

MARTYRS NEWS

Through Christ we believe, inspire, achieve.



The Y6 Leaver's Mass in our New Prayer Garden and our final mass with Fr Mark!



Well done to everyone for surviving the **hottest** summer term in my living memory! **A special well done to all our**

Year 6 children, who leave us today for high school in September - you have come so far and I am proud of each and every one of you!

Goodbye & Good Luck Year 6



Mrs Millar

Today we also said goodbye to Mrs Millar (teaching assistant in Y3) after 22 and a half years here and Mrs Dyson, our cook in charge after 11 years in English Martyrs and 34 in Sefton! We wish them both every happiness in their retirement.



Mrs Dyson

We were honoured to meet **Salameh**, a trainee priest from Bethlehem this week, read page 3 for more details!

Finally, I wish you all a relaxing and wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday 2nd September 2026**.

English Martyrs, Pray for us.



**Be safe, be
happy, have fun!**



Attendance Matters!

Our school target is **95%+** and we have achieved **95.1%** this year! *Fantastic job!*

Fabulous
FRIDAY FIVE

Class Attendance:

1st 3B - 98.3%

2nd 4B - 98.1%

3rd 2B - 97.0%

Holiday Requests

We ask that Parents/Carers complete a Holiday Request Form each time a holiday is taken during school term. You can obtain this form from the school office or on our website: [here](#). From this link you will find details of The Government's Fine Policy - [holidays in term time](#).

MARTYRS NEWS

Nursery

By Mrs McIntyre & Mrs Garvey

Well done nursery for all of their growing this term. The children loved feeding what they had grown to our school guinea pigs.



Reception

By Mrs Morris & Mrs McMeakin

Reception have had a lovely last week together. We have talked about all the friends we have made this year, and together we made friendship bracelets! We also talked about our hopes and dreams for year 1 and what we are looking forward to. We made dreamcatchers by threading wool, beads and adding feathers as we talked about our move to year 1.



Year 1

By Mrs Halsall & Mrs Blackledge

In Design and Technology this week, our Year 1 children enjoyed making healthy pitta pockets! They explored a variety of fresh vegetables, discussing their colours, textures, smells and tastes before choosing which ingredients to include in their pitta. They were very proud of their finished creations and enjoyed tasting the delicious pitta pockets they had made themselves!



Year 2

By Mrs Sothern & Miss Drinkall

As part of our Food and Nutrition unit in Design and Technology Year two children enjoyed making Quesadillas. The children enjoyed slicing and dicing peppers, chopping tomatoes, sprinkling sweetcorn and filling their tortilla with cheese. All the children enjoyed taking these baked snacks home.



Year 3

By Mrs Dooley & Mr Roach

We enjoyed an afternoon playing, tennis, skipping and penalty shoot outs. We had brilliant fun with the parachute playing a range of games.



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Year 4

By Mrs O'Connell & Mrs Lowe

Year 4 explored the wonderful world of nature mandalas during our outdoor mindfulness session. The children collected natural treasures from the ground and created their own unique mandalas, each with a special name. We opened the outdoor art gallery and the children admired each other's beautiful creations.



Year 5

By Mr Buckton & Miss Gray

Well done to the Year 5 children who took part in today's Sefton Primary Cricket Competition at Firwood Bootle Cricket Club. They demonstrated a good positive attitude whilst improving their cricket skills.



Year 6

By Mr Kiggins, Mrs Naisbett & Mrs Goulbourne

Year 6 staff would all like to say a very big thank-you for your kind generosity with your gifts and vouchers at the end of this school year. It has been an absolute pleasure teaching and supporting your children, and we wish them every success and happiness as they make the exciting transition to Secondary School.

Gardening Club

By Mrs O'Connell

Thank you Gardening Club for another wonderful year together which ended with our first ever stall! The children sold things they had made and grown and loved helping the grown ups to pick something lovely!



Salameh, our special visitor from Bethlehem!

By Mr Dinsdale

We were honoured to have a trainee priest from outside Bethlehem, Salameh visit us with Fr Mark this week. He visited many of the classes across school and answered all their questions about Bethlehem, the stable where Jesus was born (*it's now a grotto*) and which he preferred to ride - donkeys or camels (*it was donkeys by the way!*) Sam and Albie remembered the arabic word for hello - '**Marhaban**' that Salameh had taught them in the assembly the day before, so were awarded a headteacher's award!



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STAR OF THE WEEK

Friday 10th July 2026

Nur All Day	Jack
Nur AM	Patrick
RA	Harrison
RB	Donnie
1A	Harriet
1B	Harry
2A	Orla
2B	Phoebe
3A	Eleanor
3B	Caleb
4A	Nahla
4B	Pippa
5A	Nathan
5B	Lucas
6A	Evlyn
6A	Mason
6B	Skyla

SOCIAL SIGNATURE STAR

Thursday 16th July 2026

Nur All Day	Molly
Nur AM	Reeva
RA	Finley
RB	Mavie
1A	Bohdi
1B	Rosie
2A	Lucas
2B	Penny
3A	Nevaeh
3B	Harriet
4A	Darcie
4B	Jack
5A	Reeva
5B	Erysse
6A	Holly
6B	Alise

Golden Pen

KEY STAGE 1

Alby Newton - 1A

KEY STAGE 2

Everly Kennedy - 5B

Good News

Rosa (4A) planted the seed given from Mrs Coxon at church during the preparation for Holy Communion to represent growth. Rosa has looked after it so well, she waters it every day and is so proud of it. Look how much it's grown!



Grace from Year 1 has grown a very large courgette in her allotment.

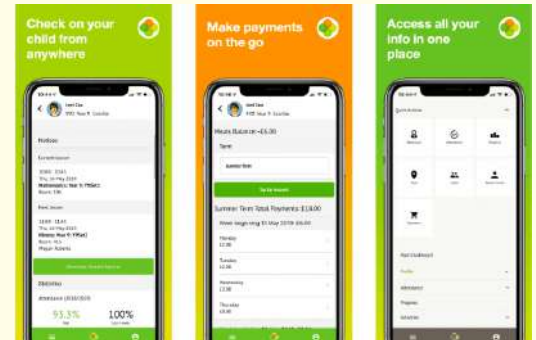


Year 6's summer production of Grimm's Tales was absolutely wonderful and they performed so well to a packed audience of family and friends!

MARTYRS NEWS

Communication and the Arbor App:

A number of parents are reporting that they have missed important messages from school, even after they have been sent out. Please see the info below to ensure you never miss an important message from school. **Arbor is our MAIN communication tool** and allows us to keep in touch with each other. so it is important that it is working properly for everyone. Any issues, contact the office.



Enabling Notifications in the Arbor App:

Enabling Push Notifications (Step-by-Step)

Initial Setup: When first installing the Arbor App, click "**Allow**" when prompted to receive notifications.

Android Devices: Go to your phone's **Settings > Apps > Arbor > Notifications** and toggle push notifications **ON**.

iOS Devices (iPhone): Go to **Settings > Notifications > Arbor** and ensure "**Allow Notifications**" is **enabled**. It is recommended to set your banner style to "**Permanent**".

Troubleshooting Notifications

If you are not receiving messages:

Check In-App Settings:

Ensure you are checking the messages section within the app, which highlights new, unread messages in bold.

Restart & Reconnect:

Close the app, switch off notifications in your phone settings, restart your phone, and then turn the notifications back on.

Reinstall:

If notifications still do not appear, uninstall and reinstall the app.

Why Notifications Matter in Arbor

Message Alerts:

Enables immediate alerts for in-app messages sent by the school, which are used to reduce reliance on text messages.

Updates:

Alerts you to updates regarding attendance, clubs, trips, parent evenings or information requests.

Primary Guardian Access:

Note that only primary guardians can receive these notifications.

Helping families to understand the changes for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes have come into force for the Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools after 19th August 2024.

WHO MAY BE FINED?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: **3** siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving **3** separate fines.

NATIONAL THRESHOLD

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of **10 sessions (5 school days)** of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the **U code** (late after registers).

For example: a 5-day holiday would meet the national threshold. The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

FIRST OFFENCE:

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within **21** days.
£160 if paid between **22-28** days.

SECOND OFFENCE: (Within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised absence amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday) per child, payable within **28** days.

THIRD OFFENCE: (Within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice is not issued. Cases may be presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution may result in a criminal records and fines of up to **£2,500**.

Cases found guilty in Magistrate's Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education.'



Term Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term 2026 - (73 Days)

Term Starts:

Wednesday 2nd September

Half-term Holiday:

Monday 26th Oct - Friday 30th Oct

Term Ends:

Friday 18th December, 2pm.

Spring Term 2027 - (54 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 4th January

Half-term Holiday

Monday 15th Feb - Friday 19th Feb

Term Ends:

Thursday 25th March, 2pm.

Summer Term 2027 - (63 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 12th April

Half-term Holiday

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

Term Ends:

Friday 16th July, 2pm.

Total Days:

190 Pupildays

195 Teacherdays

Bank Holiday

Monday 3 May 2027

Inset Days:

Autumn 2026:

Tuesday 1st September

Summer 2027:

Monday 7th June

Monday 19th July

Tuesday 20th July

Wednesday 21st July

Wrap Around Care Offer

Breakfast Club:

Contact number: 0151 928 5601

We run Breakfast Club for children aged 3-11 on site by our own staff from **8am-8.45am** daily Monday to Friday.

Our Infant (**Nursery to Y2**) provision is based in the main hall (*enter via the Main School Entrance*).

Our Junior (**Y3 to Y6**) provision is based in the dining hall (*enter via the separate gate on School Lane*).

To check availability and book a place, please use the [Contact Form](#) or call the number above.



Fun4Kidz - After School Club:

Contact number: 0151 932 9218

Fun4Kidz operates on site from **3.15pm to 6.00pm** daily Monday to Friday.

Fun4Kidz works with our youngest pupils from **Nursery to Year 2**.

The sessions are **£11.15** first child (*and £10.15 for siblings*) daily and include snacks (*hot snacks when applicable*).

The sessions must be paid for in advance and are non-refundable if the child doesn't attend.

Children can be collected from any time before **6.00pm**.

Email: fun4kidzclubs@hotmail.com

L30 Community Centre, Stonyfield, Netherton, Merseyside, L30 0QS.

Need to know about funding?

If you want to find out more about what funding is available to you in terms of tax free credits and childcare vouchers, please follow the link at the bottom of the page, which will take you to our Wrap Around Care page on the school website with more information and links to follow.

For the latest info, see the page below:

<https://www.englishmartyrs.co.uk/parents/wrap-around-care>



Introducing Sefton Family Life Toolkit

We are pleased to share information about the Sefton Family Life Toolkit, a free online resource designed to support children, young people and families. The toolkit brings together trusted advice, local services and practical information all in one place. Parents and carers can access support on a wide range of topics including:

- **Parenting and family relationships**
- **Emotional health and wellbeing**
- **SEND information and guidance**
- **Education and school attendance**
- **Health and healthy lifestyles**
- **Activities, events and holiday programmes**
- **Local Family Hubs and community support**

Whether you are looking for advice, activities for your family, or additional support, the Family Life Toolkit provides easy access to information to help families thrive. Please visit the website today for further details: www.seftonfamilylife.com

Useful Info



Sefton Women's & Childrens Aid

Contact number: 0151 394 1400

SWACA provide holistic services to women, young people and children affected by Domestic Abuse offering both effective crisis intervention and early intervention and preventative services.



Venus Centre Charity

Contact number: 0151 474 4744

VENUS provide service to empower, promote and support women, and their children in developing their potential, recognising their choices and achieving their goals and challenging injustice.



The Trussell Trust

Contact number: 0151 933 1300

The trust supports a nationwide network of food banks and together they provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, and campaign for change to end the need for food banks in the UK.



In Your Shoes

Contact number: 0151 345 9611

Located at 100 Moss Lane the charity supports our local community.



Litherland Wellbeing Centre

Contact number: 0151 288 6661

Family Well-being Centres provide joined up support for children and young people aged 0-19 years to make family life that little bit easier.



Sefton Council

One Stop Shop: 0345 140 0845

Affordable Warmth Service: 0151 934 2222

Free School Meals: 0151 934 3263

Emergency Limited Assistance: 0151 934 3377

Sefton at Work: 0151 934 2610

For further details visit Sefton Council's website:

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/advice-benefits/cost-of-living/>

If you are struggling and would like support please do not hesitate to contact one of the above or the school office who will assist in any way they can.