

ST WILFRID'S OCTOBER NEWS 2024

Attendance

Currently our school attendance is 93% - our target for the year is 95%.

50 children currently have attendance that is 90% or lower.

On Tuesday this week 12 children arrived after 9am.

It's really important that all children are in school on time (**lessons start at 9am**) and come to school every day. We know children catch bugs and can feel under the weather but not being in school does mean they miss essential learning. Please remember if you fill in a form at the office we can now give unprescribed medicines like Calpol.

We've sent out several messages about the new guidance on school attendance. School now has a duty to refer pupils who have had 10 **unauthorised** sessions (5 days) or more off school in a 10 week period.

Holidays taken in term time are unauthorised and if the child is away from school for 5 days or more a referral will be made to the local authority and a fixed penalty notice (fine) will be issued. These days do not need to be altogether but can spread over different weeks.

If you do not inform school why your child is not in school the absence may go down as unauthorised – if this happens for 5 days in a 10 week period a referral may be made and you may get a warning or a fine.



Fixed Penalty Notices for irregular attendance at school Important information for parents

1 Overview

Penalty notices are issued as an alternative to prosecution where parents have failed to ensure their child attends school regularly. They can be used in cases where absence has not been authorised by a head teacher.

The notices are used to prevent the need for court action, for example, when support has not been engaged with or is not appropriate (for example, leave of absence during term time). **Changes from September 2024 are shown below.**

2 Leave

Head Teachers are unable to grant leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation **would not** constitute an exceptional circumstance.

3 Absence

A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued if there are **5 days / 10 sessions** of absence in a period of **10 school weeks** (where absence has not been authorised).

A notice may be issued where the 5-day level of absence has not been reached, for example, if there are several periods of leave.

4 Amount

Within a 3-year period:

The first penalty notice is **£160** if paid within 28 days, reduced to **£80** if paid within 21 days.

A second penalty notice is **£160** to be paid within 28 days.

A third penalty notice cannot be issued. **Legal action** may result (for example, prosecution).

For further information please see Durham County Council website page on school attendance or email AIT@durham.gov.uk

PLEASE REMEMBER

ALL CHILDREN NEED TO BE IN SCHOOL TO START LEARNING AT 9AM
INFORM SCHOOL IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT – CALL 01388 603451 OR DOJO MISS SANDS
HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME WILL BE UNAUTHORISED AND MAY RESULT IN A FINE.

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Class Dojo

It is really important that every family is on Class Dojo. We share most of our news here and sometimes urgent messages are posted. Please ensure someone from the family is connected on Dojo and checks through the day for updates.

Uniform

First Steps - white polo shirt, burgundy jumper or cardigan and black leggings or joggers

Years 1-6 white polo shirt, burgundy jumper or cardigan and black/dark grey skirt or trousers, dark coloured school shoes should be worn - **NOT TRAINERS**

PE Kit - Years 1-6 will be given an PE day. Your child should come to school in their PE kit.

PE kit should be **white t-shirt, dark joggers/leggings** or shorts

Jewellery

We have a no jewellery policy in school – **NO EARRINGS, BRACELETS, NECKLACES OR RINGS.**
The children can wear a watch

ALL clothes MUST have your child's name marked on them.

The weather is so changeable – everyone needs to bring a coat each day – even if the sun is shining as it might not be by the end of the day!

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Thanks to all the families who park away from school and walk the short distance to school.

NO ONE SHOULD BE DROPPING CHILDREN OFF ON THE ZIG ZAG LINES.

LEAVE ENOUGH TIME TO GET TO SCHOOL, PARK AND WALK.

REMINDER - WE USE A ONE WAY SYSTEM ON MURPHY CRESCENT – TURN UP AT THE SCHOOL SIGN AND DRIVE PAST WITH SCHOOL ON YOUR LEFT HAND SIDE.

DO NOT PARK, STOP OR DROP OFF ON THE YELLOW ZIG ZAG LINES.

PLEASE DON'T DOUBLE PARK OR COVER RESIDENTS DRIVEWAYS.

Please pass these messages onto any family or friends who pick up or drop off.

Water Bottles

Children in Years 1-6 should have a water bottle in school each day. It's important they stay hydrated. Please get a reusable bottle.

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Asda fundraising

Thank you so much to everyone who has signed up to our school on the Asda Cashpot. So far we have raised **£219.13** – if you haven't registered yet and shop at Asda please select St Wilfrid's Catholic School using our postcode DL14 6QH

you scan, WE DONATE ££s TO SCHOOLS.

Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools





[Cashpot for Schools Terms & Conditions](#) [Asda Rewards terms & Conditions](#)

- 1**
Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app
Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select a specific primary school or select 'Schools in Need'.
- 2**
Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com
Asda will donate a percentage of your shop to your chosen school each time you shop and scan.
- 3**
Asda does the rest
The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to schools to spend on what they need most. This won't affect your own Cashpot earn.




Diary Dates – details may change or be added as the term progresses	
Tuesday 22 nd October	Fancy Dress Disco 5pm-6.30pm (For Years 1-6)
Thursday 24th October	Last day of half term School closed on Friday 25th October for teacher training
Monday 4 th November	School returns after half term
Sunday 10 th November	Family Mass 11am St Mary's Church for remembrance
Monday 11 th November	Remembrance Assembly 10.45am in school
Monday 11 th and Tuesday 12 th November	Parents Evenings for Years 1-6
Friday 15 th November	Children In Need Day
Tuesday 26 th November	M&M Theatre Company in school Panto
Tuesday 3 rd December	Year 5 & 6 Carols and Readings at church
Monday 9 th December	Year 3 & 4 Nativity performance
Wednesday 11 th December	First Steps Christmas Performance
Thursday 12 th December	Year 1 & 2 Carols and Readings in school
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 17 th December	Year 3 & 4 party
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 5 & 6 party First Steps party
Thursday 19 th December	Year 1 & 2 party
Friday 20 th December	Last day of Term 2.30pm Whole School Christmas Celebration

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LIFE AT ST WILFRID'S

<p>First Steps</p>	<p>The children in First Steps have had a great start to the school year! The children have settled in brilliantly and are really starting to learn the rules and routines of school. They have enjoyed exploring and discovering the different areas of our classroom both inside and out, sparking curiosity and creativity. Fridays are a particular hit in First Steps as the children love ice cream! We have enjoyed getting to know our buddies who have popped in for a couple of visits, which included them reading us stories! One of our focus stories this half term has been Goldilocks and the 3 bears, we retold the story using a story map and the children have made some rather yummy porridge!</p>	
<p>Year 1</p>		<p>Year 1 have had a really busy term, so far. In maths we are doing some practical work on numbers. We are using counters to work out the answer. In English we have been looking at traditional tales. Here we are sequencing Little Red Riding Hood and writing a caption to match. We have had a great term and have worked really hard. Well done Year 1.</p>
<p>Year 2</p>	<p>We have had a very sporty start to Year 2. Everybody enjoyed the Superhero themed multi-skills event that took place at St Wilfrid's last week. This helped to improve the children's throwing and accuracy skills. This week, Year 2 visited Bishop Auckland College to take part in a Kurling and Boccia festival with a number of other schools. It was lots of fun! We are looking forward to our next sporting event.</p>	
<p>Year 3</p>		<p>Year 3 have been busy researching how Barn Owls digest their food. We have dissected Barn Owl pellets and have found the bones and fur from lots of tiny mammals that had become prey.</p>

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		<p>We used this research to write our own double page spreads explaining how owls hunt, feed and digest their food. This is part of our English and Science topics this term.</p>
<p>Year 4</p>	<p>This half term we have linked lots of our learning to our class novel 'Why the Whales Came'. We have studied the coastline in Geography and in Art we have researched artists and produced some fantastic watercolour coastal landscapes. We also examined a variety of shells and created some amazing sketches. We loved singing the Roman Numerals song in Maths and we are getting much better at remembering our times tables! Great job Year 4!</p>	
<p>Year 5</p>		<p>Year 5 have enjoyed many different activities this half term including meeting our buddies, producing lots of fantastic space-themed artwork and taking part in a handball tournament. We enjoyed learning the rules of a new sport, showing excellent teamwork, and most importantly having fun.</p>
<p>Year 6</p>	<p>Year 6 have got off to a brilliant start this term! They have been working super hard in all their learning. They have even been working hard at home practicing their spellings on Spelling Shed and their times tables on TT Rockstars. This half term, we have been learning about 'Pop Art', we looked at the bright colours to make part stand out and created our final piece which we have displayed in our cloak room.</p> <p>As a school, we celebrated 'Languages Day'. As part of this celebration, each class had to learn a song in a different language and perform it to the school. We learnt a song named, 'La Bamba', the boys even came up with some amazing dance moves which helped us be crowned the 'St Wilfrid's Eurovision Champions.'</p> <p>The children in Year 6 have been working very hard on their spellings, practicing at home, spending time at lunch times working on Spelling Shed and even coming to school early to practice. Last week, their hard work paid off as every child in the class got 10 out of 10. What an achievement!</p>	

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	AUGUST 2024	SEPTEMBER 2024	OCTOBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2024	DECEMBER 2024	JANUARY 2025
Monday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Tuesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Wednesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Friday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Saturday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Sunday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
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	FEBRUARY 2025	MARCH 2025	APRIL 2025	MAY 2025	JUNE 2025	JULY 2025
Monday	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Friday	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Saturday	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Sunday	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
	35		30	19		35

Bank Holiday	
School Holiday	
PD Days	