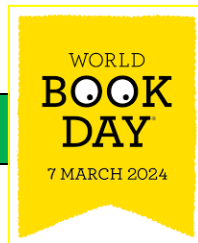


## March 2024

Another busy half term is nearly over at St Finbar's and as we approach the Easter holidays, I am sure that the children and staff are looking forward to a well-earned holiday especially as the nights are getting lighter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and our staff for the commitment, that combined with the enthusiasm and resilience of our children, means that St Finbar's Primary School continues to thrive throughout the year.



Children and staff celebrated World Book Day by wearing their pyjamas, getting comfy and sharing their favourite books.

We have shared different versions of the traditional story "Little Red Riding Hood" and, all children, completed a piece of writing linked to our chosen book.

Year 4 spent the morning looking at the book 'Little Red' and created their favourite photos from the book using potatoes!



Our catering staff also hosted a 'Themed Lunch' with food based on famous reading books e.g. James and the Giant Pizza, Quidditch Sticks, Ratatouille, Gangster Granny Greens etc.

The winners of our World Book Day raffle are:

Ryan (EYFS), Raissa (KS1) and Amelia (KS2)



Children and staff enjoyed the day as always!

A total of £302.80 was raised towards new books for the school library.



## THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION – 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

On the Feast of the Annunciation, we celebrate the day that the Angel Gabriel visited the Virgin Mary announcing that she was going to be the mother of Jesus. Even though Mary did not understand completely, she trusted God's plan for her life, and she said yes to becoming the mother of God and our mother.



The words of the "Hail Mary" come from the Angel's greeting: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you".

## LENT FUND RAISING

As you are aware, during Lent we are raising money for CAFOD as well as supporting St Cleopas' Pantry. We understand that families will have their own challenges currently but appreciate any support you can give when the children are involved in their fund-raising events.

**Nursery & Reception:** Guess 'How many sweets in the jar'.

**Year 1 & Year 2:** After Easter there will be a drawing competition and details are to follow.

**Year 3:** Easter picture competition.

**Year 4:** 'Guess the name of the Teddy Bear'.

**Year 5:** 'Bingo'.

**Year 6:** 'How many Easter Eggs are in the jar'.

All entries are 50p and there are class prizes to be won.

Junior children can also take part in 'Guess the Member of Staff' competition. Entry is £1. The lucky winner will win an Easter basket.

## EASTER

Easter is a Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. According to Christian history, Jesus was crucified on a Friday (Good Friday) and rose again three days later on Easter Sunday.

Good is traditionally a day of sorrow, penance, and fasting. **Holy Saturday**, also called **Easter Vigil**, is the traditional end of Lent.



It is the most important Christian festival, and the one celebrated with the greatest joy. The date of **Easter** changes each year, and several other Christian festivals fix their dates by reference to **Easter**. Easter Sunday is 31<sup>st</sup> March this year.

## YEAR 5 VISIT THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

As part of their History topic, on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Year 5 visited the University of Liverpool.

They explored the buildings around the University and how they link to the United States and discussed how the buildings could be used in the future. In the afternoon they worked with local artist, Jioni Warner, and worked on the 'A Museum for Me' art project.

The trip was very informative and the children gained a wealth of knowledge about the Transatlantic Slave Trade. The children were all very interested and engaged, asking an array of thoughtful and well-articulated questions. Tackling a challenge subject matter, the children showed maturity and respectful conduct throughout the session and did St Finbar's and themselves proud.



## STAFF BAKE OFF & CAKE SALE



On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March staff entered the 'Staff Bake Off'. The cakes were judged on their presentation and taste. Mrs Dudley, Mrs Simm and Mrs Welch formed the tasting panel.

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** went to Miss Osbourne and her amazing cheese cake.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** was Miss Regan and her Biscoff Cake

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** went to Mrs Conley with her Lemon & Poppy Seed cake.



Thank you to everyone who took party and purchased a cake or two! So far we have raised £66 for charity.



We are two thirds of the way through the school year. Our school attendance currently stands at **92.34%**. This is still significantly less than the **97%** or above target the Government wants our school to reach. For us to improve our current attendance %, we need every child in, on time, every day. Absence should be for genuine illness reasons and not if your child is tired or going away for the weekend. Genuine absences will be authorised but anything that isn't will be recorded as unauthorised and the Education Welfare Service will become involved, possibly resulting in a fine. If you have any questions or need to speak to a member of the Attendance Team, please see Reception and they will make a time for you. Our school aim is to work with Parents/Carers in creating higher attendance and punctuality for our pupils.

	Week 26.2.2024	Week 4.2.2024	Week 11.3.2024	Week 18.3.2024
Nursery	88.24%	77.00%	87.57%	68.57%
Reception	84.35%	91.74%	87.83%	91.74%
Year 1	98.57%	88.57%	85.00%	98.67%
Year 2	87.86%	85.00%	82.14%	89.29%
Year 3	86.96%	91.30%	94.35%	93.91%
Year 4	97.22%	94.44%	97.28%	89.47%
Year 5	90.95%	91.90%	94.86%	94.55%
Year 6	90.65%	92.26%	81.61%	97.42%
Whole School Attendance Target 97%	91.29%	90.89%	87.82%	93.87%

100% Excellent!

98/99%+ Good

97% At Target

Less than 97% Below Target

## MOTHER'S DAY SALE

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, the children were able to purchase an item to give to the important female, in their life e.g. Mum, Nan, Aunty, Sister etc.

Thank you for your support as the Mother's Day Sale raised £104.20 for our School Fund.



## LiveSimply

An important part of our faith is to care for creation and to develop respect for other people in the world. St. Finbar's school community are going to be putting our faith into action. During Lent, we have been taking part in the 'Big Lent Walk'. Children have been walking for small periods during the week around the playground. On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, we will have the whole school out walking sharing the message of support for our global neighbours.



## SCHOOL UNIFORM

The 'summer' school uniform can be worn after Easter. The 'summer' uniform gives your child the additional option to wear shorts or a red and white check dress.

We have some pre loved summer uniform. Please ask at the school office or email the school office on ([finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk)) with your requests (e.g. item, sizes etc) and we will see what is available and get it ready for you to collect.



Do not forget that our Pre-Loved Uniform 'shop' is always open.

If you would like to donate any part of the school uniform, it must be washed and in good condition. Please drop any donations to the school office. We have been able to help many of our families and will continue to do so.





If you wish to apply for a Nursery place at St Finbar's, please contact the school office on 0151 727 3963 or email [Finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:Finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk) We currently have places available for children age 3+.

The online application portal for children **starting Reception in September 2024** has now closed.

If you wish to make a late application, please email [www.liverpool.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/admissions)

**St Finbar's**  
Catholic Primary School

**FREE PLACES FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS**  
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.

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

**CONTACT US**  
0151 727 3963  
[finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk)

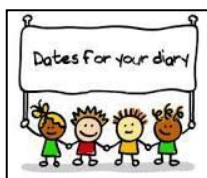


**Local Authority**

**Academic calendar 2023/24 (updated 21.6.2023)**

March 2024								April 2024								May 2024							
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
				1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		29	30							27	28	29	30	31			
June 2024								July 2024								August 2024							
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		29	30	31						26	27	28	29	30	31		

- School holidays
- School Inset Days - proposed
- National Bank Holidays



<b>MARCH 2024</b>		
27 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	Easter Roast Dinner Easter Service. Reception to Year 6 children. Parents/Carers to attend
28 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Easter Bonnet Parade and the Big Lent Walk Talent Show School Closes for Easter Holiday – Normal Closing Time
29 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	School Closed – Easter Holiday
31 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	Easter Sunday
<b>APRIL 2024</b>		
12 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Last Day of Easter Holiday
15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Children Return to School
16 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Year 6 SATs Booster Class, 3.00pm – 4.00 pm Year 2 & 3 children start swimming lessons
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Tuesday	Year 6 SATs Booster Class, 3.00pm – 4.00 pm
<b>MAY 2024</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday	School Closed for Children – Inset Day (Local Elections)
6 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	School Closed – May Bank Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Year 6 SATs Booster Class, 3.00pm – 4.00 pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Start of Year 6 SATs Week
13 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Start of Mental Health Awareness Week
20 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Year 6 Leavers Photographs (Details to Follow) First Communion Photographs (Details to Follow)
21 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	World Day for Cultural Diversity
24 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Last Day of Term – Normal Closing Time
27 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup>	Monday to Friday	Spring Break – School Closed
<b>June 2024</b>		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Monday	Children Return to School





Please find below the link to the Raring2go! first magazine. The magazine contains lots of things to do and events over Spring.

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/liverpool/spring2024/>

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Patrick**  
**High Park Street, Toxteth, Liverpool L8 8DX**

[stpatrick@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stpatrick@rcaol.org.uk)

**0151 272 1463**



**St Patrick's Inaugural Spring Concerts in association with the University of Liverpool**  
**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 4.30 pm**

The concerts feature students from the University of Liverpool performing a range of classical music in a wide variety of styles. All welcome.

**Holy Week – Easter Triduum**

Maundy Thursday:	7.00 pm	St Patrick's
Good Friday:	3.00 pm	OLMC
Holy Saturday-Easter Vigil:	10.00pm	OLMC

**Palm Sunday - Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

Saturday	5.00 pm	OLMC	Parishioners
Sunday	11.15 am	OLMC	Parishioners
Sunday	12.30 pm	St Patrick's	Polish Community

# WHILE YOU'RE WAITING

## FOR CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT (CAMHS)

For children and young people up to the age of 25

When you've been referred to one of the Liverpool CAMHS partners, you and your family can access a range of support and tools whilst waiting for your initial appointment (often known as an 'assessment').



### ONLINE

On the CAMHS website [liverpoolcamhs.com](https://liverpoolcamhs.com)

You'll find a range of information and self-help resources, including the Resilience Wall Framework.



We all have a role we can play in supporting and building your resilience.

This tool includes resources that can help you and your family set out a plan of action and make practical changes to your day-to-day life, building your resilience brick-by-brick.

[Resilienceframework.co.uk](https://resilienceframework.co.uk)



### Training and awareness opportunities

Our free and accessible training is available for parents and carers to improve their knowledge and understanding of mental health issues that may impact you.

[liverpoolcamhs.com/professionals/training/](https://liverpoolcamhs.com/professionals/training/)



### Kooth online support and counselling

Children and young people in Liverpool aged 10-25 have 24-hour access to self-help materials and resources. Direct support and counselling are also available during Mon-Fri 12-10 pm and Sat 6 pm-10 pm.

[liverpoolcamhs.com/support/kooth-camhs-support/](https://liverpoolcamhs.com/support/kooth-camhs-support/)

### TEXT

SHOUT is a free, confidential, 24/7 text message support service if you're feeling overwhelmed or is struggling to cope. Someone will work with you to take your next steps towards feeling better, helping with issues such as stress, anxiety and depression. They are here to talk at any time - day or night.

If you're under 18, text GREEN to 85258, and if you're 18 and above, text HEAL for immediate support.



### TELEPHONE

There are some telephone-based support services you can access:

- The Alder Hey CAMHS 24/7 crisis care team can support you if you're experiencing a mental health crisis. They can also help to keep you safe with advice and support. **Freephone 0808 196 3550**
- Mersey Care 24/7 crisis team if you're 16+. **Freephone 0800 145 6570**
- YPAS and Alder Hey teams will check in with you and your parents/carers while you're waiting for your initial appointment. If you or your parent/carer would like an update on the progress of your referral, you can call them:

YPAS Tel: 0151 707-1025 Alder Hey Tel: 0151 293 3662



### FACE-TO-FACE

At YPAS - for children and young people aged 5-25:

- You can drop into any of the three mental health hubs if you need support, Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) or help with your CAMHS journey.
- Parents/carers can get support in the hubs too, and they can also come along to coffee mornings in the hubs and schools.

The central hub is open Mon-Sat, and the north and south hubs are open Mon - Fri. Opening hours can be found at [ypas.org.uk/contact-us/](https://ypas.org.uk/contact-us/)

- Our alternative to crisis support in the mental health hubs means you and members of your family can walk in to get support, therapy and ongoing referral to services, including advice on how to keep you safe if you are experiencing a mental health crisis.

The alternative to crisis support is available Mon-Sat in the central hub and Mon - Fri in the north and south mental health hubs. Opening hours can be found on [ypas.org.uk/what-we-do/well-being-services/crisis-drop-in/](https://ypas.org.uk/what-we-do/well-being-services/crisis-drop-in/)

A&E - 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Alder Hey will see you if you're under the age of 16.
- Liverpool University Hospitals Accident and Emergency Departments (The Royal & Aintree) will see you if you're aged 16 and above.

You can also speak to whoever initially referred you to CAMHS, for example, your school or your GP, for support.



### Liverpool City Council ASD Training Team

The Liverpool ASD Training Team are providing a series of virtual drop in advisory sessions via zoom. They are for parent/carers wishing to talk in a private one to one setting about any questions or concerns they may have about their child. You do not require a diagnosis of ASD to book your place.

#### Date and time

9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

10<sup>th</sup> April 2024

11<sup>th</sup> April 2024

12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

9.30 – 10.15
10.30 – 11.15
11.30 – 12.15
1.00 – 1.45
2.00 – 2.45

To book your place please email [asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk)

With a choice of your date and time and you will be emailed a zoom link.

For more information about our service please view the Liverpool Local offer Page / Liverpool ASD training team for future training and workshops.

[Liverpool ASD Training Team | Liverpool Family Information & SEND Directory](#)



### The Liverpool ASD Training Team are providing a series of Virtual Group Drop in advisory sessions via zoom.

They are for parents/carers who have any questions or concerns about their child, in regard to social communication difficulties, waiting an ASD assessment or your child has a diagnosis of autism. It is also an opportunity to speak with an ASD trainer and other parents.

The sessions will be one half hours long, you can choose to join anytime with in the time slot or stay for the duration.  
You do not require a diagnosis to book your place.

#### Date: Dates and Times (pm sessions)

Dates	Afternoon Session
24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	
25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	
26 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	
1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	
2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	
3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	

If you would like to book onto one of the sessions, please email: [asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk)