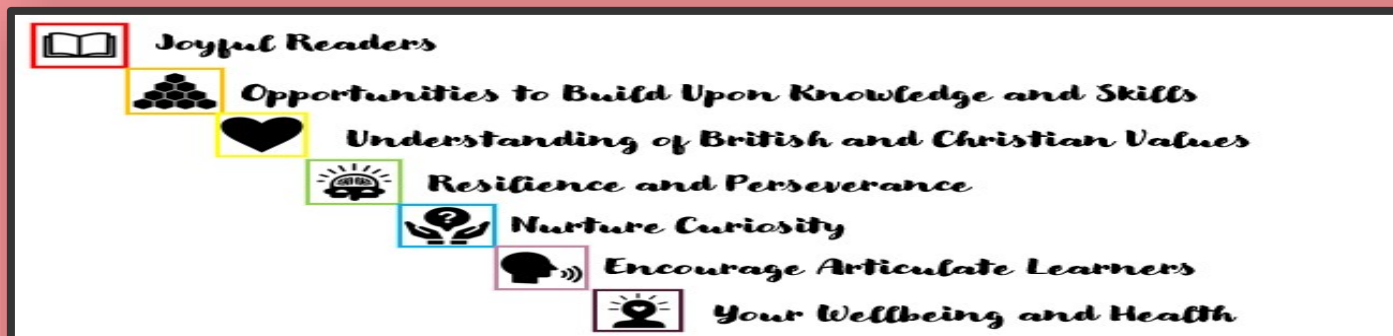


# NEWSLETTER

Email: [www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk](http://www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk)

Twitter: @StJamesCEsth

*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God*



**2024-2025 Issue Number 19 Friday 14th February 2025**

**OUR VALUE THIS  
HALF TERM IS:  
COURAGE**

## **This week at St James**

Dear parents/carers

We have had a wonderful end to the half term this week, and it's delightful to see the first signs of Spring slowly but surely appearing.

On Monday, Mr. Partington visited us again, joining some of our lessons to help deepen our understanding of maths. Mrs. Atherton was also in school, enjoying her time meeting the Year 2 children and getting to know them. She is very excited to return after the half term to continue building these connections.

We also had an archery assembly, and we hope many children will sign up for this exciting club. For more information, please check the school app.

On Wednesday, our Digital Leaders led in-class worship for Safer Internet Day. They did an amazing job, and the children learned so much. A big thank you to Miss McDonald for organising this event.

It was lovely to see so many parents at the Year 4 and Year 5 residential meeting. We are incredibly grateful to Generation Green and YHA Malham for this fantastic opportunity, and we are all looking forward to the trip in the first week back after half term.

As we look ahead to the new half term, we are excited about the many activities and learning opportunities that await us. We will continue to nurture a love of learning, foster creativity, and encourage our children to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God guiding us every step of the way.

During the half term break, enjoy spending time in nature with your family and have fun sharing our green planet with your loved ones. Please share your experiences with a photograph on the school's X account (formerly known as Twitter).

Finally, as we bid farewell to Mrs. Bond, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for her dedication and hard work during her time at St. James Primary School. We will miss her greatly but are excited for her as she embarks on a new journey in her career. We wish Mrs. Bond all the best in her new job and know she will continue to make a positive impact wherever she goes.

Have a lovely half term!

Mrs Briers



# School Matters!



**Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow**

## Attendance Updates

We need to try really hard each and every week to make sure every year group is beating our **97% target**—this will help us to succeed!

Our Whole School attendance to date is 95.7%

The class with the highest attendance this week, and the winner of the virtual £5 is Reception and Year 2

There were 134 pupils with perfect attendance this week. Can we beat this next week?

The winner of this terms attendance competition is Demi Rattray.

## Weekly Attendance

Whole School	95.5%
Reception	97.3%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	95.4%
Year 5	92.3%
Year 6	97%

## Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....



**Be In SCHOOL**  
**Be On TIME**



*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.*



## Term Dates

**2024-2025**

<b>Autumn Term</b>		<b>Days</b>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	33
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	34
<b>Spring Term</b>		
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	30
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	33
<b>Summer Term</b>		
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025	23
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025	37
		190

## Term Dates

**2025-2026**

<b>Autumn Term</b>		<b>Days</b>
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	38
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	35
<b>Spring Term</b>		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	30
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	25
<b>Summer Term</b>		
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	29
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	33
		190





## Whole School events Spring 2

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
24/02/2025	School Re-opens 8.40am
26/02/2025	Year 4 and Year 5 Residential begins
26/05/2025	School Nurse drop-in 3.30pm
27/02/2025	Archery Club starts 8.00am
27/05/2025	Year 3 Football
05/03/2025	Year 5 Swimming starts
05/03/2025	Ash Wednesday Service, St James' the Great Church, 10.30am
06/03/2025	World Book Day
11/03/2025	Year 3 Trip - Liverpool Philharmonic and World Museum
17/03/2025	Young Carers action day
17/03/2025	Year 1 Phonics Information 2.00pm
24/03/2025	Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
24/03/2025	Book Fair 3.30pm
25/03/2025	Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
25/03/2025	Book Fair 3.30pm
26/03/2025	Book Fair 3.30pm
26/03/2025	New Hope Fundraising Day
28/03/2025	Reception Mother's Day Event 2.00pm-3.00pm
31/03/2025	Eid Celebration Day
01/04/2025	Year 5 and Year 6 Hockey
08/04/2025	Easter Service, St James' the Great Church, Year 3 to lead
09/04/2025	School Closes for Easter 2.00pm

**Keeping  
children safe  
is everyone's  
responsibility**



### Safeguarding Tip of the Week

#### Supporting Children's Mental Health

At St James, we are committed to promoting the mental well-being of our students. As outlined in the **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024** guidance, schools play a crucial role in fostering positive mental health and ensuring the safety and welfare of children.

Our Role in Promoting Positive Mental Health

**Creating a Safe Environment:** We strive to create a nurturing and safe environment where children feel valued and supported. This includes implementing anti-bullying policies and ensuring that every child has a trusted adult they can turn to.

**Early Identification and Support:** Our staff are trained to recognise signs of mental health issues and provide early support. We work closely with parents and mental health professionals to ensure that children receive the help they need promptly.

**Mental Health Education:** We incorporate mental health education into our curriculum to help children understand and manage their emotions. This includes teaching coping strategies, resilience, and the importance of seeking help when needed.

**Access to Resources:** We provide access to various mental health resources, including counselling services and support groups. Our goal is to ensure that every child has the tools they need to thrive both academically and emotionally.

**Parental Involvement:** We believe that parents play a vital role in supporting their children's mental health. We offer workshops and resources to help parents understand and address mental health issues.

By working together, we can create a supportive community that prioritises the mental well-being of our children. If you have any concerns about your child's mental health, please do not hesitate to reach out to our dedicated team.

Let's continue to make St James a place where every child feels safe, supported, and ready to learn!



## Online Safety Tip of the Week

### Developing Emotional Literacy



As we grow up, we're inevitably exposed to new and challenging feelings - whether it's sadness, fear or rage. These emotions can be tough to handle when we're still learning about the world - and even once we've passed into adulthood - which is why emotional literacy is a vital life skill. Of course, when emotions are running high, it can be tricky to help young people process these feelings in a healthy way, but it's incredibly important that we do so as parents and educators. This week's free guide provides you with expert tips on teaching children to recognise their own emotions and deal with them in a mature manner.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEVELOP EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Emotional literacy refers to the ability to recognise, understand and express our feelings effectively. It plays a crucial role in strengthening a child's wellbeing by enhancing their relationships and resilience. However, emotional literacy is not necessarily an innate talent, and its development may present challenges. This guide gives parents and educators practical tips on supporting children to cultivate this essential skill.

## 1 NAME THE EMOTION

Encourage children to identify and name their emotions. This helps them understand what they're feeling and why. Use simple language and relatable examples to make it easier for them to share their emotions. This builds a foundation for emotional understanding and open communication.



## 2 MODEL EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

Demonstrate healthy emotional expression by sharing your feelings visibly. When children see adults properly displaying how they're doing and what they're thinking, they learn to do the same. Discuss how you handle emotions in different circumstances, providing a real-life framework for young ones to follow.



## 3 MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES

Teach children mindfulness practices to help them stay present and manage their emotions during more challenging moments. Activities like deep breathing, meditation or yoga can reduce stress and enhance emotional regulation. Regular practice can improve focus and emotional stability, which can significantly help children both as they're growing up and throughout their adult life.



## 4 USE STORYTELLING

Incorporate storytelling to help children understand emotions. Stories can offer relevant scenarios illustrating how the characters experience and manage their feelings. Discuss the emotions depicted in stories and ask children how they might feel in similar situations.



## 5 PRACTISE EMPATHY

Teach children to consider others' views and emotions - and to explore why they might think or feel this way. Role-playing and discussing various scenarios can enhance their ability to empathise. Understanding others' emotions helps children to develop compassion and improves their social interactions.



## 6 ENCOURAGE JOURNALING

Suggest keeping a journal to make note of thoughts and emotions, as writing can provide an outlet for self-reflection and emotional processing. Encourage children to write about their daily experiences and feelings, helping them gain insight into their emotional world. Do this alongside them, so they can see and experience how to do it effectively.

## Spirituality Spotlight

As a school community we want to be:

**"Journeying together to Live,  
Learn and Laugh with the Love of  
God"**



A Prayer for February Half Term

Dear Heavenly Father,

As we approach the February half term, we thank You for the many blessings You have bestowed upon us. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God in our hearts.

We pray for our children, teachers, and families. May they find rest and rejuvenation during this break. Guide them with Your wisdom and fill their hearts with joy and peace.

Help us to remember Your presence in our lives, and may we carry Your love with us in all that we do. Let us return refreshed and ready to continue our journey of learning and growing together.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.*



THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT

### 'Show the Love' – Environmental Project.

Our school vision is "Journeying together to live, learn and laugh with the love of God." As we are journeying together at St James, we aim to instil a love for God's creation and learn more about how we can give future joy to the next generations.

For the past 10 years, The Climate Coalition have shared the message of the issues of climate control

Last year, we created a plethora of green hearts to symbolise this love for our amazing planet. The challenge for this year is for you to get into nature and create a heart from the many natural resources. This can be created with twigs, stones, acorns, leaves etc.

While you are out with your family during half term, enjoy spending time in nature and have fun sharing our green planet with the ones you love. Perhaps you could have a spiritual moment in a woodland, park or a forest and ask each other the following questions:

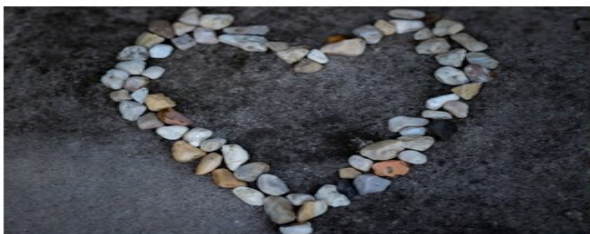
What is your favourite thing about our planet?

What sounds can you hear when you close your eyes?

How do you feel being in the God's creation?

Please share these experiences with a photograph and share it with either the school's X account (formally known as Twitter) or with your child's class teacher. Please complete the slip on the back of this letter and return this to school after the half-term where we can display some of your photographs and ideas.

There are some suggestions of what hearts you can make on the reverse of this letter. Will it be a big heart or many small hearts? Will each of your family members make their own heart? The choice is yours and I hope you and your family have a wonderful time!



***Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.***





### **Journey Driver Focus:**

Each half term, one child from each class is nominated by their class teacher for 'living out' our value of the half term. The value for this half term is Understanding Christian and British Values.

<b>RECEPTION</b>	Olivia-Rose Preston
<b>YEAR 1</b>	Toby Jones-Pendlebury
<b>YEAR 2</b>	Joseph
<b>YEAR 3</b>	Joseph Webb
<b>YEAR 4</b>	James Hunter
<b>YEAR 5</b>	David Udeh
<b>YEAR 6</b>	Andrew Inglis

### **Christian Value Focus:**

#### **Courage**

Each half term, one child from each class is nominated by their class teacher for 'living out' our value of the half term. The value for this half term is 'Courage'

<b>RECEPTION</b>	Oliver Klempt
<b>YEAR 1</b>	Poppy Siddall
<b>YEAR 2</b>	Emily Gartside
<b>YEAR 3</b>	George Twist
<b>YEAR 4</b>	Matida Smith-Pilling
<b>YEAR 5</b>	Lily Hind
<b>YEAR 6</b>	Aedria Angeles



### **PE Days**

**Start** (Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 25)

**End** (Fri 7<sup>th</sup> March 25).

**Monday**      Year 3 and Year

**Tuesday**      Year 5 and Year

**Wednesday**      Reception  
Year 5 and  
Year 6

**Thursday**      Year 1 and Year  
2

**Friday**      Year 1 , Year 2.  
Year 3 and Year

**Y5 Swimming (5th March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April)**



## Clubs

We are running the following after school clubs next half term.

Booking is now open on Parent App.

- **Monday**
  - KS2 Darts Club with Mr Ratcliffe
- **Tuesday**
  - FAB Club for Y3 and Y4 with Miss Barratt
- **Wednesday**
  - Nature Club for YR and Y1 with Mrs Bibby and Mrs Boardman.
- **Thursday–**
  - 8am Archery Club with external provider.
  - Multi-skills for KS1 with the Sports Coach

If your child is in Y4, Y5 or Y6, you may receive a letter inviting them to attend

# MUSIC SERVICE ENSEMBLES AT ST HELENS TOWN HALL

## 2024 - 25 FREE!

<b>TUESDAY...</b> ROCK & POP BAND 4.30PM - 5.50PM	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> WIDER OPPORTUNITIES BAND 4PM - 5PM	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> INTERMEDIATE WIND BAND 4PM - 5PM	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> INTERMEDIATE STRINGS 4PM - 5PM
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> MUSIC THEORY CLUB 4PM - 5PM	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> YOUTH WIND ORCHESTRA 5.15PM - 6.30PM	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> SINFONIA 5.15PM - 6.30PM	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> MUSIC THEORY CLUB 5.15PM - 6.30PM

ST HELENS COUNCIL MUSIC SERVICE

INSPIRING MUSICAL CREATIVITY  
FOR EVERY CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON IN MERSEY

@sthelensmusic @sthelensmusic.service

**01744 677946**  
music.service@sthelens.gov.uk

SCAN THE QR CODE  
BELOW TO JOIN AND  
REGISTER TODAY

*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.*



# IN OTHER NEWS



ARCHERY EDUCATION  
www.judoeducation.co.uk

Mobile : 07809147757

eMail : matt@archeryeducation.co.uk



## THE OLYMPIC SPORT OF ARCHERY IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL



### What can Archery do for your child?

- Increase Confidence
- Increase Concentration
- Self Discipline and Respect
- Increased Health & Fitness

- The classes are taught by fully qualified coaches.
- They have extensive experience in teaching children of all ages and abilities.
- All Coaches are Fully CRB/DBS Cleared



There are 5 levels in our course and each year your child can progress to the next skill level.



### The Educational Archery course includes :

- All Coaching Fees
- All Archery Equipment
- Certificate of Achievement
- Weekly Awards



## ST JAMES CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Cost:	£30	Time:	8.00 – 8.45am
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To secure your child's place, please scan to code below or follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/6DE6VwtV92z2H2T8>

to fill in the form. Confirmations and payment details will then be sent out via Email.

5 week Archery Course, scan this QR code to join!



**\*\* Please note that this class will take place OUTSIDE so please ensure your child has suitable clothing and footwear\*\***

# IN OTHER NEWS



**CHEFS CLUB  
ST JAMES CE  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

## **AFTER SCHOOL COOKERY CLUB**



ENROL YOUR BUDDING CHEFS ON THIS ALL ACTION COURSE.  
THEY WILL LEARN BASIC KNIFE SKILLS, HOW TO FOLLOW  
RECIPES, BAKE, PEEL, CHOP AND COOK LIKE A REAL CHEF!

RETURN COURSE AFTER COURSE.

SIGN THE LETTER AND RETURN THE SLIP TO ATTEND.  
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT, PLACES GO FAST!

[www.chefdepartyinfo.co.uk](http://www.chefdepartyinfo.co.uk)



CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY CREDITS AWARDED FOR ATTENDANCE



GIVE VOUCHERS AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE COURSES AND  
PERSONALISED APRONS

If you would like to book your budding chef on to this 5 week course  
please contact the school office for booking details.



@infochefdeparty



Chef de Party



@chef\_dePparty\_1

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**ST JAMES AND PARISH**



**ST JAMES VS PARISH ROCKSLAM**

**07 FEBRUARY - 14 MARCH 2025**

\* ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE \*  
PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE \* THE WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE  
THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PUPIL \*  
ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR FULL DETAILS AND RULES \*







# SHROVE

# TUESDAY

YUM!

HAPPY PANCAKE DAY



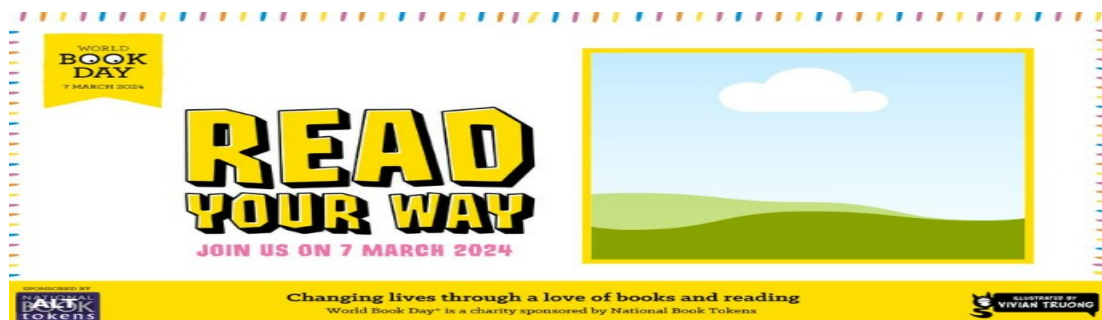
## TUESDAY 4TH OF MARCH

## DESSERT OF THE DAY (CAN YOU GUESS?)



## PANCAKES WITH BANANAS





This year, World Book Day will be held on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March** and we hope you'll join us to celebrate across the school.

Reading for pleasure is a vital indicator of a child's future success and it is **'the beating heart'** of our curriculum. We want to see all of our children form a life-long habit of reading and thus enjoy the improved life chances this provides for them.

The theme for this year's World Book Day is to **'Read Your Way!'** and **celebrate with words**. Therefore, we are inviting children to come in **dressed as a word of their choice**, which will support and encourage vocabulary development in a fun, creative way. Some examples include *athletic, creative, fragile, mythical, vibrant, brave, glamorous, courageous, duplicate, celebrate, hilarious, sleepy, festive, puzzled, contagious, nocturnal, ancient, illuminate, retro, coronation, blizzard, emotion, excavate, archaeologist, skeletal, astronaut etc.* The list is endless and there are lots of brilliant ideas online!

If your child already has a World Book Day costume in mind, they could still dress as a character and choose a word associated with their character. For example: Harry Potter could be associated with the word **'magic'**, Incredible Hulk could be associated with the word **'strong'**, Elmer the Elephant could be associated with the word **'colourful'**, George's Marvellous Medicine could be associated with the word **'curious'** etc. We have lots of exciting activities planned for the day including a vocabulary parade, competitions, reading buddies, visits from some of the Saints RLFC players and many more.

Further information to follow after half-term!

Many thanks for your support,

Miss Dodd  
English Leader



*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.*





# Love Learning Childcare

## Places Available

We have both Funded and Non-Funded places available at our nursery for children aged 18 Months – 4 Years.

**OPENING 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2025**

## What we offer:



As well as our new, fun and engaging setting full of resources. We have secured an amazing outdoor space for us to explore some Forest School activities.



Email: [lisa.lovelearning79@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.lovelearning79@gmail.com)

  
**Ofsted**

We are Ofsted Registered!



Lily the  
Love Learning Bear



## Holiday Club

We have a Holiday Club available each School Holiday. The dates can be found on our Facebook Page  Love Learning Haydock! Alternatively, contact Lisa on 07749873295.

Our Holiday Club welcomes children aged 2-8 Years Old.  
8.30am – 5.30pm



Special Offer!  
£30 Per Day  
£120 Full Week



## Where?

St James Parish Centre  
Church Rd,  
**Haydock,**  
Saint Helens,  
WA11 0NJ



*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.*





Leading the way in  
providing tech-based  
activities that are both  
inspirational and  
educational!

# FEBRUARY HALF TERM TECH CLUBS

## ST HELENS



**Rainford High School**

Higher Lane, Rainford, WA11 8NY



19th & 20th Feb 2025



9am-3pm

half days available



**Providing fun, educational  
activities this half term!-**

**Wednesday-** Digital Animation & Minecraft

**Thursday-** Robotics & Minecraft

**BOOK!**

Visit the link or scan the code-  
[computerexplorers.co.uk/bolton-wigan/book](https://computerexplorers.co.uk/bolton-wigan/book)



@CompXBolton

*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.*





## Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins beginning February 2025



Come along to one of our drop in sessions in St Helens.

Our team will answer questions you have about the neurodevelopment pathway process.

You don't need to be using our service, you can drop in if you have any questions to ask about this.

We look forward to meeting you.

**Second Tuesday of the month at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub 1pm to 4pm.**

**Third Tuesday of the month at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.**

**Fourth Tuesday of the month at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.**

**11 February** at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**11 March** at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**8 April** at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**18 February** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**18 March** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**15 April** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**25 February** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**25 March** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**22 April** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

Sutton Family Hub, Ellamsbridge Road, Sutton, St Helens, WA9 3PY



## Mental Health Support Team Wellbeing webinars



Your MHST is running a series of mental health and wellbeing webinars.

### TOPICS AND DATES

Understanding Low Mood - **25 February**  
Neurodiversity - **18 March**  
Parenting Skills for Behaviour - **29 April**  
LGBTQ+ - **10 June**  
Emotional Regulation - **13 May**  
Body Image - **8 July**

### WHEN

**Tuesdays 3.30pm to 4.15pm on Zoom**  
(link will be emailed once you register)

Webinars will be recorded. No chat function will be available for safety purposes.

We have two webinars available on our website. These sessions focus on Understanding Anxiety will give you a flavour of what to expect from a session.

To register please email which webinar you want to attend to [events@merseycare.nhs.uk](mailto:events@merseycare.nhs.uk)



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