

Friday 25th September 2026

Churchtown Chatter

Newsletter 4



Joy



Acceptance



Connection



Independence



Growth



A message from the Headteacher:

There has been lots of excitement around school this week, particularly as our Year 6 children set off on their Robinwood residential on Wednesday.

They have embraced every adventure with enthusiasm, resilience and teamwork. We are very proud of how they have represented Churchtown and know they will return with lots of wonderful memories.

Looking ahead, we are excited to be welcoming prospective families into school for our Open Morning next Monday. We are delighted that the event is now fully booked. If you know of any families looking for a Reception place, further Open Morning dates and information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, including details of our next Open Morning on 19th October.

A reminder that our school flu vaccinations will be taking place on Wednesday 30th September. Further information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter along with the QR Consent code.

Have a great weekend, from Mrs Payne

Contact:

01704 508500

Follow us on:

Twitter:

@ChurchtownSch

Facebook:

Churchtown
Primary School

Attendance

This week's Attendance Champions
are:

Oak

for 100% attendance!

The Year Group with the highest
attendance this week is:

Year 3

Well done everybody!





Churchtown Open Mornings



Join us for our Churchtown Open Morning and discover all that our school has to offer!

We are delighted to invite prospective families to visit Churchtown, explore our facilities, and experience our welcoming school community.



Tour our school and learning environments



Meet our dedicated staff and pupils



Discover our excellent indoor and outdoor facilities



Learn more about life at Churchtown



Ask questions and find out what makes our school so special



Date: Monday 17th September



September date fully booked

Next Date:



Date: Monday 19th October



Time: 9:30am – 11:00am

Places are limited, and the booking forms will close once capacity is reached.

Book your place [here](#)

Other upcoming Open Morning dates are: 20th November & 8th January, booking for these dates will open in the next few weeks





Join our Butterflies Holiday Club for days filled with fun, creativity, and laughter

Butterflies Holiday Club OPEN from Monday the 26th of October to Friday the 30th of October

CLOSED ON FRIDAY THE 23RD OF OCTOBER (INSET DAY)

OPEN 7.30AM TO 5.30PM

BUTTERCUPS TO
YEAR 6

£30 PER
DAY

PLEASE BRING A
PACKED LUNCH

SNACKS
PROVIDED

hello
OCTOBER

Please book your child's place and make payment via Arbor

WE'RE EXCITED TO RUN THE HOLIDAY CLUB AND CREATE A FUN, SAFE, AND ENGAGING EXPERIENCE FOR THE CHILDREN,
HOWEVER, MINIMUM BOOKING NUMBERS MUST BE REACHED IN ORDER FOR THE CLUB TO GO AHEAD.



HARVEST FESTIVAL WEEK

WEEK BEGINNING 28TH SEPTEMBER

Autumn has arrived, and we are looking forward to celebrating Harvest Festival together during the week beginning 28th September.

Working with organisations across our local community is an important part of life at Churchtown. We are proud of the many ways our children live out our school values throughout the year by supporting others and making a positive difference.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we are once again collecting donations for the Southport Foodbank. Children across school will be invited to bring in donations, which will be distributed to individuals and families in our local area who may need a helping hand.

Our Harvest Assemblies will take place on Friday 2nd October, when we will come together in our buddy assembly groups to celebrate and reflect on the importance of helping others.

The Foodbank has advised that the following items are particularly needed at the moment:

Savoury crackers
Pasta sauce
Tinned meat (e.g. corned beef, ham)
Tinned fruit
Tinned tomatoes
Instant noodles
Tomato sauce, brown sauce and mayonnaise
Long-life juice and cordial
UHT milk
Free-from items
Jam

Donation Drop-Off Information

Donations can be dropped off at St Cuthbert's Church during the following times:

Thursday 1st October – 3:00pm–3:45pm

Friday 2nd October – 8:00am–8:45am

The donations will be collected on Friday following the Harvest Assembly.

If you are unable to drop donations off at St Cuthbert's Church during these times, items can be brought into school instead.

Please note that the Foodbank will also gratefully accept additional food items that are not included on the list above.

Thank you for your support of this important celebration and for helping our children think about the needs of others in our community.

APPLY FOR A SCHOOL PLACE

Is your child born on or between
01/09/2022 and 31/08/2023?

If so, your child is due to start
school September 2027!



**You MUST apply for a school place
online before 15 January 2027**

For more information or to make an
application, scan our QR code or go to
www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool



sefton.gov.uk 0151 934 3590
admissions@sefton.gov.uk

Sefton Council 

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.



TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.



EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT

The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.



CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.



SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.



SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT

YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.



Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.



USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.



WATCH TOGETHER

Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



The National College

BOOKS ALIVE!

ONCE UPON A TOWN

24-31
OCTOBER

FREE
FAMILY
FESTIVAL

STEP INTO A WORLD OF IMAGINATION
AND ADVENTURE IN SOUTHPORT

Southport town centre visitsouthport.com/BooksAlive

2026
SOUTHPORT
Elegantly eccentric

Sefton Council

LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION
CORPORATE PARTNER

METRO MAYOR
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

home **bargains**
TOP BRANDS - BOTTOM PRICES

LIVERPOOL
CITY
REGION
DESTINATION
PARTNERSHIP

Merseyrail

**GO
ALL
IN.**
National
Year of Reading
2026



Secondary School Applications for September 2027

Parents and carers of Year 6 pupils should now apply for their child's secondary school place for September 2027 entry. Applications for Sefton residents can be made online via the Sefton Citizen Portal. Applications opened on 1 September 2026 and must be submitted by 31 October 2026.

Families can select up to three preferred secondary schools and are encouraged to read Sefton's admissions guidance before applying, as it contains important information about deadlines and admissions criteria. Parents and carers who live outside Sefton must apply through their own local authority, even if they wish to include Sefton schools as preferences. Further information, admissions guides and the online application portal are available via the Sefton School Admissions website:

<http://www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool>

EARLY YEARS SEND TEAM

Parent/Carer Coffee Morning



Has your child got Special Educational Needs/Disabilities?

Do you want to know more about SEND processes and the support available in Sefton?

Do you want to meet other parents/carers of children with SEND?

Meet with professionals from Aiming High, Early Help, Speech and Language Therapy, Sefton Parent Carers, SENDIASS, Occupational Therapy, the Autism and Complex Needs Team, and other local support services, all in one place

Talbot Street Family Hub

St Andrew's Place
Southport
PR8 1HR
10am-12pm

Friday 9th October
Monday 25th January
Friday 14th May

Parent Feedback

"Lovely morning, all staff were fantastic with the kids and us as tired mums needing reassurance and advice. Great to feel supported and gain more knowledge on what's available to help."

Take time for you and have a brew! All children welcome.

For more information please contact:

Lauren.Wilding@sefton.gov.uk



School-Aged Flu Vaccination Programme

Please scan the QR code below to access the online consent form for this year's school-aged flu vaccination programme.

The consent form must be completed by 30 September 2026.

FLU CONSENT QR CODE



Please scan the code to consent for your child to be administered the flu vaccine on the 30th of September in School

Secondary School Open Evenings

Tarleton Academy	30 th September 2026
Stanley High School	1 st October 2026
Presfield School	8 th October 2026



CHURCHTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL
OPEN MORNING
TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2026



SCHOOL TOUR,
SPECIAL
PERFORMANCES,
MEET THE
HEADTEACHER,
FUN ACTIVITIES



**START
9.15AM.**



**FINISH
11.15AM**

SCAN QR CODE OR CLICK HERE TO BOOK

Dates for your Diary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 28 th September 2026	Churchtown Open Morning (9:30-11:30)
Tuesday 29 th September	*Date change* PTA Meeting AGM- 7-7:30pm PTA Meeting- 7:30-8:30 All welcome (The Lodge)
Wednesday 30 th September 2026	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 30 th September 2026	Y5/Y6 Christ the King Assembly
Friday 2 nd October 2026	Harvest Assemblies at St Cuthberts Church
Thursday 8 th October 2026	Year 6 Healthy Lifestyle Sessions
Thursday 15 th - Friday 16 th October 2026	Individual and sibling School Photos
Monday 19 th October 2026	Churchtown Open Morning
Wednesday 21 st October- Wednesday 4 th November 2026	Scolastic Book Fair (after school, in the Old Hall)
Thursday 22 nd October 2026	Year 5 Visit to Stanley High School to watch Frankenstein Play (1:15pm)
Friday 23 rd October 2026	INSET Day
Monday 26 th October-Friday 31 st October 2026	Half Term

New additions to the diary in red

Dates for your Diary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 2 nd November 2026	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Friday 20 th November	Churchtown Open Morning
Friday 18th December 2026	End of Term- School closes at 1:30pm for Christmas Holidays
Monday 4th January 2027	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th January 2027	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!

New additions to the diary in red

OCTOBER HALF TERM TENNIS CAMP



DATES:

Monday 26th &
Tuesday 27th



PRICE:

£30 for 1 day or
£50 for both days



CAMP RUNS:

9am - 2pm



TUCK SHOP:

Available



AGES:

4-16 year olds

Fun games,
tournaments,
learn new skills
and meet new friends



VENUE:

North Meols
Tennis Club

BECCONSALL

LANCASHIRE'S LIVING MUSEUM & HERITAGE PARK

COUNTRY FAIR

A GREAT
DAY OUT
FOR ALL THE
FAMILY!

FAMILY
TIME
MAKING
MEMORIES

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026

10.00AM TO 4.00PM



- ★ VINTAGE TRACTORS
- ★ CLASSIC VEHICLES
- ★ CRAFT STALLS



- ★ CHILDREN'S CRAFTS
- ★ DELICIOUS FOOD & DRINK
- ★ GAMES & ACTIVITIES



ADULTS £5.00
CHILDREN (5-15) £3.00
FAMILY TICKET (2-3) £15.00
UNDER 5s FREE

BECCONSALL HERITAGE PARK,
THORNTON DRIVE
HESKETH BANK, PR4 6FH



[BECCONSALL.ORG/EVENTS](https://becconsall.org/events)

Key Fund Heritage Fund

Visit Lancashire



Butterflies Holiday Club

Age: Nursery (Buttercups) – Y6

Time: 7.30-5.30 **Location:** Dining Hall

Entrance/Exit: Butterflies Door
(previous F4K/BC entrance/exit)

Price: £30.00

Food: Snack provided school
Packed lunch to be provided

Nursery Snowdrops (open 51 weeks of the year)- closure dates 2026/27

CLOSED- Monday 23rd October 2026 (INSET DAY)

CLOSED- Thursday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

CLOSED- Friday 25th December (Christmas Day)

CLOSED- Monday 28th December (BH Boxing Day)

CLOSED- Thursday 31st December 2026 (NYE)

CLOSED- Friday 1st January 2027 (NYD)

2026/27 Term Dates

Tuesday 1st September 2026	INSET Day
Wednesday 2nd September 2026	INSET Day
Thursday 3rd September 2026	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Friday 23rd October 2026	INSET Day
Monday 26th- Friday 30th October 2026	Half Term Week
Monday 2nd November 2026	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Friday 18th December 2026	End of Term- School closes at 1:30pm for Christmas Holidays
Monday 4th January 2027	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th January 2027	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Monday 15th- Friday 19th February 2027	Half Term Week
Thursday 25th March	End of Term for Easter Holidays
Friday 26th March- Friday 9th April 2027	Easter Holidays
Monday 12th April 2027	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Monday 3rd May 2027	Bank Holiday
Monday 31st May- Friday 4th June 2027	Half Term Week
Tuesday 20th July 2027	End of Term - School closes at 1:30pm for Summer Holidays
Wednesday 21st July 2027	INSET Day