

Newsletter

April

2023

It has been a busy half term as usual and as we approach the Easter holidays, I am sure that the children and staff are looking forward to a well-earned break especially with the nights getting lighter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for the commitment and combined with the enthusiasm and resilience of our children, means that St Finbar's continues to thrive throughout the year. I would also like to thank you all for your continued support.



World Book Day was an event that was celebrated within our school on Thursday 2nd March. Children and staff dressed up in their pyjamas and brought their favourite books to school. Children and staff enjoyed the day as always!



Our Reception listened to the stories of Hans Christian Andersen and made a palace fit for a Snow Queen, Emperor's new clothes and merpeople. They finished the day with a bedtime story and a hot chocolate.



Our children all had a lovely day.



LIVERPOOL READATHON

On Monday 27th February – Friday 3 March, St Finbar's took part in the Liverpool Readathon.

Year 2 have had a lovely week by stopping and sharing a book with friends and taking an extra five minutes to enjoy a variety of books. They have thoroughly enjoyed discussing the books that they enjoy and listening to book recommendations.



All year groups took part in a number of zoom calls with different authors. Authors shared a book they had written and discussed what inspired them to become an author. Children also had the opportunity to ask our own questions.

Children also read for pleasure to raise money for our local children's hospital. This is to ensure that all children have access to beautiful texts during their stay in hospital.

Our pupils raised £174.50. Thank you all for your support.



School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Congratulations to Year 4 who achieved 96.0% attendance from Monday 27th February to Friday 24th March.

As spring begins and summer is around the corner, we want our attendance and punctuality to continue to improve. It is important that all our Little Learners arrive at school on time and ready to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities St. Finbar's offers. The Attendance Team will continue to look at pupils' attendance % and we will be inviting Parents/Carers in to school to establish a plan to improve attendance. Punctuality is equally as important as attendance. Breakfast Club is available free from 8 am every week day. The children can get breakfast as well as have some social time with their friends. We will have an attendance initiative the first two weeks back after Easter. Classes who have above 95% attendance will have a reward. Primary pupils do need Parents/Carers to bring them to school. Please do your very best to support the school on attendance by sending your child in to school and on time, every day.

THANK YOU!

A very big "Thank you" to Amy and Megan's Nan for donating three Easter baskets for our Easter Raffle. We will let you know the winners and amount raised in our next newsletter.



READING ADVENTURE DAY

On Monday 13th March 2023 we held our Reading Adventure Day. The day was hosted by Subject Revolution and children had to 'Escape Crow Castle'.

Within the children's reading adventure, the books are recreated as different rooms of the castle. The children worked in teams and journey into the books that have been brought magically to life and search for clues. The children had to escape their way to freedom or face the Crow Queen and being trapped in Crow Castle!



Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic time trying to escape crow castle with their reading skills!



Reception children had to use their phonics skills to find the initial letters to solve the clues, open the boxes and work out the magic spell to save their school from the dragon.

This event was funded by our Christmas Movie Night fundraiser.

EASTER AT ST FINBAR'S

Well done to Year 5 and Reception for leading our Easter Service this year. The readings and singing were amazing and the children were reverent in their behaviour. A happy and holy Easter to you all when it arrives.



Our Easter Bonnet Parade also took place and was followed by our Themed, roast dinner themed Easter lunch.

Congratulations to our Easter Bonnet Winners:

Harper, Nicole, Hudson, Lucas, Luke, Darcie, Natalya and Georgie.

A selection of some of the wonderful Easter Bonnets. More photographs will be in our May Newsletter.



MOTHERS' DAY



On Friday 17th March we held a Mothers' Day shop for children to purchase gifts. We raised £161.75 towards our School Fund which will go towards purchasing resources for our children.

PARENTS EVENING

Thank you to everyone who came along to our recent Parents Evening's. It was lovely to be able to share so many of your children's successes and discuss how their learning can be improved further. We hope you enjoyed looking at your child's books and speaking to their class teacher.

CONGRATULATIONS



Early Years are celebrating being awarded the Neurodiversity in Early Years award from the ADHD foundation. We have been working with the charity to achieve this award, which recognises the inclusive learning environments and practise that our staff and setting in Early Years provide. We are one of only a handful of schools to have achieved this award nationally and we are very proud.



St Finbar's is now a Music Mark School. This award is in recognition of a commitment to providing high quality music education for all our children.

RECYCLE YOUR INK CARTRIDGES AND BATTERIES HERE!



At St Finbar's we care about our environment.

As we think of ways to look after our planet we collecting household batteries of any size and home ink cartridges to be recycled.



Please can you drop batteries/ink cartridges off at the Battery/cartridge drop off box at the school office.

Thank you. Natalya, Scarlett and Harvey for our lovely re-cycle posters.



THE MAGIC MUFFIN FAIRY IS VISITING ST FINBAR'S!

We do not know where the Magic Muffin Fairy comes from or who she will visit next!

What we do know is that she rewards two children a week for helping our fabulous catering staff, for eating their lunch, making healthy choices and for wonderful manners.

The Magic Muffin Fairy leaves a muffin and certificate at the child's desk every Friday!

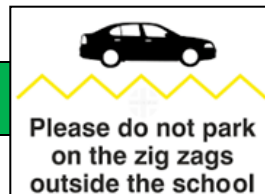


Studybugs +

Studybugs is a new app that we are using to make communication between school and parents'/carers' quicker. Personal data is kept safe and secure and your data will not be shared with third parties.

It is a better, safer way to report when your child is sick and off school. With a few quick taps or clicks, you can give us all the information we need to record an absence due to illness. We are also able to email school correspondence to you in a safe and secure way. Please download the app from the App Store or Google Play.

Please can you ensure that we have updated contact information. You can do this by calling in at the school office or by emailing finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk



Should you need to drive to school, please ensure that you park considerately and safely. This will help make sure that we continue to keep congestion to a minimum and keep our children safe.

Please remember not to park on the zig zag lines, park on corners or ride bicycles/scooters on the pavement. As the days are getting lighter, there are increasing levels of children walking and cycling to school, please be considerate. Thank you.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

The school will be closed to children on Thursday 4th May as we are a polling station for the local elections.



FUN IN THE SNOW AT ST FINBAR'S

On Friday 10th March ... It snowed.

Children and staff had a lovely snow day together.

Thank you to our Caretaker, Mr Conning and Mr Conley for keeping us safe and for staff braving the weather to travel to school.





WE HAVE PLACES AVAILABLE FOR 3 YEAR OLDS!

“Every child deserves the best possible start in life and support to their full potential. A child’s experience in the early years has a major impact on their future life chances. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right, and it provides the foundation for children to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.” EYFS Framework

At St Finbar’s we greatly value the important role that the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) plays in laying secure foundations for your child’s future learning and development.

We have places available on our morning session.

Mornings (8.45 am – 11.50 am)



If you are interested in joining the ‘St Finbar’s Family’, please contact the school office and they will arrange a visit for you.

Tel: 0151 727 3963

Email: finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpoo.sch.uk

COMMUNITY NEWS

LOCATION
HERON ECCLES

PRICES
7th & 10th APRIL
£35 both days
£20 individual day

1st, 8th & 29th MAY
£50 all three days
£20 individual day

TIMES
09:30am -
15:00pm

**BANK HOLIDAY
FOOTBALL CAMPS**

**THE FOOTY
HUB**

BRING
Football Boots & Shin Pads &
Lunch & Drinks
Medals for all participants on
the last day
Chance for trophies to be won

For more details email; footyhubs@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook; [@thefootyhub2022](https://www.facebook.com/thefootyhub2022)
Follow us on Instagram; [@_thefootyhub1](https://www.instagram.com/thefootyhub1)
Contact Neil; 07578898035

The Spring Edition of the **Liverpool Parenting Newsletter**, March – May 2023 is now available on the following link: <https://sway.office.com/yaQ6W3itHm4L9gTU?ref=Link>

You will find new information to support Parents/ Carers, Families and children in Liverpool along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

The Newsletter also includes information on services that support parents including:-

Ante Natal Services

Debt Advice

Employment Support

HAF Half Term Activities

Parenting Programmes

Support for Fathers

Children Centres

Domestic Abuse

Foodbanks

Mental Health

SEND

Childcare

Education

Fostering in Liverpool

Money Management

Parental Mental Health



Liverpool
City Council

Date: 3 March 2023

Dear Parent or Guardian

The Easter HAF programme starts on the 3rd April and there are lots of great activities happening over the school holidays. Children and young people will be able to access hundreds of activities throughout the Easter break including specific provision available for children with SEND or additional needs, at **no cost to you**. There's a great range of activities across the city including **boxing, trampolining, football, music, dance, cycling, cooking, climbing, films, bowling, arts and crafts, drama, a make up course, trips out, Eurovision themed activities** and much more! Every day there will be a meal available for every child that attends.

To find out where your nearest scheme and all the details of what is on click on this link - <https://merseyplay.com/easter-haf-holiday-activities-food/> or visit www.Merseyplay.com and click on the Easter HAF link (available on Friday 10th March).

When you have chosen an activity, you will need to contact that organisation to book a place. Each organisation will have either a telephone number, email address or online booking system. If your child has any additional needs or dietary requirements then please discuss this with the organisation when you book. There is no central booking system so please read the details of the programmes on the website and ring the providers directly.

Liverpool City Council is working with the local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to provide the HAF programme. The programme is funded by the Department for Education.

The Liverpool Family Information and SEND Directory also provides a wealth of useful information and support for families - [LFISD](#).

Regards

Sally Dobbing

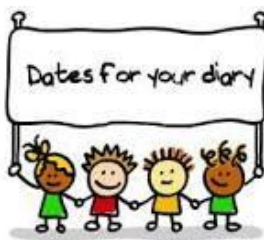
Sally Dobbing - HAF Project Manager

Q: Why don't rabbits get hot in summer?

A: They have hare conditioning.

Q: What do you get if you cross a frog with a rabbit?

A: A bunny rabbit.



MARCH		
31 st	Friday	Eurovision Concert
		Easter Raffle Draw
		School closes at 3.15 pm for Easter Break
APRIL		
Monday 3 rd – Friday 14 th		Easter Break
March		
17 th	Monday	Return to School
18 th	Tuesday	Year 6 SAT's Parental Meeting, 2.50 pm
25 th	Tuesday	Year 2 SAT's Parental Meeting, 2.50 pm
MAY		
1 st	Monday	Bank Holiday
4 th	Thursday	Local Elections – School Closed for Pupils
5 th	Friday	Themed Lunch: Coronation 'Street' Party (details to follow)
8 th	Monday	Bank Holiday – The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort
9 th	Tuesday	Year 6 SAT's Week
15 th	Monday	Year 2 SAT's Week
20 th	Saturday	First Holy Communion (details to be confirmed)
29 th	Monday	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 30 th – Friday 2 nd June		Half Term
JUNE		
5 th	Monday	Return to School

Academic calendar 2022/23

March 2023							
	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		

April 2023							
	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2023							
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	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

June 2023							
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	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30		

July 2023							
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	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

August 2023							
	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			

 Inset Days

 Bank Holidays

 School Holidays

Academic Calendar 2023/2024

September 2023							
	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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October 2023							
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November 2023							
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December 2023							
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January 2024							
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February 2024							
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	26	27	28	29			

March 2024							
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April 2024							
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	29	30					

May 2024							
	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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June 2024							
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July 2024							
	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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August 2024							
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	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Two School Inset Days are still to be allocated.

 School holidays

 School Inset Days - proposed

 National Bank Holidays