



Linaker Primary School

Linaker's Latest

Friday 16th October 2026

Keeping you up to date with all the latest school news!

Headteacher's Message



I would like to thank our pupils, staff and families for everything they do to make our school such a special place. We have welcomed many visitors into school this week, all of whom have been impressed by our children's positive attitudes, in class behaviour and enthusiasm for learning. I am also delighted that FFT has recognised Linaker's attendance improvement, placing us in the top 10% of most improved primary schools nationally last year. This is a fantastic achievement! Together we continue to make Linaker a school of which we can all be proud.

#Togetherness #Empathy #Aspiration #MutualRespect

Attendance

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Linaker this
week:

94.10%

Linaker Last
week:

95.90%

National
Average
25/26:

95.50%

This Week's Award Winners



This Week's Super Pupils

N AR – Adam A
R SW – Penelope D
1 SH – Hanifah A
2 LB – Annlia L
2 LW – Roxana S
3 LF – Gustaw B
3 VT – Sophia P-B
4 TR – Alaa A
4 DN – Baran S
5 LK – Ella W
5 ME – Sumayyah A
6 JC – Michael M
6 FK – Nabeela H

This Week's Linaker Learners

N AR – Alice N
R SW – Sienna M
1 SH – Bethany D
2 LB – Georgina L
2 LW – Zohan B
3 LF – Alicja W
3 VT – Gabby G
4 TR – Abdul A
4 DN – Wasi C
5 LK – Charlie R
5 ME – Mia J
6 JC – Scarlett S
6 FK – Elmira D

Well done to all this week's award winners!

This Week's Award Winners



Well Done!

House Competitions and Leader Board

House Attendance this week:

House	Percentage	Position
Ainsdale	96.8%	1 st
Birkdale	96.5%	2 nd
Botanic	96.3%	3 rd
Hesketh	95.9%	4 th

House Points this week:

House	Points	Position
Ainsdale	39	1 st
Birkdale	30	3 rd
Botanic	23	4 th
Hesketh	34	2 nd

Positions So Far for Half-Term 1:



House	Points	Position
Ainsdale	222	1 st
Birkdale	195	3 rd
Botanic	184	4 th
Hesketh	200	2 nd



Best Attending Class



We are excited to introduce **HERO, our Attendance Bear!** HERO is **H**ere **E**very day, **R**eady and **O**n time, helping us celebrate the importance of excellent attendance across the school.

Each week, the class with the best attendance will be announced in assembly and will be awarded HERO the Attendance Bear, the Attendance Trophy, and an extra 15 minutes of playtime to enjoy together.

A huge congratulations to RSW, this week's winners, who achieved an amazing 99.1% attendance this week!

Fantastic News for TEAM Linaker!

Linaker Primary School has been recognised with a National School Attendance Award, placing us in the Top 10% Most Improved Primary Schools for Attendance in England!



This is an incredible achievement and one that everyone in our TEAM Linaker family should be proud of.

A huge thank you to our amazing children and to all of our parents and carers. Your support in ensuring children attend school regularly and arrive on time has played a vital role in helping us achieve this national recognition.

Every school day matters! Good attendance helps children to:

- ✓ Learn and make progress
- ✓ Build strong friendships
- ✓ Enjoy school life
- ✓ Achieve their very best

Our Attendance Team, Miss Sambrook, Mrs Dicker and Mrs Fletcher, are always here to help. If you have any concerns about attendance, need advice, or simply want a chat, please get in touch. We are always happy to support our TEAM Linaker families.

Can TEAM Linaker reach 100%?

As we approach the end of term, let's make these final weeks our best yet! We'd love to see as many children as possible in school every day, ready to learn, spend time with friends, and finish the term strongly.

Could we achieve 100% attendance? What an amazing way that would be to celebrate this fantastic success together! Thank you for your continued support.



You're awesome!

A New Way to Celebrate Birthdays at School



We love celebrating our children's birthdays and want every child to feel special on their big day. However, to help us keep all children safe and included, we are asking families not to send sweets, chocolates, cakes or other edible birthday treats into school.

We have children with a variety of dietary and medical needs, including serious nut, milk and other food allergies. We also need to consider the choking risks associated with some sweets and treats. In addition, many children in our school follow a halal diet, and not all sweets and confectionery are suitable.

Birthday Own-Clothes Day

Instead of bringing treats into school, children can now celebrate their birthday by coming to school in their own clothes!

- 🎉 If your child has a birthday during the school week, they can wear their own clothes on the day of their birthday. If it is PE day, children should wear comfortable clothes, with trainers.
- 🍰 Birthday at the weekend: Children can wear their own clothes on the Friday of that week.
- 🌞 Birthday during a school holiday: Children can wear their own clothes on the last day of the half-term before the holiday.

A Special Catch-Up Birthday Day

As we are introducing this new tradition after the start of the school year, any child whose birthday falls between 1st September and 1st November can come to school in their own clothes on Thursday 22nd October.

We hope this will be a fun and inclusive way for children to celebrate their special day while helping us ensure that every child remains safe and included.

Thank you, as always, for your understanding and support.

Year 1 Phonics Presentation for Parents

A huge thank you to all of our Year 1 parents and carers who joined us today for our Phonics Presentation.

The session provided an opportunity to learn more about how phonics is taught at Linaker Primary School, what to expect from the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, and ways to support reading and phonics learning at home.

We greatly value the partnership between home and school, and it was wonderful to see so many families engaging with the session and sharing our commitment to helping children become confident, successful readers.



Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can give every child the very best start on their reading journey.

👉 Read more here: <https://www.linakerschool.co.uk/news/2026-10-14-year-1-phonics-presentation-for-parents>

Autumn Adventures in Reception

This week they've been hunting for signs of autumn, noticing how the trees are changing, and exploring the 'fiveness' of 5 - finding five, seeing five and understanding 5 as a whole! 🍂 #autumnvibes
#seasonalchanges #EYFS #TeamLinaker #oneteameveryonebelongs



Poetry Performance

ANNUAL Poetry PERFORMANCE

We would love you to come and celebrate the pupils' hard work at our annual poetry performance.

Reception
Make a Friend
Our Favourite Poem

Year 1
The Wicked
by William Shakespeare

Year 2
The Star
by Jane Taylor

Year 3
Gran Can You Rap
by Jack Ousby

Year 4
The River
by Valerie Bloom

Year 5
Tiger
by William Blake

Year 6
Macavity
by T.S. Eliot

Join us on
Thursday 22nd October
There will be two performances at
2:30pm and **2:45pm**
so there is the chance to visit different year groups.

i Reception will only perform once at 2:45pm, so please visit other year groups first.

We would love to welcome parents and carers to our Annual Poetry Performance on Thursday 22nd October.

Our children have been learning and practising poems in school. They are excited to perform and share their hard work with you.

- Date: Thursday 22nd October
- Performance 1: 2:30pm
- Performance 2: 2:45pm

Each year group will perform a different poem. You can visit different classrooms to watch the performances.

Please note: Reception children will perform once only at 2:45pm. If you have a child in Reception, please visit other year groups first.

We look forward to seeing you and celebrating our children's success together. 📖 ✨

💖 Everyone is welcome. We hope you can join us!

Secondary School Applications

We are now more than halfway through the time period parents/carers can submit their secondary school preferences for their Year 6 children transferring up in September 2027. **The national closing date is 31 October 2026** and the Citizen Portal online application will be available for parents/carers to submit applications right up until midnight on that day!

Need more info? Check out the link here -
<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/schooladmissions>



Please Nominate Linaker Primary School!



Kellogg's has been supporting school breakfast clubs since 1998, helping schools provide children with a positive start to the day. Through the Breakfast Club Grants programme, eligible schools across the UK have the opportunity to receive funding to support the successful running of their breakfast clubs.

Nominate us today for a chance for Linaker Primary School to receive a £500 Breakfast Club Grant. At the end of the promotional period, 300 schools will be selected at random from all valid nominations and contacted by Kellogg's promotional

partner. Each selected school will receive a grant to help support its breakfast club.

[NOMINATE US – CLICK HERE!](#)

Baby and Toddler Playgroup – Every Tuesday!



A reminder to our families and wider community that our Baby & Toddler Playgroup runs every Tuesday morning during term time from **9:15am – 10:45am**.

For just **£1 per session**, you can enjoy special time with your little one in a safe, happy and welcoming environment, led by our experienced EYFS practitioners. It's a wonderful opportunity for your child to play, explore and begin their early learning journey, giving them the very best start.

We would love to welcome you and your little one along!

#TeamLinaker wants you!

Are you looking for a school place for your child? We'd love to welcome you to one of our Open Events and show you everything that makes Linaker such a special place to learn and grow. Our open events are a fantastic opportunity to tour the school, meet our friendly staff, see learning in action and discover the exciting opportunities available to our children.

Our next Open Day is on Wednesday 25th November 9:30-10:30am

To book your place, please complete one of the booking forms on our website or use the links below.

Can't make one of the advertised dates? Don't worry! Simply contact the school office and we'll be happy to arrange an alternative visit. We are incredibly proud of our school and would love the opportunity to show you around. We look forward to meeting you and your family soon!



LINAKER PRIMARY SCHOOL
Open Events

Tuesday 29th September: 4pm - 5pm
Thursday 8th October: 4pm - 5pm
Wednesday 25th November: 9:30am-10:30am

We are very excited to warmly welcome you to spend some time getting to know our school.

Our opening events will:

- Include a welcome talk from the headteacher
- Include a tour of our school
- Include opportunities to speak with pupils and see classrooms in action if you attend a morning slot, which we really recommend if you can!

Please arrive at the office main door.

Book via our school website or school office:

<https://www.linakerschool.co.uk/open-days>
office@linaker.org.uk 01704 532 343



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

Sign of the Week – Autumn

At Linaker, we are learning a 'Sign of the Week' using Makaton

This week's Sign of the Week is food

Click [here](#) for a video demonstration.

Sign of the Week

12th - 18th October 2026

Learn a new word every week and be inspired to get signing...

This week's sign is...

Food



Communication is for everyone, and we want every member of our school community to feel confident that they have tools to express themselves, share their ideas, and understand others.

Each week, we will practise the sign together in class and encourage everyone to join in. Learning Makaton is a fun and inclusive way to help us build kindness, understanding, and connection across our school.

The Great Linaker Coat Swap

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our first **Great Linaker Coat Swap** on Thursday. It was wonderful to see so many families coming together to share good-quality coats and help one another prepare for the colder months ahead.

The event was a great example of our school community at its best, promoting kindness, sustainability and support for local families. By swapping coats that children have outgrown, families were able to find warm, practical alternatives while helping to reduce waste.

We were also delighted that any remaining coats could be passed on to **Compassion Acts Uniform Hub**, ensuring they continue to benefit families within our wider community.

Thank you once again for your generosity and support. Together, we have helped keep our community warm while making a positive difference to both families and the environment. #TEAMLinaker



Menu Choices – Week Beg 19.10.26 (Week 2)

Don't forget to order your child's. daily lunch though Arbor. Please also state if they are bringing in a packed lunch!

					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Traditional Main Course	Beef Burger in a Bun with Salad & Tortilla Chips	Chicken and Brocoli Pasta Bake topped with Cheese served with Garlic Bread	Honey Roast Gammon with Potato and Seasonal Vegetables	Beef Spaghetti Bolognaise and Garlic Bread	Battered Fish, Chips & Sweetcorn or Beans
Vegetarian	Creamy Tomato & Roasted Vegetable Pasta	Vegetarian Sausage Roll with Beans	Quorn Meatball Pasta Bake	Sweet Potato and Cheese Swirls with Beans	Veggie Nuggets and Noodles with Sweet and Sour Sauce
Jacket Potato	Served Daily with a Choice of Fillings	Served Daily with a Choice of Fillings	Served Daily with a Choice of Fillings	Served Daily with a Choice of Fillings	Served Daily with a Choice of Fillings
Sandwich /Deli	Sandwich, Wrap, Baguette available with assorted fillings	Sandwich, Wrap, Baguette available with assorted fillings	Sandwich, Wrap, Baguette available with assorted fillings	Sandwich, Wrap, Baguette available with assorted fillings	Sandwich, Wrap, Baguette available with assorted fillings
Salad	Available Daily	Available Daily	Available Daily	Available Daily	Available Daily
Dessert	Dessert of the day with a choice of Yoghurt and Fruit	Dessert of the day with a choice of Yoghurt and Fruit	Dessert of the day with a choice of Yoghurt and Fruit	Dessert of the day with a choice of Yoghurt and Fruit	Dessert of the day with a choice of Yoghurt and Fruit

FREE Breakfast Club

Start your day the breakfast club way! Since the launch of our FREE breakfast club on Wednesday 3rd September, we have welcomed on average 50 children from all year groups each morning. **Remember a FREE breakfast is on offer to all children...**

 Monday to Friday

 8:20 – 8:45am (Entrance through the Sefton Street gate at 8:20am)

 Main dining hall

Start your morning with a free, healthy breakfast – cereals, toast and water!

All children welcome – no need to book!



Weekly Picture News



This week in our Picture News assembly the children learned that Meta has created the Muse Charm, a small device that can fit in a pocket or hang from a keyring. They learned that the charm uses Meta's artificial intelligence (AI), so people can talk to it, ask it questions, and show it what is happening around them. They then reflected upon how AI may make everyday life easier, but how it is important to think carefully about when its help is useful and when we should rely on ourselves. This linked to the British Values of Mutual Respect and Tolerance and Individual Liberty.

Community Info



Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme 2026: The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme provides children and young people with access to exciting holiday activities, nutritious food and enriching experiences during the school holidays.

Who is eligible?

Children are usually eligible if they:

- Receive **Targeted Free School Meals (TFSM)**.
- Have received a HAF code or invitation from their school or local authority.
- Meet the eligibility criteria set by the local authority.

Some children may also be eligible through discretionary local authority funding, including those with SEND, young carers, children known to social care, or families experiencing hardship.

Parents should check directly with their local HAF team for confirmation.

Important Changes from September 2026: While eligibility for **Free School Meals** is expanding to all families receiving Universal Credit, **HAF eligibility will remain linked to Targeted Free School Meals only**. This means some children who receive free meals in school may not automatically qualify for HAF places.

Booking a HAF Place

- **Booking is essential** for all HAF activities.
- Places should be booked directly with the activity provider.
- Availability may be limited due to venue capacity, staffing and specialist provision.

SEND Provision

Families of children with SEND are encouraged to contact providers before booking to discuss individual needs and available support. Levels of SEND provision can vary between providers.

Don't Miss Out

Children who arrive without a booking may not be able to take part. To avoid disappointment, please ensure places are reserved in advance and any required paperwork is completed. If you are unsure whether your child is eligible, please contact your school, local HAF team or activity provider for advice. Together, the HAF Programme continues to offer **food, fun, friends and opportunities** for children throughout the school holiday

Link to the Sefton Holiday, Activities and Food Programme: <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/childrens-services/schools-and-learning/grants-and-funding/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf/>

EVERY WEEKDAY 5-7PM FROM 26TH OCTOBER – 6TH NOVEMBER

active sefton presents

PARK NIGHTS

Archery
Football
Cricket
Tennis
Multi-sport

FREE sport and activities for young people this autumn!

MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER & MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER
Coronation Park, Crosby & Duke Street Park, Formby

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER & TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER
Linacre Bridge Community Hub, Bootle & Canning Road Recreation Ground, Southport

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER & WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER
King George V, Maghull & Bedford Park, Birkdale

THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER & THURSDAY 5TH NOVEMBER
Netherton Activity Centre & Hesketh Park, Southport

FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER & FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER
Abbeyfield Park, Netherton & Runnells Lane / Masefield Road, Thornton

Activities can vary and will be weather dependent. For more information, please contact the team on 0151 288 6286 or email active.sports@sefton.gov.uk

Sefton Council active sefton

COMPASSIONACTS



FAMILY SPACE

BIRKDALE

Every Thursday 3:30pm – 5:30pm
St James' Church 26 Lulworth Road PR8 2BQ

Join us at Family Space our unique after-school club. Enjoy weekly entertainment for kids, followed by a hot meal, refreshments, and snacks.

Open to school children from year 4 to year 7. Siblings welcome. Parents/guardians **required** to attend.

01704 264505 / hello@compassionacts.uk

Providing school uniform to families in Southport and surrounding areas



We gladly accept gently used uniforms (except shirts) and pass them along to other families in our community that need a little support with the cost of essentials

**Find us at The Gallery Space
11 Cambridge Walks Southport PR8 1EN**

Opening Hours
We are open Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 4pm
The shop is unmanned with access to basic items
Staff are available on Wednesdays and Fridays 11am – 2pm for logo and higher-priced items
For any queries email us

01704 264505 uniformhub@compassionacts.uk

WHAT'S ON at Compassion Acts

We mostly operate from our head office located at the Victoria Centre, 197a Sussex Road, Southport PR8 6DG

Opening Hours:
Monday - Friday 10am - 3pm

Contact Us:
01704 264505
hello@compassionacts.uk
www.compassionacts.uk

DAY	LOCATION	TIME
MONDAY	Tarleton Pantry	9:30 - 11:30am
	Victoria Centre Foodbank	1:30 - 3pm
TUESDAY	Southport Pantry	9:30 - 12pm
	Victoria Centre Foodbank	10 - 12pm
WEDNESDAY	Birkdale Pantry	9:30 - 11:30am
	Warm Space	1 - 3pm
THURSDAY	Formby Pantry	10:30 - 12:30pm
	BDS Pantry	1 - 2:30pm
FRIDAY	Lakeside Foodbank	1 - 3pm
	Uniform Hub	11 - 2pm
SATURDAY	Warm Space*	10 - 12pm

*(October-June)

EARLY YEARS SEND TEAM

Parent/Carer Coffee Mornings

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

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

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

Important Dates

Thursday 22 nd October	Poetry Performance
Thursday 22 nd October	School Closes for the half-term holidays @ 3:25pm
Friday 23 rd October	INSET DAY – School closed to children

Why not check out our social media pages and follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



[Linaker Primary School | Facebook](#)



[Linaker Primary School \(@linakerprimar](#)

Have a great weekend! We will see you on Monday 19th October