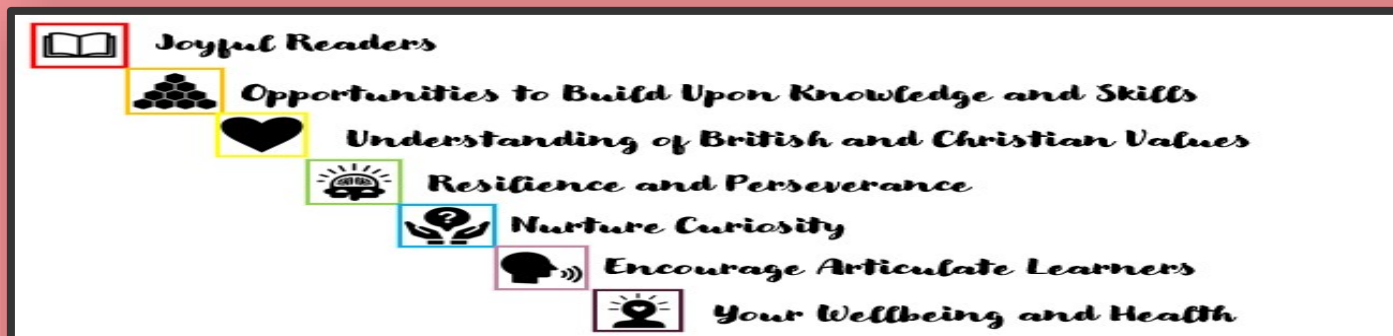


NEWSLETTER

Email: www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk

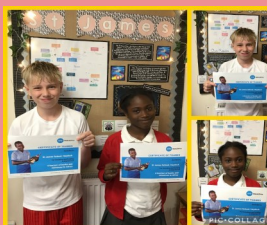
Twitter: @StJamesCEsth

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



2024-2025 Issue Number 37 Friday 18th July 2025

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, what a year it's been – a year full of excitement, growth, and achievement! As we reach the end of another school year, we want to take a moment to say a heartfelt thank you to all our families for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. It truly makes all the difference.

As our November SIAMS report so beautifully put it: *"This is a school built on love."* That couldn't be more true. Every day, we see that love in action – in the kindness of our children, the dedication of our staff, and the support of our community.

This year, we also say a fond farewell and a huge thank you to Mr William Wiswell, our Chair of Governors, and Mrs Andrea Conant, our Inclusion Lead. Their commitment to St James has been invaluable. Over the years, their contributions have helped our school to thrive and have made a lasting difference to so many lives. We are deeply grateful for their service and wish them every success and happiness in the future.

Next week, we celebrate our wonderful Year 6 pupils at their Leavers' Service on Tuesday at 9:30am. It promises to be a moving and joyful occasion – a chance to reflect on their journey and wish them every success as they take their next steps. They have been a credit to our school, and we will miss them greatly!

Looking ahead to next year, we're excited to continue building on our successes. Here are some of the key areas we'll be focusing on:

- Making sure every child can thrive by removing barriers to learning and ensuring everyone feels included and supported.
- Supporting wellbeing and personal growth, so that every child feels happy, safe, and ready to learn.
- Strengthening the foundations of learning, making sure all children gain the essential knowledge and skills they need to succeed.
- Improving attendance, so that every child has the best chance to achieve their potential.
- Developing leadership across the school, especially for those new to their roles, to keep our school moving forward with strength and vision.

A reminder that school closes at 2pm on Tuesday 22nd July. We return on Wednesday 3rd September, and we're trying something new this year – our Meet the Teacher event will take place during a Parents' Coffee Morning on Thursday 4th September at 9am. We hope to see many of you there!

Wishing you all a joyful, restful, and sunny summer break. Thank you once again for journeying with us – to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God.

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 96%

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

There were 132 pupils with perfect attendance this week. Can we beat this next week?

Weekly Attendance

Whole School	96.9%
Reception	97.1%
Year 1	93.7%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	96.3%
Year 4	97.9%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	99.5%





Term Dates

2025-2026

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



Whole School events Autumn |

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
03.09.2025	School Re-opens at 8.40am
04.09.2025	Coffee Morning - Meet the Teacher
15.09.2025	Democracy Day
29.09.2025	Reception Welcome Service in church 2.30pm
30.09.2025	Flu Vaccinations
02.10.2025	Year 5 led Harvest Service in church 2.30pm
09.10.2025	Coffee Morning - School Pledge Launch Event
14.10.2025	Year 4 Trip - Deva Museum Chester
16.10.2025	Year 6 Class Assembly
20.10.2025	Year 6 - Bike ability
24.10.2025	School Closes 3.20pm

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

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Keeping Our Children Safe during the Summer

As we approach the summer holidays, we want to remind all our families of the importance of keeping children safe, happy, and healthy during the break. While summer is a time for fun and relaxation, it also brings unique risks that we must all be mindful of. At our school, safeguarding is always a priority, and we encourage you to continue this commitment at home. Based on guidance from *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024* and trusted child safety experts, here are some key tips to help keep your children safe this summer:

1. Stay Safe in the Sun

- Apply broad-spectrum sunscreen (SPF 30+) regularly, especially after swimming or sweating.
- Encourage children to wear hats, sunglasses, and sun-protective clothing.
- Ensure they take regular breaks in the shade and stay hydrated

2. Water Safety

- Always supervise children near water—whether it's a paddling pool, beach, or public swimming area.
- Designate a responsible adult as a "water watcher" who avoids distractions like phones.
- Use Coast Guard-approved life jackets for non-swimmers and avoid relying on inflatables

3. Online Safety

- With more free time, children may spend longer online. Keep communication open about what they're doing and who they're talking to.
- Use parental controls and privacy settings, and remind children never to share personal information
- Encourage screen-free time and outdoor play to balance digital activity

4. Road and Travel Safety

- Teach children how to cross roads safely and ensure they wear helmets when cycling or scooting.
- Never leave children unattended in vehicles, even for a short time.
- If travelling, ensure car seats are correctly fitted and children are securely buckled in.

5. Emotional Wellbeing

- Summer can be a time of change and uncertainty for some children. Keep routines where possible and check in regularly on how they're feeling.
- Encourage social interaction, creative play, and time outdoors to support mental health.

We hope all our families enjoy a safe and restful summer. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe as we *journey together to live, learn and laugh with the love of God*.

If you have any safeguarding concerns over the summer, please contact the local authority or NSPCC helpline at **0808 800 5000**.

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

Online Safety Tip of the Week



Top Tips for Parents and Educators: How to Stay Safe on the Road

Staying safe on our roads isn't just a skill — it's a lifelong habit. It is crucial to learn key strategies for helping children navigate streets safely and confidently, from practising journeys together to teaching them how to choose the safest crossing points.

National Online Safety have collaborated with THINK! to offer real-world advice on issues like the dangers of parked vehicles, reversing cars and mobile phone distractions — it's an invaluable tool for parents and educators who want to help young people travel independently without compromising their safety.

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles — which may have a green number plate — and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing — looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk — not run — when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb — not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running — but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle — it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds: can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours — whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking — with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 30.04.2025

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

Spirituality Spotlight

As a school community we want to be:

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



End of Year Prayer

Dear God,

As we come to the end of this school year,
we pause to give thanks for all we have shared and achieved together.
Thank You for the laughter, the learning, and the love that has filled our classrooms and playgrounds.
Thank You for guiding us as we have grown in knowledge, friendship, and faith.

We are grateful for the journey we have taken—
to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God at the heart of all we do.
For every challenge overcome, every lesson learned, and every moment of joy, we give You praise.

We pray for our children and families as they begin their summer break.
Keep them safe, rested, and joyful.
May their days be filled with sunshine, peace, and time together.

We lift up those who are moving on to new schools and new adventures.
Go with them, Lord, and bless them with courage, confidence, and kindness.
May they carry with them all they have learned and the love they have known here.

We also give thanks for the staff who are leaving us.
May they be blessed in the next chapter of their journey,
knowing they have made a lasting difference in the lives of many.

Loving God,
watch over our whole school family this summer.
Bring us back together refreshed and ready for the year ahead,
still walking in Your light and growing in Your love.

Amen.

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 'Encourage Articulate Learners'

RECEPTION	Daisy Hind
YEAR 1	Bethel Ejimofor
YEAR 2	Lucy Eccleston
YEAR 3	Alice Slater
YEAR 4	Lydia Burke
YEAR 5	Charlie Hand
YEAR 6	Briella Shaw

Living Values Award:

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 'Respect'

RECEPTION	Lily Paton
YEAR 1	Poppy Siddall
YEAR 2	Sofia Bate
YEAR 3	Nylah Lee
YEAR 4	Elliot Lee
YEAR 5	Charlie Hand
YEAR 6	Amelia Pickering



JULY 2025

HAF Summer program

The Family hub have produced an action-packed fun guide to show you all of the great things that are happening across St Helens borough over the summer holidays.

If your child is aged 4-18 and eligible for benefit related free school meal and would like to attend, please see our list of providers who will be running the activities. Children who are in receipt of a support plan or EHCP are also eligible for the HAF programme.

Take a look at our [HAF Summer 2025 Guide \(PDF, 17 MB\)](#) to see what is happening near you. The guide is presented in a handy calendar format to help you plan activities for each day during the school holidays.

Find FREE events and activities suitable for you using the age ranges next to the listings.

We have endeavoured to ensure that all sessions are SEND friendly, but would advise you to pre-book sessions and speak to the facilitator for further information on suitability and individual requirements for your children.

Booking links for all activities will go live at 2pm on Monday 14 July for people to book onto all activities. Places are subject to availability.





Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins



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.

Tuesdays at Parr Children's Centre and Central Link Family Hub
See details and times below

12 August at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

23 September at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

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

26 August at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

7 October at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

9 December at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

9 September at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

21 October at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

18 November at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

16 December at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

We work with children and young people with complex neurodevelopmental difficulties, who need an assessment to gain a better understanding of their needs.

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

Central Link Family Hub, Westfield Street, (off Peter Street), St Helens, WA10 1QF



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



**MERSEYSIDE POLICE ARE
HOLDING A FREE SPORTS,
CRAFT AND GAMES EVENT
AT OUTWOOD ACADEMY
LEISURE CENTRE, CLIPSLEY
LANE, HAYDOCK,
ST HELENS.**



**Every Wednesday and Friday
throughout the summer holidays
from 30th July until 22nd August
- 1pm until 3pm.**

Ages 5 to 18. All abilities welcome.

**Under 10's need to be accompanied by
an adult at all times. Refreshments and
snacks will be provided.**

**Consent forms will need to be completed
on the first session by an adult.**



**For more information
or a consent form,
please contact:**

**PCSO Emma Stevens
0151 777 6147**

**PCSO Natalie Gabriel
0151 777 6139**



**PROJECT
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prevention
is at our core, putting our community first



**MERSEYSIDE
POLICE**
Putting our Community First

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



What's Going On With Autism and ADHD Help in St Helens?

July 2025 Update

Why is this being shared?

Parent Carers have told us how important communication is about the local Neurodevelopmental Pathway. So, here are some things you and your family may want to know!

How Long Will it Take?

Autism Pathway

	Time for reply after referral	Within 4 weeks
	Speech & Language Assessment	Within 18 weeks
	Paediatrician Assessment	About 45 weeks
	Whole Process	About 25 months

What Help Can You Get?

In St Helens, you can get the same support before, during and after a referral to the Pathway.



Help at School: Adaptations & support in can be given regardless of a diagnosis. Speak with your SENCO or Teacher.



SEND Info Hub: Visit the Hub for information about the Local Offer, including support in Family Hubs.



Learning & Peer Support: Access a range of support with Advanced Solutions Tel: 01744 582 172



Emotional Wellbeing: Visit Thrive for CYP MH support including MHST in Primaries and Resilience Service in High Schools.



Sleep: For support with sleep, first contact the 0-19+ Service on Tel 01744 411 277 or your local Family Hub Tel 01744 673 445 or visit [Sleep Charity](#)

How Long Will it Take?

ADHD Pathway



Time for reply after referral

Within 4 weeks



Qb Test

Within 18 weeks



Decision Appt (Paediatrician) / Whole Process

About 24 months



Let's Clear Up Some Myths!



"Having a diagnosis will give my CYP access to new areas of support."



Nope! Lots of help is there before, during or after being on the Pathway.



"School won't help without a diagnosis."



Schools in St Helens will support based on individual needs using the graduated response.



"My child's referral was rejected by the Pathway, because school doesn't see the differences or didn't fill it in properly."



Non-acceptance is usually due to the Pathway believing that more helpful work can be done with the young person first.



"A diagnosis will mean that my young person can access specialist educational provision."



Access is based on need and not a diagnosis.



"Having a diagnosis of Autism or ADHD will allow my child to access medication."



Medication should be a last resort option and will only be considered after other strategies have been trialled.



"A diagnosis will mean my child can get an EHCP."



Also based on need rather than a diagnosis and many CYP, including those with a diagnosis, can be fully supported and understood under their schools universal and SEND provision.



The next update will come Sept 2025



FREE CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS FOR 7-11 YEAR OLDS

Read Now Write Now and St Helens Libraries are running FREE writing workshops where children can learn about local nature and get creative by writing a short, inspiring story and designing an illustration about why nature is so important and how we can all help protect it. The workshop sessions will take place at:

Newton le Willows Library Wed 23rd July 10.30am - 12.30pm

Haydock Library Thurs 24th July 10am - 12pm

Eccleston Library Thurs 24th July 2pm - 4pm

St Helens Library Fri 25th July 10am - 12pm

Thatto Heath Library Fri 25th July 10am - 12pm

Taylor Park, St Helens Mon 18th August 10am - 12pm

To book onto one of the workshop sessions please go to our Eventbrite page at: tinyurl.com/bdeu96kb or scan the code below (there are limited spaces at each venue).



For more information about these sessions please go - our blog at tinyurl.com/yehb8ah6 or email charles@readnowwritenow.org.uk

Please note that sessions will be accessible and inclusive.



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



THE
READING
AGENCY

Summer Reading Challenge

Story Garden



Story Garden Illustrations by Dapo Adeola, illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency 2025

Summer Events At Haydock Library

Craft Sessions

Friday 25th July 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Thursday 21st August 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Enjoy our fun craft activity and make something to take home

Lego and Knex

Thursday 31st July 10.30am – 11.30am

Come along and see what you can build with our Lego and Knex sets

National Playday

Thursday 7th August 10.30am – 11.30am

Have lots of fun with our board game set's

Big Games

Friday 8th August 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Join in and have lots of fun with our big games set's



@STHLibraries



@sthlibrariesandarts



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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



JULY 2025

Listen 4 Change Newsletter



Contact Listen 4 Change:

Website : www.listen4change.uk

Email: listen4change@outlook.com

Facebook private group -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1815692118888096>

Facebook page - Listen4Change, St Helens Parent Carer
Forum | Saint Helens | Facebook

JOIN US FOR A COFFEE & CHAT – YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Each month, Listen 4 Change hosts daytime and evening coffee events for parent carers of children and young people (0–25) with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

A relaxed space to connect with other parent carers, share experiences, and talk openly about local services. Your feedback is shared by Parent Reps to help shape better support. Whether you want to influence change or simply chat—we'd love to see you.



📍 Drop in and say hello:

Wonderland Community Centre cic
Canal St, Saint Helens WA10 3JQ

Coffee events next term

10am-12pm Fridays - 12th Sept, 10th Oct, 7th Nov and 5th Dec

6.30-8pm Tuesdays - 30th Sept, 21st Oct, 25th Nov

Childrens Commissioner attending 12th September

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