

NEWSLETTER



**Autumn
Term
25.09.26**



Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

This week, I have met with the Attendance Officers for school as part of planned meetings (occur regularly throughout the year). They were pleased with our data – 96.4% for the year to date – Thank You. We do have a couple of families whose current attendance data is showing as an initial cause for concern. Jude (our Attendance Officer) will be contacting those families to offer support. Please answer her phone call or respond to her emails. She is employed to support you and your child to attend school regularly.

Research from education departments and policy organisations indicates that early-term attendance patterns establish the routine for the remainder of the school year, severely impacting both engagement and academic outcomes. Accompanying this newsletter is the NHS guide, is my child too ill for school. Again, we share this at times throughout the year.

At the start of the year, I shared the DfE Back to School Reset guide. This document contains lots of ideas to support parents. Many parents have commented on the usefulness of the suggestions.

Leigh Film Factory are inviting all our children to design and name a new mascot! Entries should be on A4 paper, with the child's name, class and school on the back. Please submit to the school office by Tuesday 13th October 2026. The winning design will receive a family cinema ticket and goody bag! For more information, visit [Leigh Film Factory](#).

We are delighted to welcome representatives from St Mary's High School, including Headteacher Mrs Brahms to Sacred Heart for an informal information session for parents of children in Years 4, 5 and 6. Find out what makes St Mary's such a special place, learn more about the transition to high school, and have the opportunity to ask any questions during an open Q&A session. Please put this date in your diary – Tuesday 13th October, 3:30pm, in school at Sacred Heart School

Do you know a little one starting school in September 2027? Please share our Facebook posts with our Open Day Dates. We are a small school with BIG experiences!

Wishing everyone a relaxing weekend.

Low Bank Ground

Thank you to everyone who has paid the deposit. It's not too late if you haven't done so to reserve a place on this wonderful residential which your child(ren) will never forget. If you have any questions or queries, please speak with myself, Mr Hough or Mrs Julien. It would be great if everyone was able to attend this year.

Education Penalty Notices

The EPN briefing has been shared via email and it is always available on the school website. This document is shared every term, as part of our commitment to supporting positive attendance in school. I have met with our School Attendance Officers this week and again yesterday and I have been asked to remind parents of the following:

An EPN can be issued where a school suspects/knows a child is on holiday even when parents have communicated illness etc... during the week to school.

Please be upfront with school so that we can be transparent with you regarding the possible actions which schools must follow. We are duty bound to apply the procedures which is to submit an EPN for all holidays in term time, which equate to 10 sessions missed in school (1 day is 2 sessions) irrelevant if parents have declared it or not.

Harvest Festival Donations for Atherton and Leigh Food Bank

As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations, we're collecting donations for Atherton and Leigh Food Bank. A donation basket has been placed in the school office for contributions.

We kindly ask for non-perishable food items (such as tins, packets, and long-life products).

All donations will be collected on 9th October.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

School Payments

Reminder – please check your Arbor account regularly and ensure any outstanding balances are cleared. Any problems please contact the school office. Thank you for keeping payments up to date.

Parking Around School

Last week, one of the local councillors visited school to observe the reported inappropriate parking around school. The majority of parents were parking responsibly – Thank You. This week, I have been contacted by Wigan Council requesting a meeting where we can explore alternative options for families to driving down Lodge Road/Lodge Lane.

J M Demott

AWARDS

25.09.26



Reception

Golden Ticket	Archie	Working hard and trying his best in Mathematics.
Golden Ticket	Eunice	Being a polite and well-mannered member of our class.
Golden Ticket	Logan	Super letter formation during Supersonic Phonic Friends.
Reading Champion	Keza	Well done on reading consistently all week. You are on your way to achieving one of our badges.
Excellence	Teddy	Showing excellence by always trying your best and never giving up.

Year One

Golden Ticket	Chloe	Being more confident at identifying the sounds in the words she wants to write.
Golden Ticket	Fraser	Confidently answering problem solving questions when finding 1 more.
Golden Ticket	Tommy	Being a phonics superstar!
Reading Champion	Tife	Well done on reading consistently all week. You are on your way to achieving one of our badges.
Excellence	Jakob	Showing excellence by always trying his best in everything you do. We are incredibly proud of you!

Year Two

Golden Ticket	Kora	Focusing carefully on capital letters and full stops, making excellent progress in her writing.
Golden Ticket	Violet	Showing great enthusiasm for history, even buying a book to develop her knowledge further.
Golden Ticket	Wilf	Showing a conscientious attitude in maths, always challenging himself with deeper learning tasks.
Reading Champion	Xavier	Well done on reading consistently all week. You are on your way to achieving one of our badges.
Excellence	Kennedy	Always striving for excellence, taking pride in producing high-quality work in everything he does.

Year Three

Golden Ticket	Freddie	An outstanding effort in Maths when independently calculating the value of digits in a 3-digit numbers.
Golden Ticket	Ife	A concentrated effort in lessons and demonstrating school rules.
Golden Ticket	William	Purposeful contributions in History when inferring about life in the Stone Age.
Reading Champion	Leo B	Well done on reading consistently all week. You are on your way to achieving one of our badges.
Excellence	Oliver	Listening well, trying his best and demonstrating excellence in everything he does.

Year Four

Golden Ticket	Ava G	Writing super speech sandwiches using fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases.
Golden Ticket	Daisy	Amazing work in Science; drawing and labelling the different teeth accurately and independently.
Golden Ticket	Theodore	Being super focussed on his work and not being distracted by others.
Reading Champion	Jonty	Well done on reading consistently all week. You are on your way to achieving one of our badges.
Excellence	Freya	Showing excellence by standing up in class and reading her work out loud with confidence.

Year Five

Golden Ticket	Chinedum	Explaining the meaning of unfamiliar words in context.
Golden Ticket	Elsie	Amazing work when rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000.
Golden Ticket	Lydia	Fantastic writing in role using subordinating conjunctions.
Reading Champion	Amen	Well done on reading consistently all week. You are on your way to achieving one of our badges.
Excellence	Annabella	Making an excellent start to her time at Sacred Heart.

Year Six

Golden Ticket	Artur	Showing good understanding of grammar terminology and sharing this with the class.
Golden Ticket	Brody	Always being ready to learn.
Golden Ticket	Jacob	Exceptional contribution during Reading lessons showing his extensive range of vocabulary.
Reading Champion	Harry	Well done on reading consistently all week. You are on your way to achieving one of our badges.
Excellence	Jack	Striving for excellence, growing in confidence and independence, and having the confidence to ask for help when he needs it.