

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 6th December 2023

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is significant to a child's educational development and progress. When a child's attendance falls to 90% or below it is classed as persistent absence. We hope that by working together, attendance will improve and children will achieve fully in school. The school's policy for attendance is available on the school [website](#). We reward good attendance each week and are aiming for at least 96%.

Our Reception class had the highest attendance for the second week with **100%**. Other classes attendance was follows: **Y5 - 96.7%**, **Y1 - 95.5%**, **Y2 - 94.6%**, **Y3 - 93%**, **Y6 - 92.5%**, **Y4 - 88.9%**, **N - 87.5%**.

The classes in **green** are above our target of **96%** and those in **red** are below, some significantly below. We will be targeting those with poor attendance.

Parents can notify school of their child's absence through the School Spider App. You will need to log into School Spider to do this, if you need help logging in, please let school know.

If you are unable to call school, e.g no credit on your phone, please use School Spider.

Christmas Performances

Our Christmas Performances are next week and we still have tickets available for Tuesday and Thursday at 1.30PM. If you would like to buy more tickets for these days, please contact the school office – tickets are £1.00.

Be in to win!

Thank you to all families who supported the 'Be in to Win' event for November. Last November we had 82 children in for the whole month. This November we had **147!** A staggering improvement, so well done everyone! It was so successful we are going to try again this month – the children are really keen to earn themselves a selection box on the last day of term.

Same rules apply: **Every child** who is **in school** for the **whole of December** will receive a **selection box**. They **MUST** be in school every day for both morning and afternoon sessions to win the advent calendar – not off with a valid reason, but in every day. We will see if we can get as many children as possible to attend school every day this month. If your child has an appointment they must come to school prior to present and get their mark and return to school straight after.

PFA Christmas Fair

We are holding our Christmas Fair next Wednesday 13/12/23 at 3.00pm in the school hall.



Collection of your children on the day

KS2 children will come straight to the hall from their classrooms at 3.00pm and you can meet your child in the hall.

KS1 children will need to be collected from classrooms as usual at 3.00pm and then you can join the fair through the hall doors.



PFA Christmas raffle tickets were sent home with children a few week ago, if you want additional tickets, please contact school.

School Meal Price Increase from January 2024

Unfortunately, Sefton have miscalculated their costs and are now claiming back over £6,000 which we have not budgeted for. As you can imagine we are as annoyed and as disappointed as you are about the increase in costs and will be doing all we can to fight this. However, it does mean we will have to increase the school meal costs again from 8th January 2024 to £2.50 per day. I am appalled by Sefton catering's incompetence but we are now left with over £6,000 which they are claiming back from us.

Yoga After School Club 4.15PM Session

Yoga starts the **first week back in the new year – 9th January 2024**. As the older children do not start their yoga class until 4.15pm and there are no other clubs available until week commencing 15th January, we will allow them to join in with the younger children at 3.15PM or stay and read in a classroom for an hour next week only. After the first week the children must be in another club or go home and come back as all the staff will be busy taking their own after school clubs.

We will offer the same for next week as all school clubs have finished so staff will be available

Mentor Lunch

Our mentor lunch takes place on 20.12.23, envelopes are being sent home to all children in Year 3 – 6 today. Please return your envelope with payment to school as soon as possible. Please note that there is no facility for packed lunch on this day.

Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch is 19.12.23, and all children are welcome to join in. The menu is as follows:



Roast Turkey with pigs in blankets, stuffing, sprouts, vegetables, potatoes and gravy followed by Cakes made by Helaine



Envelopes are being sent home today for children in Y3 - 6. If you would like your child to join in, please send payment into to school before 19.12.23.

After School Clubs January 2024

Attached to the newsletter last week were details of clubs being offered for January 2024. This information can also be found on our [website](#).

There are two types of clubs.

- Clubs that we have received funding for.
- Clubs that are funded by school.

Clubs that we have received funding for will start the first week back in January 2024 (W/C 08.01.24) when school reopens. Those clubs will be: **Gymnastics (Monday), Yoga (Tuesday), Multisports (Wed, Thurs and Friday)**. Other clubs commence w/c 15.01.24.

If you would like to request a place for your child in the club, please [email](#).

Courageous Advocacy/ Making Positive Change

Our vision leaders are looking to support St. Oswald's Foodbank by taking part in the Reverse Advent Calendar event. They are going to provide each class with a box for food donations. Then on Thursday 21st December they aim to deliver 8 hampers to the Foodbank with all the generous donations that are sent in. Every child taking part will pick a number (see the advent calendar below) and on that day can bring in a tin/packet to donate. In return they will receive a raffle ticket. On the 21st December a ticket will be selected and the person will win a treat for their class.



Reverse ADVENT CALENDAR

Please bring your donations to
St. Leonard's Youth & Community Centre, 60 Peel Road, L20 4RW
or Waterloo Town Hall, 26 Great Georges Road, L22 1RD
by 4th December 2020

							1 TINNED VEGETABLES
2 TINNED POTATOES	3 TINNED TOMATOES	4 TINNED FRUIT	5 INSTANT MASH	6 INSTANT NOODLES	7 INSTANT COFFEE	8 TINNED RICE PUDDING	
9 TINNED TUNA	10 BISCUITS	11 LONG LIFE JUICE	12 TINNED RICE PUDDING	13 INSTANT MASH	14 FESTIVE BISCUITS	15 CHOCOLATE ADVENT CALENDAR	
16 TINNED SALMON	17 JAM	18 TINNED HAM	19 SELECTION BOX	20 TINNED POTATOES	21 TOILET PAPER	22 TINNED FRUIT	
23 TINNED MEAT	24 TINNED RICE PUDDING	25 TINNED TOMATOES	26 INSTANT NOODLES	27 JAM	28 TOILETRIES	29 INSTANT COFFEE	
30 CRACKERS	How it works: 1. Grab a box and a marker. 2. Each day place the specified item in the box		3. Tick it off on your Reverse Advent Calendar. 4. Once you are done, bring the box to the foodbank.		Why do it in November? It takes time to get the donations processed, if you were to donate in late December, they would only reach our Clients in the New Year.		

Dates for Next Year

For school term dates and upcoming events please see the school calendar on our [website](#).

December

- 8th – MUFTI Day to raise funds for PFA
National Santa Dash day – whole school doing Santa dash
- 11th – Dress Rehearsal for Christmas plays
- 12th – 1st Performance 1.30pm
- 13th – 2nd Performance 9.30am. Christmas fair 3.00pm after school – all invited
- 14th – Carol singing 10am. 2nd Performance 1.30pm
- 15th – Making Day for whole school
10. 30am & 2.15 pm – Nursery Stay N' Play. 2.15pm Reception Stay N' Play
- 19th – Christmas dinner day
- 20th - Christmas Party Day – all to wear party clothes (none uniform)
- 9.15am – Puppet Show, Mentor Lunch and games afternoon
- 21st – Starry Night - Nativity play for whole school
- 22nd – 9.15am – End of term service
TT Rockstars competition for KS2
Finish at 2.00pm.

Christian Values

This month's Christian Value is **Compassion**

"The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion." **Psalms 116:5**



Article 30

Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, regardless of whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.



A Prayer for our School

*This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
let peace begin with me.
Let the room be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of human kind, love of life itself
And love of God
Let us remember that as many hands build a
house,
Many hearts build a school.
Amen*



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E. Murtagh'.

Miss E Murtagh
Headteacher