Newsletter Issue 10: Friday 13 November 2026

St Ann's Church of England Primary School

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



CHRISTINGLE WORKSHOPS & SERVICE

We are looking forward to celebrating the magic and meaning of Christingle! On **Friday 4th December**, all children across school will take part in a Christingle workshop, learning about the symbolism of the Christingle and making their own ready for our special Christingle Service at **St Ann's Church on Sunday 6th December at 4.00pm**.

Our early Years and Year 1 children will also have the opportunity to share their learning in a special workshop with a family member. The family member should arrive at the **main school entrance five minutes before the allocated time**, ready to be welcomed into school.

Christingle Workshop Times – Friday 4th December

- **9.30am**: Year 1S
- **10.30am**: Year 1T
- **1.00pm**: Early Years EYM
- **2.00pm**: Early Years EYP



If family members are unable to attend the school worship, please don't worry – every child will still make their own Christingle to bring home.

Everyone is warmly invited to join us at St Ann's Church on Sunday 6th December at 4.00pm for our whole-school Christingle Service. We would love to see as many of our families as possible as we come together to celebrate the light of Christ this Christmas!



Whole school attendance year to date *Whole School target 96%*	96.43%
Whole school attendance week ending 6th November 2026	95.28%
Class with best weekly attendance	4G – 99.44%

#EveryMomentMatters



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 9.20am. Children not in school may receive a phone call home or home visit. In line we our Attendance Policy, we are committed to supporting families in improving their child's attendance, before taking legal action.

Number of pupils with 100% attendance this week

378

Punctuality

School gates open at **8.40am**
School gates close & school starts at **8.50am**

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.

FAMILY WORSHIP

Well done to 5H for a wonderful Family Worship all about Remembrance Day.

We are delighted to invite parents and carers of 5B to join us for our next Family Worship on **Friday 27 November at 9.00am.** This will be a special opportunity to come together as a school family, reflect and worship with the children. Please line up outside the back hall door to enter school.



ASSESSMENT WEEK
WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER

Children in Years 1–5 will be completing Autumn assessments during the week commencing Monday 16 November. To help them feel happy, confident and ready to do their best, please ensure they get plenty of sleep, with a bedtime appropriate for their age, and switch off electronic devices at least one hour before bed. A healthy breakfast, plenty of water and arriving at school on time will also help them feel ready to learn. Most importantly, please reassure your child that assessments are simply an opportunity for us to see what they have learned and identify how best to support their next steps. A calm, positive attitude and lots of encouragement at home can make a real difference!

FLU IMMUNISATIONS

Reception- Y6

Wednesday 18 November 2026

REMINDER

School is closed to pupils on Friday 20 November due to a staff inset day

WANTED PARENT/ CARER VOLUNTEERS



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

Provisional dates are:
9 December
10 December
11 December

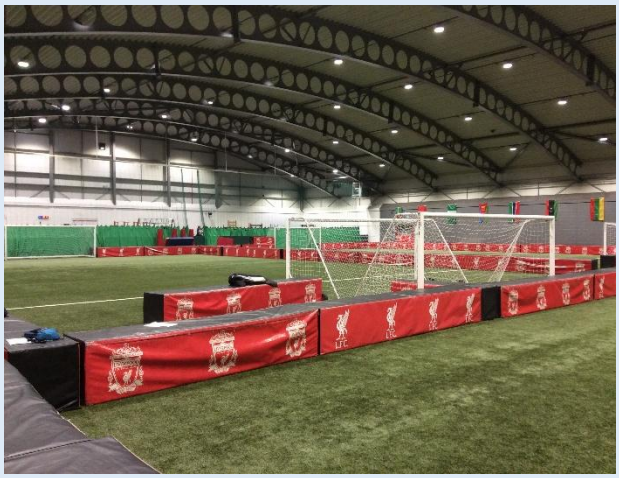
All Breakfasts with Santa will take place in our school hall 8.00-8.45am. However, Santa needs some parent/ carer helpers to manage his visit to St Ann's. If you would be interested in supporting school with this fund raiser, please contact us via the school email address by Friday 20 November:

stannsce@three-saints.org.uk

Thank you in advance for all offers of support!

Y1/2 LIVERPOOL FOOTBALL CUP FESTIVAL

On Monday 9th November, some of our Year 1 and Year 2 children had a fantastic opportunity to visit Liverpool FC Academy for a morning of football! We took four St Ann's teams, who played across all four pitches against other schools, showing fantastic enthusiasm, teamwork and determination throughout.





There were some brilliant performances, including an impressive 8–0 victory for one of our teams! We were especially proud of the final results, with St Ann's B taking 1st place and St Ann's A finishing in 3rd place – a fantastic achievement! The children also demonstrated wonderful sportsmanship, shaking hands with their opponents after every match and remembering that football is about more than just winning. Well done to everyone who took part and represented St Ann's so brilliantly. We are incredibly proud of you!

Y1/2 MULTI-SKILLS COMPETITION



On Tuesday 10th November, our Year 1 and Year 2 children had a fantastic morning taking part in a Multi-Skills competition! The children were split into two teams and enjoyed a range of fun, team-building activities, including air hockey, Protect the Tower and Red Light, Green Light. Red Light, Green Light was a firm favourite, with all of the children agreeing it was their favourite game of the morning!



Throughout the session, the children showed fantastic determination, enthusiasm and sportsmanship, working hard together and encouraging one another. They represented St Ann's beautifully, remembering our 3 Cs – Care, Courtesy and Consideration throughout the visit. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part, and all children will receive a certificate to celebrate their fantastic efforts. Well done, everyone!

Autumn Term Book Fair



We are happy to announce that the Scholastic Book Fair will take place in the week beginning **Tuesday 24th November**. During this week children will be able to attend and purchase a book of their choice. Books range in price from £2 to £15.

Each class has been assigned a day and time to visit the book fair. If you would like your child to purchase a book please could they bring in their money on their assigned day. **Children should bring money for the event in a named envelope and pass this to their class teacher.**

In previous years, your generous purchases have not only provided children with new reading experiences at home but have generated significant funds for school to purchase additional books for our class libraries. We have really appreciated your support with this event in the past and hope with your help we can provide even more reading experiences for our pupils. **Happy Reading!**

Date	Class
Tuesday 24th November	Year 4
	Year 1 and Year 2
Wednesday 25th November	Year 5
Thursday 26th November	EYFS
	Year 6
Friday 27th November	Year 3





SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Think Before You Share! 📱💭

When you're using apps, games, or social media, remember:

🛑 Keep personal information private - Never share your full name, address, school, phone number, or passwords online.
👥 Only talk to people you know in real life - Not everyone online is who they say they are.
😊 Be kind online - Use friendly words and never send messages that could upset someone.
🚩 Tell a trusted adult - If someone makes you feel worried, asks for personal information, or sends something that makes you uncomfortable, tell a parent, carer, or teacher straight away.
🔒 Ask permission first - Always check with a trusted adult before downloading new apps, joining social media sites, or accepting friend requests.

Remember: If something doesn't feel right online, stop, block, and tell an adult! 🌓

A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT – ST HELENS SCHOOL BOYS!

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the success of **four of our talented boys who have been selected to play for St Helens School Boys!**

A huge congratulations to three of our Year 6 pupils - Teddy, Zac, Lewis, and one of our Year 5 pupils - George, on this fantastic achievement. Being selected is a wonderful recognition of their hard work, dedication, commitment and sporting ability. It is always lovely to see our pupils embracing opportunities, pursuing their interests and achieving such fantastic things beyond the classroom.

Well done, boys! You have made everyone at St Ann's very proud. We look forward to following your progress and cheering you on! **A huge St Ann's congratulations !**

ODD SOCKS DAY – MONDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 🎶

As part of our celebration of **Anti-Bullying Week**, we will be taking part in Odd Socks Day on **Monday 23rd November**!

We invite all children to come to school wearing their favourite odd socks to help us celebrate the fact that we are all different, unique and special in our own way.
Odd Socks Day is a fun way to remind us that our differences should be celebrated and that everyone deserves to feel valued, respected and included. By embracing what makes us unique, we can all play our part in creating a kind, caring and bully-free school community.
There is no need to buy any special socks – just mix and match a pair from home!

We can't wait to see all the wonderful, colourful and creative odd socks on display. Let's stand together, celebrate our differences and make kindness count!

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

Courtesy • Care • Concentration

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.



Read • Learn • Grow



As per communications earlier this week booking is now open on Arbor, please ensure it is stated in the Narrative which day is required. Please note that once a session has reached capacity we will not be able to accept any more requests for that session. Please note that all spaces for the Friday session have been allocated.

PARENTS' EVENING

Working together for your child's success

Your child. Their journey. Our partnership.

We are delighted to announce that our Autumn Term Parents' Evening will take place on

Monday 30 November and **Tuesday 1 December,**

from 3:30–6:00pm.

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, conduct and wellbeing with their teacher. Appointments can be conveniently booked via the Arbor platform.

Arbor

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

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

COURTESY | CARE | CONCENTRATION

St Ann's

Church of England Primary School
Rainhill

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

LOOKING FOR A RECEPTION PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD FOR SEPTEMBER 2027?



COME AND VISIT ST ANN'S!



OPEN DAY

19 NOVEMBER

9.30am | 1.30pm





Come and see our school, meet our staff and discover what makes St Ann's special.

Prospective Reception parents are warmly invited to attend.

Courtesy • Care • Concentration #TeamStAnns

NHS
0–19+ Team
St Helens

HENRY Programme

Free sessions for parents and carers!

Support for families with children aged 0–5

The NHS 0–19+ team is delighted to launch the **HENRY Programme** in St Helens – a nationally recognised initiative offering **free, friendly** support to help parents and carers feel more confident and build healthy, happy family routines.

The programme explores everyday family life, with practical advice on fussy eating, managing behaviour, emotional wellbeing, establishing routines and getting active together.



Upcoming sessions

Understanding Children's Behaviour

Explore the feelings and needs behind children's behaviour, the importance of listening and how responding with empathy can make a positive difference.

Thursday
22 October
1.30pm – 2.30pm

Looking After Ourselves

Discover practical ways to look after your own wellbeing, stay calm, manage stress and develop realistic coping strategies, while letting go of feelings of guilt or failure.

Thursday
3 December
11.00am – 12 noon

Eating Well for Less

Find out how to shop for healthier food on a budget, plan meals effectively and prepare simple, tasty, low-cost family meals.

Thursday
4 February
1.30pm – 2.30pm

What do other parents think?

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

"This was so much better than I expected. I would encourage every parent to do it."

How to book

Places are free but limited!

Book your place through Eventbrite using the links below:

- Understanding Children's Behaviour – 22 October
- Looking After Ourselves – 3 December
- **Eating Well for Less** – 4 February

Scan the QR code to view the links

For more information, visit the HENRY Programme website.

Follow the 0–19+ team on social media:
Health Visiting Hub St Helens (Facebook)
@0_19_sthelens (Instagram)

Family of Faith



A Reflection from Mrs Allcock

In Matthew 9:36, we see Jesus looking beyond the crowds to recognise the struggles, worries and needs of the people around Him. He did not simply see a crowd; He saw individuals who needed kindness, care and guidance. His response was one of deep compassion. This reminds us that compassion is more than feeling sorry for someone; it is noticing when others are struggling and choosing to do something to help. At St Ann's, we can show compassion through our words, actions and choices: by listening, including others, offering help and showing kindness. Like Jesus, we should look beyond ourselves and care for everyone.

Our Christian Value this half term is…

COMPASSION

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:3

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)
9.00am 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.



WELCOME TO THE SCHOOLS MUSIC SERVICE

The S.M.S provides quality music education and support in schools and in the community. Established in 1997, we provide tuition for over 1000 children in schools throughout the North West.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Group rate tuition fees are based on around 3 pupils sharing a half hour lesson. There are 10 lessons per term, totalling 30 lessons per academic year. The cost is £7.50 per lesson, £75.00 per term, a total of £225.00 a year. Parents may pay in advance or by 10 monthly instalments of £22.50.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS:

www.schoolsmusicservice.co.uk
Tel: 0151 426 9953
Email: schoolsmusicservice@gmail.com



St Ann Church will be holding a Christmas Tree Festival
between Friday 4 December and Sunday 6 December 2026
In preparation for this and to raise much needed funds for Church, we are selling wooden Christmas Angels for £2 each.

We would be delighted if the children and their families could purchase and decorate their angel or write a message on it, and either place it on their own family tree or return it to Church during the Christmas Tree Festival and place it on our Parish tree.

Angels can be purchased from the Millennium Centre after school Tuesday to Friday, or from Church or at the next Farmers Market on Saturday 3 October.

Thank You

RAINHILL UNITED JFC

COMETS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

AGED 5 TO 11 YEARS OLD

COMETS FOOTBALL



We are a friendly community youth football club with an ambition to become more inclusive through our Comets sessions. The sessions are for disabled children and children with SEND aged 5-11. The sessions will be fun, friendly and focused on confidence, friendship and enjoyment. All abilities are welcome!

SESSIONS INCLUDE

- A very warm welcome.
- A SEND Friendly approach.
- Small sided football games.
- Simple adaptations so every child can take part in a way that works for them.

Sessions led by a coach with Level 3 Learning Support Assistant qualification and UEFA B. Just £5 per session.



SESSIONS AT RAINHILL HIGH SCHOOL MUGA. MONDAYS 5-6PM

To book or find out more visit our website

www.rainhillunited.co.uk/comets/

Questions welcome - please email welfare@rainhillunited.co.uk

RAINHILL UNITED JFC

FUTURE STARS FOR BOYS IN RECEPTION TO YEAR 1

BOYS FOOTBALL



Our Future Stars program is designed specifically for boys in Reception and Year 1. This initiative aims to introduce young players to the fundamentals of football, in a fun and engaging environment. To help promote skill development and coordination in a friendly environment.

SESSIONS INCLUDE

- Fun Football training activities
- Football skill development
- Engaging sessions every week
- Friendly and supportive coaches

We help to build football skills, confidence, teamwork and a love for the game ! Just £5.00 per session.



MONDAYS 5 PM - 6 PM
RAINHILL HIGH SCHOOL MUGA

To book or find out more visit our website
www.rainhillunited.co.uk/future-stars/

ACCREDITED CLUB ★ ★ ★

RAINHILL UNITED JFC

WILDCATS FOR GIRLS IN RECEPTION TO YEAR 6.

GIRLS FOOTBALL



Our Wildcats initiative is for girls in reception up to year 6. Coaching is provided by Rainhill Football Academy, the Wildcats focus on building co-ordination skills, while fostering a fun and inclusive environment and the fundamentals of football.

SESSIONS INCLUDE

- Fun Football training activities
- Football skill development
- Engaging sessions every week
- Friendly and supportive coaches

We help to build football coordination, confidence, teamwork and a love for the game ! Just £5 per session.



FRIDAYS 5 PM - 6 PM RAINHILL HIGH SCHOOL MUGA

To book or find out more visit our website

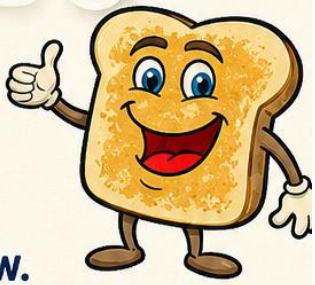
www.rainhillunited.co.uk/wildcats/

ACCREDITED CLUB ★★★

ORDER YOUR TOAST!

HEALTHY START, HAPPY DAY!

To enjoy toast at breaktime, please ensure your child's **ARBOR ACCOUNT** is in credit by the dates below.



	AMOUNT DUE	DATE TOAST ACCOUNT TO BE IN CREDIT BY
Autumn 1	£9.50	14th July 2026
Autumn 2	£8.00	20th October 2026
Spring 1	£7.25	15th December 2026
Spring 2	£5.75	9th February 2027
Summer 2	£8.25	25th May 2027

TOTAL FOR THE YEAR £47.50

PLEASE TOP UP YOUR CHILD'S ARBOR ACCOUNT IN GOOD TIME TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDERS

At St Ann's, we take pride in our uniform.
Wearing our uniform smartly shows respect for ourselves, our school and our community.

OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM

- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- White shirt
- School tie
  (Navy and green stripes)
- Grey trousers or grey shorts
- Navy blue pinafore or skirt
- Blue and white checked summer dress
- Grey, navy or white socks or navy tights



*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.

THANK YOU for your continued support!

SCHOOL SHOES REMINDER

Children must wear plain black school shoes. These should be sensible, safe and appropriate for school. Please no trainers, boots, shoes with logos or coloured soles.



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

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:
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.

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with God's love, we can fly.

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

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

Thank you for supporting our school.
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SCHOOL MEAL MENU

MENU

For a copy of the 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.



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

ST ANN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

TOGETHER, WE AIM HIGH;
WITH GOD'S LOVE, WE CAN FLY.

INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CARE PLANS

- If you have notified school that your child has a medical condition that requires an Individual Health Care Plan please ensure that if there are any changes to their condition a new form is completed.
- 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

ST ANN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

TOGETHER, WE AIM HIGH;
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2026/27 TERM DATES

	Open On	Close On
AUTUMN 2026	Wednesday 2 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026
	Wednesday 4 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026
SPRING 2027	Tuesday 5 January 2027	Friday 12 February 2027
	Monday 22 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027
SUMMER 2027	Monday 12 April 2027	Friday 28 May 2027
	Monday 7 June 2027	Wednesday 21 July 2027

EASTER BANK HOLIDAYS:

Good Friday: Friday 26 March 2027
Easter Monday: 29 March 2027

BANK HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME:

Monday 3 May 2027

INSET DAYS:

- 1 September 2026
- 2 November 2026
- 3 November 2026
- 20 November 2026
- 4 January 2027



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
Instagram: stanns_ttsat
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

AUTUMN 2026 DAIRY DATES

DATE	EVENT/ ACTIVITY
Wednesday 18 November	Flu immunisations – EYs to Y6
Thursday 19 November	September 2027 Open Day, 9.30am & 1.30pm
Friday 20 November	School closed to pupils Staff Inset Day
Friday 27 November	5B Family Worship @ 9.00am
Friday 27 November – Thursday 3 December & Monday 7 December - Friday 11 December	Y5 Bikeability
Monday 30 November & Tuesday 1 December	Parent Evening 3.30-6.00pm
Friday 4 December	4M Family Worship @ 9.00am Y5 Liverpool World Museum Trip EYs & Y1 Christingle Workshops
Wednesday 9 December, Thursday 10 December & Friday 11 December	Breakfast with Santa 8.00-8.40am
Friday 11 December	4G Family Worship @ 9.00am Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14 December	KS1 Nativity, 9.30am & 2.00pm KS2 Choir to Liverpool Cathedral to take part in The Diocese of Liverpool Primary Schools Carol Service (am)
Tuesday 15 December	KS1 Nativity, 9.30am & 2.00pm Y5 Liverpool World Museum Trip
Wednesday 16 December	EYs Nativity, 9.30am & 2.00pm Y2 Christmas Party
Thursday 17 December	EYs, Y1, Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party
Friday 18 December	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party Y3 Christmas Service @ church, 2.15pm School closes

We look forward to sharing these special events with you!

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

Courtesy, Care and Concentration

COMPASSION

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value COMPASSION. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT COMPASSION TOGETHER...

Compassion is about 'standing in someone else's shoes' when they are having a hard time. In other words, trying to understand how they might be feeling and doing our best to try to help.

Talk together about:

- how we can show **compassion** and kindness to one another at home
- recognising when friends at school need us to listen and act with **compassion**
- stories in the news demonstrating how strangers show **compassion** in times of natural disasters
- how nations show **compassion** to other nations at times of disaster or need by sending money or volunteers to help



READ TOGETHER...

The good Samaritan

When someone asked Jesus the question, "Who is my neighbour?" he told a story that surprised everyone who heard it. The hero was from Samaria but those listening were mainly Jews. (Jews and Samaritans usually kept well away from each other.)

"A man set out on foot from Jerusalem to a town called Jericho", said Jesus. The crowd murmured and exchanged knowing glances. They knew this was a lonely, dangerous road, a favourite place for robbers to attack travellers. "As the man reached a rocky and desolate place, a gang of robbers leapt out and beat him. They took all that he had and left him bleeding and bruised. To the man's relief, he saw in the distance a priest from the temple. A priest is bound to help me, thought the man. He waited until the priest came a little closer and then called out, 'Thank goodness it is you. Please Sir, take me to safety.' But to his amazement the priest hurried past pretending not to see or hear him.

As the poor, injured man grew weaker and weaker in the burning midday sun, he once again heard footsteps. Looking up he saw a Levite, another of his own people. 'Please Sir, please help me', he called out. Surely this Levite would take pity on him, but to his horror the Levite just kept on walking.

The man had almost given up hope when he felt a gentle touch on his shoulder. A stranger, a Samaritan, had bent down beside him and was bandaging his wounds and giving him sips of water to drink. The Samaritan helped the man on to his own donkey and slowly, carefully took him all the way to an inn. There he paid the innkeeper to look after the man until he was well. The man never forgot the **compassion** and kindness of the Samaritan stranger."

"Who do you think was a good neighbour?" asked Jesus.

Bible story based on Luke 10:29-37

THINK TOGETHER

Words of Wisdom

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

Aesop

QUIZ The Stranger on the road was kind....

Change one letter in the word to answer the next clue.

The traveller was attacked as he walked along the	ROAD
Watching from the rocks was a small creature like a frog	____
The Samaritan ____ the innkeeper to look after the man	____
The Samaritan acted with courage. He was ____	____
We sometimes talk about the ____ of friendship (rhymes with pond)	____
Wrap tightly with a bandage (rhymes with find)	____
The Samaritan in the story was	____

FAMILY FOCUS

Random Acts of Kindness

Kindness is often appreciated most when it is offered at unexpected times.

Choose one week this term for your family to have "a random acts of kindness" week, and do something kind for someone each day. Try to do it without telling people it was you!



www.randomactsofkindness.org

HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Helping hands

As well as being kind and showing **compassion** in what we say, it is often what we *do* that other people remember.

Draw and cut out the shape of each person's hand in your family. Decorate it with all the random acts of kindness that they have shown. Mount the hands of each member of your family on some paper so they look fantastic and ready to be displayed.

FASCINATING FACTS

What a difference **compassion** and kindness can make! Numerous charities help people who have been hurt, are ill or suffer through lack of resources. Below are just 3:

- **World Vision** encourages individuals and groups to 'Sponsor a Child' in an area of the world where food, health and education cannot be taken for granted. For just 75 pence a day the life of a child, in for example Uganda or Bolivia, can be transformed by providing help to grow food, source clean water, improve health services and pay for education.

www.worldvision.org.uk

- **Help for Heroes** was set up after many British soldiers returned from war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. By giving to this charity the public show their **compassion** for the soldiers and their families and recognise the service they gave on behalf of us all.

www.helpforheroes.org.uk

- **Help the Hospices.** Sometimes when people become very ill they go to a hospice which will provide them with care and **compassion**. Often hospices are maintained by donations from people who admire and value their service or who have had a relative who has been helped by the hospice.

www.helpthehospices.org.uk

World Vision
Building a better world for children

Help the Hospices

IN SUPPORT OF HELP for HEROES

HALL OF FAME

A famous bear with a spotty scarf



Pudsey Bear became a national mascot in 1985. He was designed by Joanna Ball and she named him after the small town in Yorkshire where she lived and went to school for many years, Pudsey.

When we see Pudsey Bear we immediately think of Children in Need. This charity has grown enormously since it began and raises millions of pounds every year. Thanks to people all over the country, children in the UK and across the world have come to know real kindness and **compassion**, made possible by generous donations to the charity. www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey

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