



# Linaker Primary School

## Linaker's Latest

### Friday 9th October 2026

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

### Headteacher's Message



It has been a fantastic week in school, with plenty to celebrate. Our recent Open Events were a great success, giving prospective families the opportunity to see our wonderful school community in action. Children across the school have also produced some superb artwork, demonstrating their creativity and pride in their work. We were especially proud of our Year 2 pupils during their recent visit to a local shop, where they were commended by staff for their excellent behaviour and manners. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. [#TEAMLinaker](#) [#Togetherness](#) [#Empathy](#) [#Aspiration](#) [#MutualRespect](#)

### This Week's Award Winners



#### This Week's Super Pupils

N AR – Muhammad C  
R SW – Esmae B  
1 SH – Jaiden E  
2 LB – Orry L  
2 LW – Kai R  
3 LF – Daria B  
3 VT – Lakshya K  
4 TR – Jaxson G  
4 DN – Raneem A  
5 LK – Sofia N  
5 ME – Raiva S  
6 JC – Maryam H  
6 FK – Zoya R

#### This Week's Linaker Learners

N AR – Lottie-Bou B  
R SW – Eira L  
1 SH – Maria A  
2 LB – Drake S  
2 LW – Mason R  
3 LF – Oscar L  
3 VT – Nikolay D  
4 TR – Talia O  
4 DN – Eliza B  
5 LK – Humairah A  
5 ME – Alex F  
6 JC – Lincoln D  
6 FK – Erik P

### Attendance

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Linaker this  
week:

**95.90%**

Linaker Last  
week:

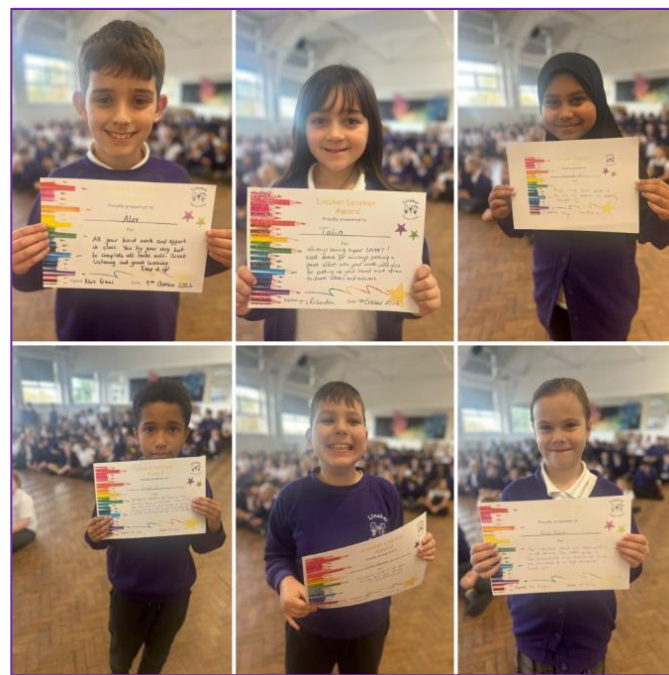
**93.75%**

National  
Average  
25/26:

**95.50%**

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 | 97.5%      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| Birkdale | 95.9%      | 1 <sup>st</sup> |
| Botanic  | 93.7%      | 4 <sup>th</sup> |
| Hesketh  | 95.5%      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |

### House Points this week:

| House    | Points | Position        |
|----------|--------|-----------------|
| Ainsdale | 33     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| Birkdale | 30     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| Botanic  | 34     | 1 <sup>st</sup> |
| Hesketh  | 30     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |

### Positions So Far for Half-Term 1:



| House    | Points | Position        |
|----------|--------|-----------------|
| Ainsdale | 179    | 1 <sup>st</sup> |
| Birkdale | 162    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| Botanic  | 159    | 4 <sup>th</sup> |
| Hesketh  | 165    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |



## 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 6FK, this week's winners, who achieved an amazing 99% attendance this week!

## Parents' Evening – Engagement in Learning

Thank you for the fantastic attendance at Parent's Evening on Wednesday. It was lovely to get the opportunity to celebrate your child's successes, talk about their engagement in learning and to work together to challenge them to be the very best they can be! The evening had a really positive vibe. Thank you for your continued support.



We previously sent out our ParentView Questionnaire by Arbor email. We politely request that all our parents/carers complete the form to give us a clear insight on how the start to the academic year is gone so far - thank you!

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RSgFwd8NJv>

Parent Questionnaire New  
Academic Year



## Subject Spotlight on Art!

Across school, children began their new art units this week, taking inspiration from the incredible work of artists such as Njideka Akunyili Crosby. The children created wonderfully unique artist studies, exploring the artist's work and expressing how it made them think and feel.



## Celebrating Success at the Endeavour Learning Trust Awards!

Last Friday evening, we were proud to attend the Endeavour Learning Trust Awards at Park Hall Hotel, Chorley, where both our incredible pupils and staff were recognised for their achievements.

Congratulations to our nominated pupils: Natalia K. – Belonging Award and Elmira D. – Transformational Award. Congratulations to our nominated staff: Sarah Wilcox – Togetherness Award and Shawn McGinnis – People Centred Award.

The celebrations didn't stop there! We were thrilled to see Irene M announced as Runner-Up in the Student People Centred Award, and absolutely delighted when Leanne Sambrook, Assistant Headteacher, was named the overall winner of the Staff Belonging Award!

What a fantastic evening and a wonderful opportunity to see Linaker pupils and staff recognised for their brilliance. Every nominee made us incredibly proud and, in our eyes, you're all winners!



## Hello Yellow - World Mental Health Day

Today, we supported Hello Yellow as part of our recognition of World Mental Health Day. Children were invited to wear a splash of yellow alongside their usual school uniform. Throughout the day, children will take part in age-appropriate activities and discussions about mental health, feelings and belonging, helping them to understand the importance of talking, listening and supporting one another. 🧡



## Poetry Performance



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>



## Year 2 Local Visit

As part of their learning about technology in the real world, our Year 2 children enjoyed a visit to the local Morrisons. During their visit, they explored how information technology helps make everyday life easier, spotting examples such as barcode scanners, tills, self-checkout systems, street lighting and Ring doorbells. The children were fascinated to see how technology is used all around us and enjoyed making links between their classroom learning and the world beyond school.



## Something Miraculous!

Something Miraculous? – Southport's very own creative writing competition for Year 3-6 and Year 7-9 young writers! Imagine opening a professionally printed book and finding your name and your story inside it.



They are searching for Southport's young writers to create 500-word stories filled with imagination, wonder and the unexpected. One hundred selected stories will be published in our book: "Something Miraculous? — Stories of Wonder by Southport's Young Writers." One overall winner will be announced at a special book launch at Christ Church during Southport's Books Alive festival on Friday 30th October — and their story will be read aloud to a live audience!

## THE CHALLENGE:

Write an original short story of no more than 500 words in which something miraculous happens.

Your miracle could be enormous or almost unnoticed; mysterious, funny, dramatic, faith-inspired, fantastical or surprisingly ordinary. It might change a life, answer a deep hope, reveal something hidden or make the impossible possible. You decide what "miraculous" means in your story.

### WHO CAN ENTER?

KS2 and KS3 young writers who live, attend school or have another clear connection with the Southport area.

### WHAT TO SUBMIT?

One original story of up to 500 words. The title does not count towards the word limit.

### WHEN'S THE DEADLINE?

Submit by 11.59pm on Friday 9 October 2026.

### HOW?

Ask a parent or carer to upload your story as a DOC, DOCX or PDF via the form below. (Your school does not need to submit it for you.)

Your story must be your own writing—do not use AI to write or rewrite it. Keep it suitable for a family audience and do not include private contact information.

### WANT SOME HELP WRITING?

Need a bit of support getting your ideas together into a story structure that flows and keeps the reader on their toes? View our classroom PowerPoint slides below or download the "Story Mountain" template.

If you want more information please review the website here: <https://saswtrust.com/miracle>

## 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.

**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 29<sup>th</sup> September: 4pm - 5pm  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October: 4pm - 5pm  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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 Grandfather '.**

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

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.

## Sign of the Week

5th-11th October 2026

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

This week's sign is...

**Grandfather**



## The Great Linaker Coat Swap



As the weather begins to turn colder, we are pleased to be hosting The Great Linaker Coat Swap. This is a fantastic opportunity for families to pass on coats that are no longer needed and pick up a replacement free of charge.

If your child has outgrown a coat that is still in good condition, please bring it along and help support our school community. If you do not have a coat to swap, you are still very welcome to come and see what is available.

### The Great Linaker Coat Swap

 **Thursday 15 October**

 **2.30pm - 4.00pm**

 **Reception Hall (entry via Linaker Street)**

Any coats remaining after the event will be donated to Coat Swap poster's named charity partner, Compassion Acts Uniform Hub, ensuring they continue to benefit local families. We look forward to seeing you there and working together to keep our community warm this winter.

## Menu Choices – Week Beg 12.10.26 (Week 1)

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

|  |                                                           |                                                           |                                                           |                                                           |                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                      | Monday                                                    | Tuesday                                                   | Wednesday                                                 | Thursday                                                  | Friday                                                    |
| Traditional Main Course                                                              | Local Pork Sausage with Mash Potato & Broccoli            | Chicken Tikka with Basmati Rice & Naan Bread              | Roast Turkey with Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables          | Chilli Beef Burrito with Sweetcorn                        | Cod Fish Fingers, Chips & Peas                            |
| Vegetarian                                                                           | Salmon and Vegetable Stir Fried Noodles                   | Macaroni Cheese                                           | Vegetable Lasagne and Garlic Bread                        | Cheese and Tomato Pizza and Sweetcorn                     | Hot Cheese and Tomato Panini with Chips and Coleslaw      |
| 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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!**



## 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 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER – 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

active sefton presents

# PARK NIGHTS

Archery  
Football  
Cricket  
Tennis  
Multi-sport

**FREE sport and activities for young people this autumn!**

**MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER & MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER**

Coronation Park, Crosby & Duke Street Park, Formby

**TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER & TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER**

Linacre Bridge Community Hub, Bootle & Canning Road Recreation Ground, Southport

**WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER & WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

King George V, Maghull & Bedford Park, Birkdale

**THURSDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER & THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

Netherton Activity Centre & Hesketh Park, Southport

**FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER & FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto:active.sports@sefton.gov.uk)



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](mailto: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](mailto:uniformhub@compassionacts.uk)

## 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

**Uniform Hub**

11 – 2pm

## THURSDAY

**Formby Pantry**

10:30 – 12:30pm

**BDS Pantry**

1 – 2:30pm

**Ainsdale Foodbank**

1 – 3pm

**Salvation Army Foodbank**

3:30 – 5:30pm

**Family Space Formby**

3:30 – 5:30pm

**Family Space Birkdale**

3:30 – 5:30pm

## FRIDAY

**Lakeside Foodbank**

1 – 3pm

**Uniform Hub**

11 – 2pm

## 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](mailto:hello@compassionacts.uk)

[www.compassionacts.uk](http://www.compassionacts.uk)

## SATURDAY

**Warm Space\***

10 – 12pm

\*(October-June)

## EARLY YEARS SEND TEAM



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](mailto:Lauren.Wilding@sefton.gov.uk)

## Important Dates

|                                          |                                                   |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October</b> | KS1 RWI Parents' Meeting @ 2:45pm                 |
| <b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>  | Poetry Performance                                |
| <b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>  | School Closes for the half-term holidays @ 3:25pm |
| <b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>    | 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](https://www.facebook.com/LinakerPrimarySchool)



[@LinakerPrimarySchool](https://www.instagram.com/LinakerPrimarySchool)

Have a great weekend! We will see you on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October