



St Ann's Church of England

Primary School



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

Value of the Half Term

Compassion

Newsletter Issue 15

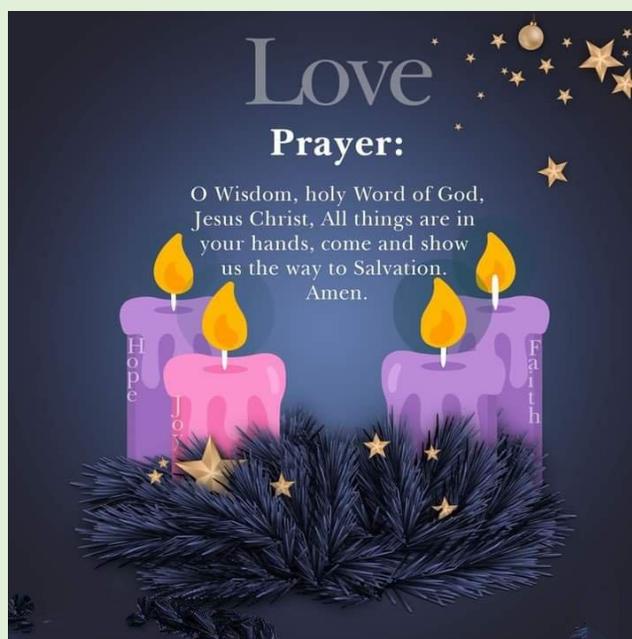
Friday 20 December 2024

Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, you earth; burst into song, you mountains!
For the LORD comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones.

Isaiah 49:13

CONTENTS

1. Message from St Ann's
2. Family Worship
3. Parent Forum Vacancies
4. Polite Reminder
5. What's on in St Helens
6. Spotlight on: Writing, Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar and Handwriting
7. Children's University Winter Challenge
8. Goodbye & Good Luck
9. Thank you, Father Christmas
10. Epiphany Service
11. Swimming 5G
12. Safeguarding Top Tip #12
13. Coming Up...St Ann's Has Got Talent
14. Message from Church about Parking
15. Job Vacancy at St Ann's
16. 2025-26 Term Dates
17. General Information/Reminders



FROM EVERYONE AT ST ANN'S TO OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS...



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>	96.87%
Whole school attendance week ending 13/12/2024	97.78%
Class with best weekly attendance	2M, 2O, 5G & 6A – 100%

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

Punctuality

School starts at **8.50am**. Lessons start at **8.50am**.

School gates open at 8.40am.

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.

Number of pupils with 100% attendance this week

367



School closes today
for Christmas

School re-opens on
Monday 6 January 2025!

FAMILY WORSHIP

On **Friday 23 January 3E** will lead their Family Worship in the hall.

Please wait at the back of school by the hall door ready to be let in.



PARENT FORUM VACANCIES



We have a number of vacancies on this year's Parent Forum. We are keen to fill these, so if you are interested please contact Mrs Rynn via the school office. We look forward to hearing from some parents/ carers soon.

POLITE REMINDER



WHAT'S ON IN ST HELENS?

<https://allabout-family.co.uk/st-helens/>

ST HELENS

View our St. Helens publication:



A SPOTLIGHT ON: WRITING, SPELLING, PUNCTUATION, GRAMMAR & HANDWRITING



Spotlight on Writing - The Reading to Writing Journey

Our goal at St Ann's is to inspire children to become confident, skilled writers. In order to do this, we follow a carefully structured writing process designed to inspire creativity while developing essential skills. Here's an overview of how your child's writing journey unfolds:



1. High-Quality Texts as a Stimulus for Writing

Great writing starts with great reading! Each writing unit begins with a high-quality text for inspiration. Whether it's a gripping story, an informative non-fiction text, or a powerful poem, these texts provide rich examples of language, structure, and style. By immersing themselves in these texts, children develop a deep understanding of the kind of writing they'll create.

2. Exploring 'What a Good One Looks Like'

Before diving into their own writing, children study examples of effective writing to identify key features and language techniques. For instance, in a narrative unit, they might explore how dialogue conveys character or how description builds setting. In a persuasive writing unit, they might analyse how rhetorical questions or emotive language engage the reader. This process helps children understand the building blocks of great writing.

3. Focused Skills Lessons

Throughout each unit, we dedicate time to skills-based lessons. These lessons focus on teaching specific elements of writing required for the unit's purpose, such as: Using fronted adverbials to vary sentence structure (e.g., *As the storm raged, the trees swayed violently*); including dialogue to reveal character traits and advance a story; correctly punctuating sentences to ensure clarity and flow.

4. Gathering Ideas on a Writing Plan

Writing becomes much easier when ideas are organised. Children create writing plans to outline their ideas. This step encourages creativity and ensures their writing has direction and purpose.

5. Drafting, Editing, and Revising

After planning, children draft their writing. Mistakes are a natural part of this process, and we emphasise the importance of editing and revising. Through self-assessment and teacher guidance, children correct errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation, while also enhancing the overall composition. They may revise sentences for greater impact or reorganise ideas for better clarity.

6. Publishing for the Audience

Finally, children produce a polished, final version of their work in the correct format for its intended audience. For example, they might create a beautifully illustrated leaflet, a typed-up persuasive letter, or a handwritten short story. Seeing their work in its finished form gives children a sense of pride and accomplishment, reinforcing their identity as authors.

A Focus on Spelling



Spelling is a key part of the writing process. One of the resources we use is Spelling Shed, a fun and interactive platform where children practice spelling patterns, rules, and word families. The ability to spell words correctly not only boosts confidence but also allows children to focus on the content and creativity of their writing.

WINTER CHALLENGE 2024-25

How Many Can You Complete? (Always ask permission from an adult before doing an activity.)

New Year's Resolutions	Christmas Cooking	Movie Review
<p>When we make a New Year's resolution, we try to make a positive change in our lives.</p> <p>Can you imagine if you could make a New Year's resolution for the whole world? Think of one thing that the whole world could do to bring about positive change in 2025!</p> <p>Write your 2025 New Year's resolution for the world and include it in a decorated background or picture.</p> <p>(1 credit for showing your completed New Year's Resolution to your teacher.)</p>	<p>Get an adult to help you choose and make a Christmas recipe. You can find lots of ideas below. (Or make up your own recipe!)</p> <p>https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/christmas-kids-recipes</p> <p>(2 Credits on showing your teacher a photo of what you made.)</p>	<p>Everyone like to watch Christmas movies during the holidays!</p> <p>Write a movie review and design a poster of your favourite Christmas movie.</p> <p>What to write in your review: What happens in the movie, how did it make you feel, how did you feel the actors performed, what would have made the movie better.</p> <p>What to draw/create in your poster: The name of the movie, famous items from the movie</p> <p>(2 Credits on showing your teacher your writing and poster)</p>
<p>Christmas Wrapping Paper Collage</p> <p>Using Christmas wrapping paper for a collage is a great way to recycle!</p> <p>You could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw an outline of a big fish and use shiny paper for scales. Make a collage dragon or dinosaur. Use your wrapping paper to create an outer space picture. Or think of your own idea for your wrapping paper collage! <p>(1 credit for showing a picture of your collage to your teacher.)</p>	<p>Active Christmas Diary</p> <p>Try to keep active over the Christmas holidays. You could go for a walk with your family, play football, do a dance routine to your favourite song, do some star jumps, skipping, running on the spot etc.</p> <p>Keep a simple diary or activity record of all the activities you did.</p> <p>(2 credits on showing your completed diary/activity record to your teacher.)</p>	<p>Create your own Christmas Board Game</p> <p>Try and create your very own Christmas board game. A couple of rules for the game: It must have at least two players, you must have to roll a dice to move</p> <p>Make it a colourful as possible</p> <p>(1 credits on showing your completed game to your teacher.)</p>

To get your Children's University credits, please return this sheet and evidence to your school Children's University coordinator after the Christmas holidays.



GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK



Today we say goodbye and good luck to Miss Fenney and Mrs Burgess who are embarking on new career pathways in the new year.

We would like to thank them for the contribution they have made to the children at St Ann's. We will miss you both, and hope you stay in touch!

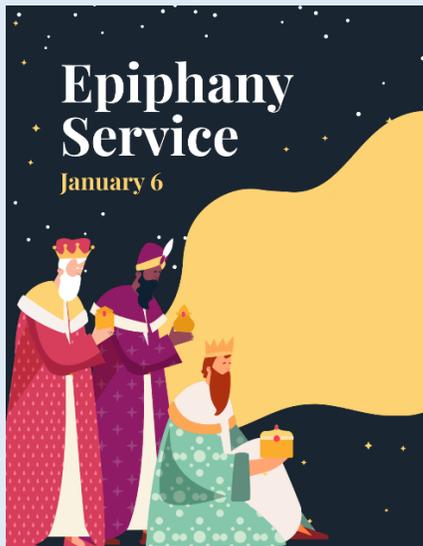
THANK YOU FATHER CHRISTMAS

A big thank you to Father Christmas who visited our EYs and KS1 pupils this week, leaving each of them with a little gift!



EPIPHANY SERVICE

On **Monday 6 January** we will be attending an Epiphany Service at church led by Rev. Alan. Everyone is welcome to join us!



SWIMMING: 5G

On our return to school after the Christmas holiday 5G will swimming Tuesday- Friday for a fortnight. Please refer to separate letter for further details.





SAFEGUARDING TOP TIP #12

How to talk about grief

Children feel similar emotions to adults when they experience a loss, but they may not be able to express it in the same way.

Children may sometimes appear to accept the death, and later become distressed and upset. It is important they are given the time, space and support they need to manage this.

Barnardos Child Bereavement Service recommends that the cause of death (in simple terms) should be shared with children, so they are not at risk of blaming themselves. Being made aware that everyone eventually dies, but normally not until they are very old, can help address the worry that everyone else around them may also die soon. The words “death” or “dead” should be used, rather than phrases like “gone to sleep”, “lost” or “gone”. The honest and direct language reduces confusion, and gives the child or young person all the information that you have. It may feel uncomfortable, or like you’re giving them more to worry about, but in reality, you’re taking away all the things they could invent on their own when you tell them the truth.

For more information please visit

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/support-for-parents-and-carers/mental-health/grief-and-loss/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-grief#:~:text=Explaining%20death%20to%20children%20and%20young%20people&text=The%20words%20%E2%80%9Cdeath%E2%80%9D%20or%20%E2%80%9C,the%20information%20that%20you%20have.>

COMING UP...

ST ANN'S HAS GOT TALENT



Following on from the success of St Ann's Has Got Talent 2024 we are pleased to confirm that our 2024 show will take place on **Monday 31 March 2025** at Rainhill Village Hall.

We would welcome entries from individuals and small groups. If your child would like to take part, please see the application form attached to this Newsletter and email sent out earlier this week for full details. We are so excited to be in a position to once again host St Ann's Has Got Talent.

MESSAGE FROM CHURCH ABOUT PARKING

It has become apparent that Horizon parking failed to follow our directions to switch cameras off for the Christingle service. This has resulted in a series of PCN notices being sent out to anyone who attended on 1st December. We have contacted Horizon and received confirmation that PCNs will be cancelled and requested that letters of apology are issued for that date.

JOB VACANCY AT ST ANN'S

Level 2 Teaching Assistant

The Three Saints Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all those working within the trust to share this commitment. All offers of employment are subject to an Enhanced DBS check, and where applicable, a prohibition from teaching check will be completed for all applicants.

Visits to the school are encouraged and warmly welcomed. Please telephone to arrange an appointment (0151 426 5869).

Application Process:

The application pack is available on <http://www.three-saints.org.uk/index.php/vacancies/>. CVs will not be accepted.

Closing Date, Short-listing & Interviews: Please job adverts

We are seeking to appoint a highly motivated, enthusiastic and talented L2 & L3 teaching assistant to join our outstanding primary school, and who shares our vision for providing a first-class education and instilling all our children with a love of learning.

Who we are looking for:

We are looking for an exceptional teaching assistant who

- Likes working with all children and will be their advocate
- Enjoys the challenge of supporting pupils with complex learning/ pastoral needs
- Is passionate and enthusiastic for learning
- Has high expectations for all children
- Can establish good working relationships with children, staff and parents
- Can take direction and work on own initiative
- Can work as part of a team
- Promotes positive behaviour relentlessly
- Is hard working and conscientious
- Is resilient to set backs
- Sees a challenge as an opportunity
- Is an excellent communicator
- Is organised and efficient
- Is friendly and flexible
- Is professional and positive
- Understands confidentiality



St Ann's is an over-subscribed, two form entry Church of England primary school, with a strong track record of achievement and an outstanding judgement from Ofsted and excellent from SIAMs. We nurture and care for our children in a Christian ethos, placing our children and their family at the centre of our work. Our children are encouraged to be independent, creative and reflective learners who can self-manage, work within a team and effectively participate and communicate.

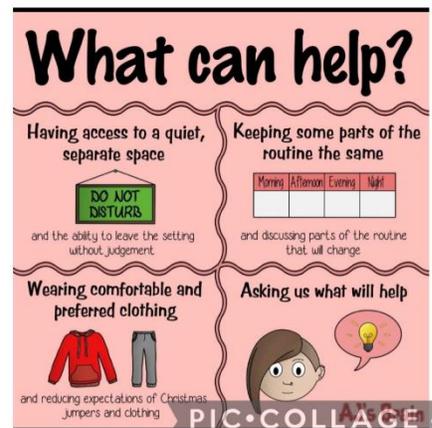
2025/26 TERM DATES

	Open On	Close On
Autumn 2025	Wednesday 3 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025
	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025
Spring 2026	Monday 5 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026
	Monday 23 February 2026	Friday 27 March 2026
Summer 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





What's wrong with **SHARENTING**?

(when parents share photos of their children online)

- Identity theft
- Permanence of digital content
- Losing control of images
- Exposure to child predators
- Creates their children's digital footprints before they are old enough to consent to it



AN E-SAFETY POSTER CREATED BY ONE OF KS2 PUPILS DURING THEIR COMPUTING CLUB



Internet safety

- 1 Always use a strong password
- 2 Never tell anyone you're password
- 3 Tell an adult if you don't understand
- 4 The internet is not always safe
- 5 Never meet up with someone online



BE SAFE





ATTENDANCE REWARD RAFFLE

At St Ann's we are relentless in our focus on attendance because we want the best for our pupils. The research speaks for itself, children with strong levels of attendance, fulfil their full potential and develop the skills and personal qualities required for a happy and fulfilled life.

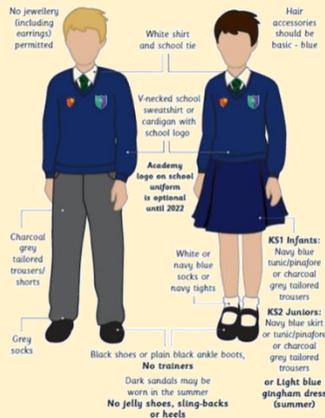
Prize £50 Amazon Voucher

All children with 96%+ attendance, and who have not taken a holiday during term time, by Friday 20 December will be entered into the next Attendance Raffle. **GOOD LUCK** 😊



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 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.

TOAST (Y1-Y6 ONLY)

The deadline for toast (Y1-6) 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.

EARLY YEARS SNACK

Early Years children receive snack on a daily basis. We would be grateful if you would make payment on Arbor of the following amounts by the due dates:

Spring 1 - £10.50 – as soon as possible, if not already done so

Spring 2 - £10.50 – 7th February 2025

Summer 1 - £8.40 – 26th March 2025

Summer 2 - £12.25 – 20th May 2025

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.

TERM DATES 2024-25

Term	Open on	Close on
Autumn Term 2024	4 th September 2024	25 th October 2024
	4 th November 2024	20 th December 2024
Spring Term 2025	6 th January 2025	14 th February 2025
	24 th February 2025	4 th April 2025
Summer Term 2025	22 nd April 2025	23 rd May 2025
	4 th June 2025	22 nd July 2025

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

Children's University Passport £5.00

Replacement Home School Diary £5.00

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

Twitter: [@RainhillStAnns](https://twitter.com/RainhillStAnns)

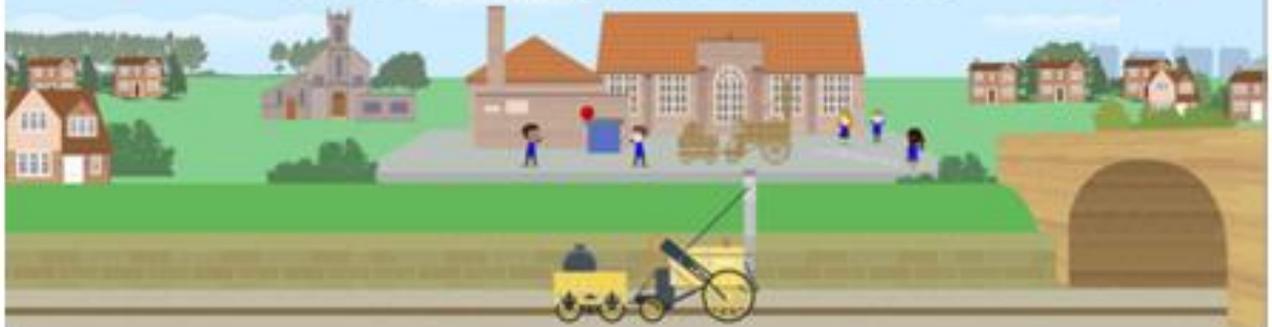
Headteacher: Mrs Laura Rynn

‘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



ST ANN'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
PART OF THE THREE SAINTS ACADEMY TRUST



St Ann's Friends Association

Do you have any time to spare to help run an event?

Could your workplace donate a raffle prize or sponsor an event?

Does your workplace have a match giving scheme for employees?

Do you have any skills or talents to share with our school?

Come and find out more on

Friday 10 January 2025, 2pm at St Ann's

JUSTHELPING
Registered charity number 1110043

RECYCLE YOUR TREE



TO REGISTER

SCAN HERE!

www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

- Registration Opens 15th November 2024
- Registration Closes 8th January 2025
- Collecting 13-17th January 2025

giftaid it



After costs, Willowbrook Hospice receive 90% and up to 10% will be distributed by Just Helping to other local charities. More information on where your donation goes can be found on our website.

Just Helping supports volunteers, businesses, and charities to contribute to their community and the environment. Our national Christmas tree collection raises essential funds for charities in the local community.



DATES FOR DIARY JANUARY -APRIL 2025

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Monday	6th January 2025	School Opens
Monday	6 th January 2025	Y1-Y6 Epiphany Service 2.15-3.00pm @ Church led by Rev Alan. Everyone welcome!
Tuesday-Friday	7 th - 10 th January 2025	5G Swimming
Friday	10 th January 2025	Friends of St Ann's Meeting 2.00-3.00pm. Everyone welcome!
Tuesday-Friday	14 th - 17 th January 2025	5G Swimming
Wednesday	22 nd January 2025	Reception Hearing Tests
Friday	24 th January 2025	3E Family Worship 9.00-9.30am
Friday	24 th January 2025	Talent Show Auditions – must bring costumes, props and music
Wednesday	29 th January 2025	Parent Forum 2.00-3.00pm
Thursday	30 th January 2025	Y5 World Museum visit
Monday -Friday	3 rd -7 th February 2025	Parent Insight Workshops – all year groups (days/times TBC)
Tuesday-Friday	4 th – 7 th February 2025 11 th -14 th February 2025	4H Swimming
Tuesday	11 th February 2025	Y6 Gillmoss Recycling Centre visit
Thursday	13 th February 2025	Y3 Communion 9.30-10.30am @Church
Thursday	13 th February 2025	Spring Disco EY's & Y1 - 3.15-4.15pm Y2 & Y3 – 4.30-4.30pm Y4 – Y6 5.45-6.45pm
Friday	14 th February 2025	Children's University Passport Bank
Friday	14 th February 2025	3D Family Worship 9-9.30am
Friday	14 th February 2025	Super Leaders Church Service 2.15-3.00pm
Friday	14th February 2025	School Closes
Monday	24th February 2025	School Opens
Friday	28 th February 2025	Friends of St Ann's Meeting 2.00-3.00pm
Wednesday	5 th March 2025	Ash Wednesday Service 2.15-3.00pm @ Church led by Rev Alan. Everyone welcome!
Friday	7 th March 2025	2O Family Worship 9.00-9.30am
Monday	10 th March 2025	Assessment Week
Tuesday-Friday	11 th -14 th March 2025 18 th -21 March 2025	4S Swimming
Thursday	13 th March 2025	Y5 Liverpool Philharmonic Hall visit
Friday	14 th March 2025	2M Family Worship 9.00-9.30am
Thursday	20 th March 2025	Open House Book Look 3.30-4.30pm
Monday-Friday	24-28 March 2025	Mentoring Conversations (days & times TBC)
Monday	31 st March 2025	St Ann's Has Got Talent, Village Hall
Thursday	3 rd April 2025	Easter Bingo (session times tbc)
Thursday	3 rd April 2025	Y4 Communion 9.30-10.30am @Church
Friday	4 th April 2025	Children's University Passport Bank

Friday	4 th April 2025	Y5 Easter Service 2.15-3.00pm @ Church
Friday	4th April 2025	School Closes

ST ANN'S HAS GOT TALENT 2025

We are delighted to announce that St Ann's Has Got Talent will be returning to Rainhill Village Hall in 2025.

If your child would like to take part as either an individual act or as part of a small group please complete this application form.

Child's Name.....

Class.....

Name of Act..... E.g. "Dance Magic"
(Please note this will be the name printed in the programme).

Type of Act (e.g. solo dance, group dance, solo instrument etc.)
.....

Names of other children who will be performing this act with you (each child must complete own application form, giving parental consent):
.....
.....
.....

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION FORM; 10th JANUARY 2025
AUDITIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN SCHOOL ON 24th JANUARY 2025

.....

Parental Consent Form

I agree that my child can take part in the above event, be filmed and have their photograph taken. These photographs may be used on Social Media and first name and surname initial may be printed next to their picture.

Signed

TOAST

YEARS 1-6

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 16th July 2024
Autumn 2	£8.50	Midday 15th October 2024
Spring 1	£7.50	Midday 17th December 2024
Spring 2	£7.50	Midday 7th February 2025
Summer 1	£6.00	Midday 26th March 2025
Summer 2	£8.75	Midday 20th May 2025

Total for year £47.75