.

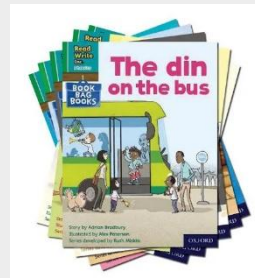
Children also learn to read "red" words. These are words that cannot yet be entirely decoded using the phonics sounds they know. Alongside this, they learn how to spell words containing sounds they know by saying the sounds and writing them down.

At St Ann's, Our EYFS and KS1 children access a phonics lesson every day. These lessons involve regular, systematic and enjoyable practice of letter sounds, blending, spelling and reading decodable books which match the sounds they've been taught.

How You Can Support Your Child with Phonics?

Your support in helping your child develop into a confident, fluent reader is vital. Try to make time every day for your child to read to you. Even just 10-15 minutes of quality time reading their phonics books will make a big difference to their progress. Here are some ways you can help your child at home using their RWI book:

- Start by encouraging them to read the speed sounds chart. This will help them to recognise the different sounds they will be exposed to in the text.
- Ask them to read the Green words and Red words in the word tables before moving onto the story.
- Talk about any tricky words in the red list and explain these are words we cannot decode yet. You might say: "Here are the red words you have been learning in school. Can you remember the 'tricky' part?"
- Encourage your child to read their book every night. The RWI guidance explains that children's reading speed and understanding improves on every reread of a text.
- When faced with an unfamiliar word, encourage your child to say each sound and blend them. You may ask, "What sounds do you hear?" Then help them to blend the sounds in order to read the word. Try not to read the word for them!
- Finally, discuss the story. Ask them what happened, what they liked and what surprised them. This helps develop their comprehension and makes reading meaningful.



If you would like to know more about how RWI works, there are excellent-parent resources available on the RWI website and on the Oxford University Press/Oxford Owl site.



GOOD BYE AND GOOD LUCK MS HOULT

We are very sad to say goodbye to **Ms Hoult**, who has been a fabulous member of our team for many years. As both a **Teaching Assistant** and **Midday Supervisor**, Ms Hoult has shown endless care, patience, and enthusiasm in everything she does. She has been especially brilliant in her work with pupils who have complex or additional needs—always proactive, kind, and willing to go the extra mile. Ms Hoult will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike. We wish her every success and happiness in her next adventure. **Good luck, Ms Hoult!**

PE KIT EXPECTATIONS

At St Ann's, children wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE lessons. We view the PE kit as an important extension of our school uniform, and therefore, we expect the same high standards of dress to be maintained.

All children are required to wear:

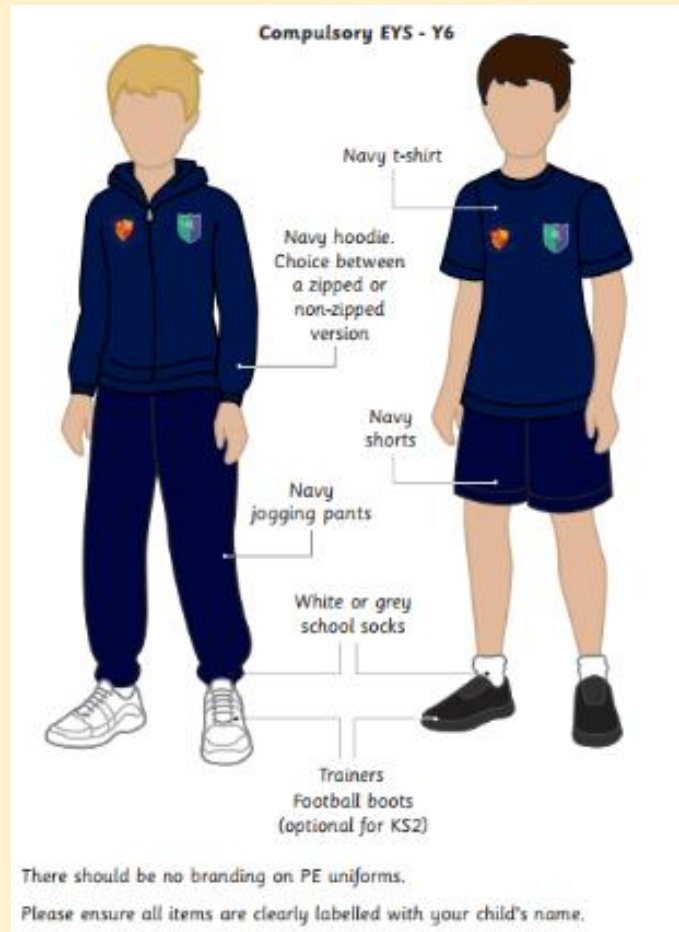
- Navy blue t-shirt
- Navy blue hoody
- Navy blue shorts
- Navy blue jogging bottoms
- Trainers

These items can be plain or feature the school and Trust logo. Please note that branded sportswear is not permitted.

Additionally, trainers should only be worn on PE days and are not acceptable as everyday footwear.

If a child arrives without the correct PE kit, the school will provide suitable clothing for them to wear during the day.

We appreciate your continued cooperation and support in helping us uphold these standards.





ClassDojo
Big Ideas

THIS WEEK'S CHARACTER EDUCATION VIDEO LINK AND TAKE-HOME QUESTIONS (Y1-Y6)

We're watching a video series about how students can develop a growth mindset!

Watch it at: <https://ideas.classdojo.com/f/perseverance-the-dip-3/0> and ask your child these questions tonight.

1. How does it feel to escape the dip? Can you have more than one dip?
2. Often we want to be the best at what we are doing! Instead of comparing our success with others, what kind of attitude can we have?
3. In the video, Mojomus Edison says that failing is "learning new ways to improve." What does that mean?

MENTORING CONVERSATIONS

We are delighted to announce that our Autumn Term Mentoring Conversations will take place on **Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 December, from 3:30–6:00pm.**

This year, conversations will once again be held face-to-face at school.

- EYs, Year 1 & Year 2: Sessions will take place in the Studio. Please enter via the Blue Base door.
- Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6: Sessions will take place in the Hall. Please enter via the back hall door.

If you need to move between the Hall and the Studio, please use the pedestrian walkway at the side of the school building.

These conversations offer a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, achievements, and wellbeing with their teacher. Appointments can be conveniently booked via the Arbor platform.

We encourage all families to take part in this important opportunity to share insights, celebrate successes, and support each child's continued learning journey.

Details of how to book a conversation will follow by email next week.

SAFEGUARDING ALERT:

Why it's good to talk

We've all been on the receiving end of a difficult conversation. But that doesn't make it any easier when you have to have one with your child.

It's important every child has someone they trust to look to for help.

We all want children to grow up in a safe and loving environment and to become happy, confident adults. To get there there'll be times they need to talk to someone, for advice or for support. There will also be times when you need to explain something that might upset them.

As their parent or carer, it's up to you to talk to them when you think they might need a nudge in the right direction, or to share news or information that's going to affect their lives.

Before starting a difficult chat

Whatever it is you want to discuss, it's important to think about where and how to talk so children will listen.

There's no telling how long the conversation is going to last, so the first thing to consider is where and when you're going to start it. For e.g., if you start in the evening when they're tired, your child or children might not be able to concentrate.

If you're talking to just one child about something, consider how private the time and place are. It might work best to have it at a time when brothers and sisters aren't around to interrupt.

It could be good to have it in a relaxed and neutral place, like on a walk or in the car.

Have materials available that can help with a discussion for e.g. a book or some paper and pens.

REMEMBER

Give them as long as they need to answer without interrupting.

Let your child ask you questions too.

Let them know that they can trust you to keep their confidence and that you want them to always feel they can talk to you, other people they trust or organisations like [Childline](#), when anything is worrying them.



Santa is coming!

ho ho ho

1ST, 2ND
OR 5TH
DEC.

Breakfast with Santa

ALL CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE A FESTIVE BREAKFAST (BRIOCHE, FRUIT AND A DRINK), PHOTOGRAPH AND A SELECTION BOX!

• £8 PER CHILD • BREAKFAST WILL START AT 8AM

Sign up for breakfast via Arbor by
Friday 21st November

PLEASE INDICATE WHICH SESSION YOU WOULD LIKE
YOUR CHILD(REN) TO ATTEND WHEN PAYING VIA
ARBOR

Sign up will be available on Arbor from noon 12th November. Please note that once a session has reached capacity we will not be able to accept any more requests for that session. We will keep parents updated regarding availability.

Family of Faith



A Reflection from Mrs Crawford

This verse reminds us that true trust means letting go of the need to control every situation and instead placing our confidence in God's wisdom and love. Trusting in the Lord with all our heart calls us to surrender our worries, our plans, and even our understanding to Him. When we acknowledge God in all we do—through prayer, gratitude, and faith—He promises to guide us along the right path. This teaches us that trust is not passive; it is an active, daily choice to believe that God's plan is greater than our own and that His guidance will never fail us.

**Our Christian Value
this half term is...**

TRUST

*Trust in the LORD
with all your heart, and
do not lean on your
own understanding. In
all your ways
acknowledge him, and
he will make straight
your paths.*

Proverbs 3:5-6

St Ann's Church Services

8:30am Sundays: Traditional Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion in Church. All welcome.

10:30am First Sunday: All Together For Worship – lively, inclusive parish service in Church.

10:30am Other Sundays:

- 2nd Sunday: Common Worship Communion (lighter service)
- 3rd Sunday: Morning Prayer and Teaching
- 4th Sunday: Formal Eucharist

(All in Church, concurrent with Platform 2)

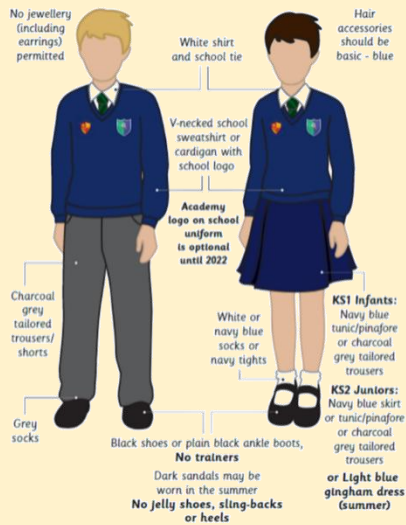
10:30am Weekly (except 1st Sunday): Platform 2 in Millennium Centre – informal, family-focused worship with group activities, crafts, and games. Coffee and refreshments provided.

Thursdays 9:30am: Midweek Holy Communion in Church, followed by coffee in the Centre.



GENERAL INFORMATION/REMINDERS

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDERS



**Please note, it is not compulsory to wear items of clothing with the school and Trust logos on. Children may wear plain navy-blue items of school uniform.*

SCHOOL SHOES REMINDER



INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CARE PLANS

If you have previously notified school that your child has a medical condition, you will have received a form to complete as part of our annual review process. We still have a number of forms outstanding, ***your early attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated and this helps with our efficiency.*** If your child has a newly diagnosed condition that requires an Individual Health Care Plan please contact the school office to arrange for a form to be completed.

CONTACT DETAILS, CONSENT & PERMISSIONS

On a regular basis please check your contact details, consent and permissions on Arbor to make sure they are up to date for your child. Thank you

MELLOR'S SCHOOL MEAL MENU

For a copy of Mellor's most up to date school meals menu, please check out our website by clicking on the following link: <https://www.rainhillstanns.co.uk/page/?title=School+Dinner+Menu&pid=46>

Please note, the menu is subject to change where there is a shortage of supplies.

TOAST

The deadline for toast for this half term has now passed. Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for details of the payments required for future half terms.

PURCHASING SCHOOL ITEMS

If you wish to purchase a school item this can now be done through Arbor. If you make a purchase please email the school office at stannsce@three-saints.org.uk so that arrangements can be made to issue the item. Current prices are as follows:

School Bag £10.00
Junior Tie £4.00
Elasticated Tie £3.50

TERM DATES 2025-26

Term	Open on	Close on
Autumn Term 2025	Wednesday 3 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025
	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025
Spring Term 2026	Monday 5 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026
	Monday 23 February 2026	Friday 27 March 2026
Summer Term 2026	Monday 13 April 2026	Thursday 21 May 2026
	Monday 1 June 2026	Friday 17 July 2026

Easter Bank Holidays:
Good Friday: 3 April 2026
Easter Monday: 6 April

Bank Holidays during term time:
Monday 4 May 2026

Inset Days:
1 September 2025
2 September 2025
21 November 2025
22 May 2026
20 July 2026

Courtesy

Care

Concentration



St. Ann's Church of England Primary School

View Road, Rainhill, Merseyside, L35 0LQ

Tele: 0151 426 5869

Website: <http://www.rainhillstanns.co.uk>

Email: stannsce@three-saints.org.uk

X: [@RainhillStAnns](#)

Headteacher: Mrs Laura Rynn

‘But those who trust in the Lord, they will find new strength.

They will soar high on wings like eagles’ **Isaiah 40:31**

Parents' Suggestion/Comment Slip

TOAST

If you would like your child to have Toast every half term please see below for the amount due each half term and the date the amount is required by. Payments should be made to your Arbor Toast account. Payments can be made in advance of these dates if you wish and the credit will be used once the due date arrives.

	Amount Due	Date Toast Account to be in credit by
Autumn 1	£9.50	Midday 17th July 2025
Autumn 2	£8.50	Midday 21st October 2025
Spring 1	£7.50	Midday 16th December 2025
Spring 2	£6.25	Midday 10th February 2026
Summer 1	£5.75	Midday 24th March 2026
Summer 2	£8.75	Midday 15th May 2026

Total for year £46.25

Healthy Families: Growing Up



Join our
parent
group

Healthy, thriving children and families



HENRY's free **Healthy Families: Growing Up** programme is for parents and carers of primary-school age children – it will help you develop a healthier, happier lifestyle that the whole family can enjoy.

The programme covers these 5 themes across **8 sessions** and provides everything you need to help your children flourish.

- Feeling more confident as a parent
- Physical activity for the whole family
- What children and the whole family eats
- Family lifestyle habits
- Enjoying life as a family

Get
in touch
to sign up
now!



"This was the best thing I could possibly have done to help me be a better mum"



Programme details

Monday 3rd November - Monday 22nd December
10am - 12 pm.
Sutton Family Hub, 26 Ellamsbridge Rd, Saint
Helens WA9 3PY.

Contact Us

Phone: 01744 371111
Email: chcp.sthelens@nhs.net
Website: www.sthelenswellbeing.org.uk