# St William's Catholic Academy - Newsletter

# 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025



A warm welcome to all our children and families at the start of another exciting school year. We hope you had a restful summer and enjoyed precious time together.

A very special welcome goes to those families joining us for the first time – we are delighted to have you as part of our school community. Over the coming weeks, children will settle into routines, reconnect with friends, and begin new learning journeys. Our aim, as always, is to ensure that every child feels safe, valued, and ready to shine.

#### A Prayer for the New Term

Loving God, As we begin this new school year, we thank You for the gift of learning, for the friendships we share, and for the opportunities ahead. Help us to show respect for one another, for our teachers, and for our school. Guide us to grow in wisdom, kindness, and joy. Amen.

## **Behaviour and Respect**

This year we will be using a system called **Class Dojo** to celebrate positive behaviour and effort across the school. Children will collect dojos for showing kindness, working hard, helping others, and making positive choices. Each half term, children will have the opportunity to spend their dojos in our **Dojo Shop**, which will be stocked with a range of exciting treats and prizes.

#### Our whole-school focus this term is Respect:

- Respect for staff, listening carefully and following guidance.
- Respect for one another, treating friends with kindness and courtesy.
- Respect for our school environment, keeping it tidy, safe, and welcoming.

We will be celebrating pupils who show respect consistently, and this value will run through assemblies, lessons, and class discussions.

#### **Attendance Matters**

We are passionate about ensuring children are in school as much as possible so they can achieve their very best. This year we are introducing an exciting new incentive called Attendance BINGO!

Each week, classes with **98% attendance or higher** will earn a letter on their B I N G O card and once all five letters have been earned, classes will have an opportunity to spin the prize wheel. Spaces on the wheel will contain prizes ranging from **non-uniform days**, class parties, extra playtime, or special treats.

We hope this motivates classes to aim high and celebrate the power of working together to achieve great attendance. Every day in school really does make a difference!

#### Bring your Parents to School Day

Our popular **Bring Your Parents to School Day** will be returning this term, but with a **fresh new format**. This year, we want to make the day more of a **showcase of children's learning and creativity**. Parents will have the opportunity to visit school and see examples of the excellent work and learning that has been taking place.

We know how much families value these opportunities, and we are keen to make the day both enjoyable and informative. It's a brilliant chance for children to share their pride in their work and for parents to get a flavour of daily school life. We are still in the planning stages and so more details will be shared with you very soon.

#### Breakfast and Tea time Club

We are pleased to remind families that we offer both **Breakfast Club** and **Tea Time Club** to support childcare before and after school. Booking can be done through your My Child at School (MCAS) app.

- **Breakfast Club** runs daily from 8:00am, giving children a calm and positive start to the day. A range of healthy breakfast options are available, along with activities to get children ready for learning.
- **Tea Time Club** runs until 5:15pm and offers a variety of snacks, fun activities, and opportunities to play and relax with friends in a safe, supervised environment.

#### PE Days

Children should come to school in their correct PE kit on their class PE day. This should include appropriate footwear, and for colder weather, children may wear tracksuits or joggers. Please ensure all kit is clearly labelled with your child's name. Class 4 will be swimming this term and should come to school in school uniform.

Class 1: Friday Class 2: Tuesday Class 3: Tuesday Class 4: Monday (swimming)

## Reminders

- Names on Uniform: Please ensure all items of uniform, PE kit, coats, and water bottles are labelled clearly. This makes it much easier for us to reunite lost property with its owner.
- After-School Clubs: Our new programme of after-school clubs will be shared soon, with activities to suit a
  wide range of interests. We are excited to offer children opportunities to develop new skills and enjoy
  experiences beyond the classroom.
- **Driving and Parking**: We kindly ask all parents and carers to drive and park carefully around the school site and the surrounding streets/estate. Please be mindful of our neighbours, avoid blocking driveways, and ensure the safety of all children and families arriving or leaving school.

#### Staff Availability

We have a member of staff on the playground each morning to supervise children. Not all staff are available at the start of the day due to other responsibilities. You can pass messages to this member of staff for other teachers but if you have an important matter to discuss I would encourage you to make an appointment for a convenient time. Any messages about absence or attendance at after school club must go through the school office.

## Dates for your diary

Please find below a list of initial dates for your diaries. Further dates to be shared once sporting fixtures		
calendar has been finalised.		
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5/6 after school football tournament begins. (4 weeks)	
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Hoopstarz Day – Children must wear PE kits	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	European Day of Languages	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Start of Black History Month	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Whole School Mass	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	First Holy Communion year 4 Parents Meeting - 4:30 pm	
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	World Mental Health Day	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes for Half Term	
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Visit of Bishop Stephen	
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents afternoon	Parents should attend 1 session on
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Afternoon	either day.
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 4 Celebration of the Word	
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 3 Assembly	
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti Bullying Week	
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Class 3 and 4 Performance (afternoon and evening)	
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Class 1 and 2 Performance (morning and afternoon)	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Class 1 and 2 Christmas Party	
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Class 3 and 4 Christmas Party	
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Mass	
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Finish for Christmas Holidays.	