

September 2024

Welcome back to school! We hope you all had a wonderful summer.

As always, our children look immaculate in their school uniforms, so smart! Our children are fabulous and have been filled with smiles, joy, happiness and fun!

It has been an absolutely fantastic start to the year. Children have settled into their new year groups and been arriving to school on time.

We would also like to extend a warm Finbar's welcome to all our new children and families!



SCHOOL DAY

As you will be aware from 1st September 2024 the times of the school day changed. This change brings us in line with the Department for Education (DfE) expectation that all children in Y1 – Y6 will have a school week of 32.5 hours. All schools in England must have this in place from September 2024.

The school gate will continue to be opened at 8.40 am, with entrance into class at 8.45am. The school gate will close at 8.55 am. Children who arrive after this time will be deemed to be late and will receive a "late mark".

As ever, it will be vitally important that parents and carers bring their children to school on time. Our children tell us that they feel embarrassed walking into class late because everyone else looks at them. This then affects how they feel about their learning.

Group of learners	Official start time of the day	Learning starts	Official end time of the day	Optional or Compulsory
15 hours Nursery	8:50	8:55	11:50	Optional
30 hours Nursery	8:50	8:55	3:10	Optional
Reception	8:50	8:55	3:20	Compulsory
Y1 – Y6	8:50	8:55	3:20	Compulsory





CONTACT DETAILS

If you have recently made any changes to your home address, mobile numbers or email addresses, please can you email or visit the school office to let us know. This also applies to the emergency contact details you have provided the school with.

School correspondence will now be sent home by email so please ensure your details are up to date. Thank you.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is **FREE** to all our children in Reception to Year 6.

It opens at 8.00 am every school morning. Last entry to Breakfast Club is 8.30 am. There is always a selection of cereals, bagels, toast, sausage & beans, yoghurt, fresh fruit and drinks.

A big 'Thank You' to **Magic Breakfast** who supply us with bagels, cereal and juice and for our staff who look after our children.

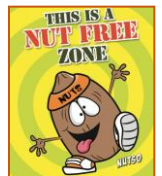
Please do not drop your child off before 8.00 am as there are no staff available to look after them.

SNACK FUND

In Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, we kindly ask parents/carers to contribute £1 per week towards 'snack fund'. This can be paid directly to the class teacher, weekly, half termly, termly or yearly. We receive no funding for children's snacks. We would be grateful if you could pass your donation to the class teacher as soon as you can.

Our snack fund is very important – the money parents/carers donate allows us to provide a variety of healthy snacks each day for your child.

We encourage all other classes to bring in a healthy snack from home.



Please remember we are a **Nut Free Zone**.

HEALTHY LUNCHBOXES

At St Finbar's Catholic Primary School we aim to educate our children with the skills, knowledge and understanding to enable them to make healthy lifestyle choices.

Eating well is important: children need to eat well as it will give them energy and nutrients to grow and develop and to be healthy and active.

Lunchbox guidelines: The recommended contents of a healthy lunchbox are:

- A good portion of starchy carbohydrate food e.g. bread, wraps, crackers, pasta or rice salad
- Plenty of fruit or vegetables e.g. apple, banana, carrot sticks, cucumber slices etc
- A portion of milk, dairy food or calcium rich alternatives e.g. yoghurt or cheese
- A drink e.g. a small carton of juice or water
- One small biscuit or cake e.g. Penguin, Club, cake bar, small fairy cake etc



Packed lunches should not include:

- Sweets
- More than one biscuit, chocolate or other
- Fizzy drinks
- Nut products. We are a 'nut-free' school

We fully respect individual parents/carers' food choices for their children and understand that there are many different needs and tastes. However, if lunchbox contents fall short of a 'healthy and varied lunchbox', we will have no option but to provide you child with a school meal and invoice parents/carers accordingly. We will return the uneaten lunch to you at the end of the day.

SCHOOL MEALS

Payments for school meals should be made weekly and in advance. School meals are currently £2.20 per day.

Any arrears of dinner money that arise will be followed up by the school.



CLASSES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 - 2025

As a reminder, the classes for this year are as follows:

Year Group	Class Names	Class Teacher
Nursery	Bluebell	Mrs K Makin
Reception	Sunflower	Miss K Regan
Year 1	Daffodil	Mrs C Flynn
Year 2	Poppy	Miss C Osborne
Year 3 & 4	Tulip	Mrs Melia and Miss Williams
Year 4 & 5	Orchid	Miss Summers
Year 6	Rose	Mrs Whittaker

SCHOOL GROUNDS

Over the summer the school grounds have been having a make-over after a successful grant bid (Tesco Groundworks & Royal Horticultural Society Park Grant) to turn our grey spaces green. Our amazing school gardeners (Fairfield Plant Supplies) along with Mrs Makin, have transformed our outdoor spaces and have made our spaces much more biodiverse. We now have extra flower beds, a prayer garden, bird boxes, a pond and a new sandpit. We cannot thank them enough for the amazing work they've done over the summer to make school a brighter space for our children.

Before:



After:



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Below is a reminder of our school uniform expectations.

Please remember to ensure all school items are marked clearly with your child's name.

Children are permitted to wear stud earrings and a watch only. Jewellery, as an expression of a religious observance, may only be worn, following a written request to the Headteacher.



Our Uniform supplier is Kitted Out Warehouse & Web Centre, 5-17 Bleasdale Road, Allerton, Liverpool L18 5JB. Usual opening times: Monday – Saturday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm.

Tel: 0151 727 2000

Email: info@kittedoutschoolwear.co.uk

Uniform can also be ordered on their website www.kittedoutschoolwear.co.uk

We have available for sale, from the school office, the following school items:



Book Bag 50p



PE Bag £2.00

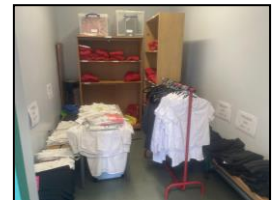


Book Bag £3.00



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

Please ask at the school office or email the school office on (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.



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.

ST FINBAR



Did you know ... St Finbar was the son of an artisan and a lady of the Irish royal court.

He was born in Connaught, Ireland in about 550 and was baptized Lochan, he was educated at Kilmacahil, Kilkenny, where the monks named him Fionnbharr (white head) because of his light hair; he is also known as Bairre and Barr.

He founded a school in Eirce, Italy.

St Finbar went on a pilgrimage to Rome with some of the monks, visiting St. David in Wales on the way back. We are told that he preached in Scotland before going to southern Ireland where he lived as a hermit on a small island. Parts of the hermitage still stand. The walls are 14 feet thick. There are eight cells, each seven feet wide by 10 feet deep. The courtyard is fifty feet square.



Supposedly, on another visit to Rome the Pope wanted to consecrate Finbar as a bishop but because of a vision, he refused the Pope and told him that God has reserved that honour to himself. Supposedly, Finbar was consecrated from heaven and returned to Ireland. St Finbar may have preached in Scotland, definitely did in southern Ireland. In 606 Finbar founded a monastery near the River Lee. His monastery became famous in southern Ireland and attracted many disciples. The City of Cork grew up around Finbar's monastery. Over the years, the area became so prosperous, that it attracted the attention of Viking Sea pirates, who raided and burned the infant city, but returned in later years to settle there and trade.

Many extravagant miracles are attributed to him, and supposedly, the sun did not set for two weeks after he died at Cloyne on 25th September 623. His body was taken to Cork where it was interred in the cathedral, where it remained until 1089 when the city was raided and plundered and his relics were sacrilegiously carried away. He is considered the first Bishop of Cork.



His feast day is 25th September.

SCHOOL PARKING



Although we have only just returned to school we already have concerns regarding parking outside school and parents/carers using the staff car park.

Please be mindful of where you park as our school is in a residential area. It is dangerous for children trying to go home. Do not stop on the zig-zag lines or in the middle of the road to drop and collect your child/ren.

The staff car park is for staff and visitors only, whatever time of the day.





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 We currently have places available for children age 3+.

For places in any other year group, please contact the school office and they will inform you of the correct procedure to apply for a place.

READING

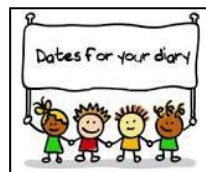
Reading is a wonderful life-skill and gift and we are passionate about reading in our school.

We would love it if you could please spend time reading with your child/ren regularly. Books, magazines, comics, e-books etc. Anything! This will create such a love of reading for pleasure which will set your child/ren up for life!



Check with your child/ren's teacher as to when school reading books are changed and for any tips as to make the experience more enjoyable for you both.

Unfortunately, many reading books are not being returned to school. For any lost reading books, you will now be charged £5.00 per book.



September 2024

9 th	Monday	School Health Check for Year 6
13 th	Friday	Year 4/5 & 6 Swimming lessons start
25 th	Wednesday	St Finbar's Feast Day

October 2024

3 rd	Thursday	School Photographs: Details to be emailed
24 th	Tuesday	Nursery – Year 6: Flu Nasal Spray
31 st	Thursday	Closing date for Year 6 applications to secondary school

**FLU CAN SPREAD VERY EASILY, WHICH IS WHY
CHILDREN ARE GIVEN A VACCINE AS
PROTECTION.**



It is given by a painless nasal spray and offered to all school children up to and including year 11.

An injectable flu vaccination is also available for children who require this alternative.

Scan the QR code to complete your child's flu form by Friday 13th September even if you don't want your child to receive it.



eConsent

**AS WELL AS PROTECTING YOUR CHILD AGAINST FLU, HAVING THE VACCINE
HELPS STOP FLU SPREADING TO YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.**



Local Authority
Academic Calendar 2024/25



September 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35							1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
40	30						

October 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40		1	2	3	4	5	6
41	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
42	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
43	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
44	28	29	30	31			

November 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44					1	2	3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
48							1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1	30	31					

January 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1			1	2	3	4	5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
5	27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5						1	2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9	24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9						1	2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
14	31						

April 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14		1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30				

May 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18				1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22							1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
27	30						

July 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27		1	2	3	4	5	6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31	28	29	30	31			

1 INSET DAY IS STILL TO BE SET FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

	Bank Holidays
	School Closed – Inset Days
	School Holidays



Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Patrick
High Park Street, Toxteth, Liverpool L8 8DX
stpatrik@rcaol.org.uk
0151 272 1463



Adult Confirmation Programme: We will soon be starting our Confirmation Programme. This will entail 7 preparation meetings to take place in Mount Carmel. If you are interested, please contact Fr Silviu or Anne in the Parish office on 0151 727 1463.

St Patrick's Heritage Day: Saturday 14th September, 2.00 – 6.00pm. Please join us, everyone welcome.

OLMC Tea/Coffee & Cake: Please join us after the 11.15 am Mass. Cup of tea/coffee and a slice of homemade cake, £1. Everyone welcome.

Mass Attendance Sheets: The attendance sheets at the back of church are for **all** parents/carers to sign each week to enable us to keep records for future reference for any faith forms for schools that we may be asked to fill in. These forms will give us an accurate record of attendance and will be kept for a minimum of 3 years.

RESONATE
The Music Education Hub for Liverpool

SUPERSTARTERS

Superstarters is a free music ensemble for Key Stage 1 children who are beginners wanting an introduction to an instrument and develop their musical skills.

- Free to join!
- Led by professional early years music tutors
- Perform at the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

Register now: www.resonatehub.co.uk

St Finbar's
Catholic Primary School

SOUTH LIVERPOOL
TUESDAYS
ST FINBAR'S CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL
3.45PM - 4.45PM

REGISTER NOW WWW.RESONATEHUB.CO.UK