



St Wilfrid's Weekly Newsletter

Love God, Love Each Other, Love Learning

SEPT

17.10.25

ISSUE 7



Let all that you do be done in love (1 Cor 16:14)



Christian Value this half term: **RESPECT**

THIS WEEK:

This week, we focused on reflecting on our responsibility to care for God's creation. On Wednesday, we held a delightful Community Tea, welcoming numerous senior residents from the local community. Many exciting lessons have been taking place, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed their time outdoors.

STAFFING UPDATE:

Mrs Wall-Budden, our Pastoral Support, will be leaving us at Christmas. Mrs Wall-Budden plays an invaluable role in supporting our children and their families. She is taking up an opportunity to train as a social worker, beginning in January. We wish her all the best for her new career; she will be sadly missed.

Over the next few weeks, we will be finalising how best to continue the Pastoral Support in school, and I will update you in due course.

Mrs Bamforth, the teaching assistant in Year 5, is leaving today after agreeing to work for this half term. She has been working on a supply basis. We are grateful for all her support. Next week, Mrs Meikle will be supporting the learning in Year 5 and will continue after half term

Parking and Driveway — Police Patrol

I wish to make you aware, to avoid any frustrations, that next week there will be a police presence during some morning drop-offs (and possibly pick-ups, too). This is to ensure that all parents are parking appropriately. Please ensure you park considerately when dropping off and picking up, and do not block any driveways. Thank you.

Additionally, please use the path down the side of the school for collections from Orchard and when visiting the office. This is particularly important as staff arrive and leave in darker, wetter conditions.

Lockdown Procedures: Monday 20th October.

This exercise is essential to ensure that we can safely get all children and staff into school and secure. I will ask teachers to explain the necessity of this drill to the children. We will use the example of a local fire and the presence of smoke as the reason for returning to class. I believe it is good practice for us to have this procedure in place, and I will ensure that it is conducted without surprise and with a clear explanation to all our children

Reminder: PARENT'S EVENING—Wednesday 22nd October 25

Parents' Evening will take place on Wednesday, 22nd October. This will be a short 5-minute appointment where you will be able to discuss how your child is settling in and ask any initial questions. These appointments will occur in the school hall. Appointment booking will close on Monday afternoon.

PASTORAL POST:

This week, our Pastoral Post is about, Fire Safety. We will be highlighting this to the children as we approach this fun but risky time of year. Keep Safe!



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EXCITING OPPORTUNITY (Too good to miss!): M and M Productions—Cinderella

Next Wednesday morning, the children will have the opportunity to enjoy a live performance of the pantomime "Cinderella" at school. This special event is made possible by a travelling theatre company, M and M Productions, that contacted me with a fantastic promotional offer. We kindly ask for a voluntary donation of £2 towards this exciting occasion, as a fun way to conclude the half term!

REMINDER: (significant number of cases in school) Sickness and Diarrhoea:

Children who experience confirmed sickness and/or diarrhoea should not return to school for 48 hours. To support the entire school community, please adhere to this policy. This year, we have children who are particularly vulnerable to serious illnesses if they contract a sickness bug. It is, therefore, more important than ever to comply with this rule.

SMARTWATCHES in school— No Thank You!

We have observed a significant increase in the number of children wearing smartwatches in school. Please ensure that these devices are left at home. Any watch that can send or receive messages, take photos, or record audio should not be worn in school. If children do wear them, they will need to hand them in as per our Mobile Phone Policy (Years 5 and 6 only). Thank you.

I understand that children often wear Fitbit-type watches, which may appear similar to smartwatches. Staff may need to address this issue to ensure that the difference is clearly identified.

ADVANCED NOTICE—POLICY CHANGE: EARRINGS Must be removed for PE (Starting January 2026)

Please be aware of the following changes set by the Association for Physical Education, which will be reflected in our school's PE policy and adhered to starting in January. Teachers have a duty of care regarding the safety of the children; therefore, earrings should not be taped. Staff are not required to tape earrings, and plasters must not be used.

This guidance aligns with the policies of most schools in the area, which clearly state that **earrings must be removed for PE lessons.**

We are providing this period of notice so that any children who have their ears pierced over the half-term break can still be ready to adhere to the policy in January. Additionally, this gives parents the opportunity to ensure that their children can learn to take out and put in their own earrings. However, you may decide to keep the earrings at home on these days.



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CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL:

Send a smile >>

*International
Aid Trust*
Christian Compassion For A Hurting World



SHOEBOX APPEAL

This year, we will once again be supporting International Aid in their Shoe Box Appeal. We will send home details via Parent Apps and make flat-pack shoe boxes available from next week.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES: 2025,26

Now that we are a few weeks into the school year, I wanted to bring to your attention some of the key areas for school improvement this academic year. These targets are our main priorities; however, we are also committed to making developments in other areas of the school too!

QUALITY OF EDUCATION: MAIN TARGETS:

- To secure the understanding of What? And How? Children are learning in each lesson
 - To enhance the provision for the more able pupils
 - To raise attainment in reading across school

BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES: MAIN TARGETS:

- Ensuring we have strong routines throughout school
- Develop behaviour for learning (being lesson ready)

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT: MAIN TARGET:

- To develop the understanding of our school Christian values and British values

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT:

- To ensure Subject Leaders secure high-quality teaching and learning within their subject

EYFS: To enhance the learning environment to enhance more able provision (including reading)

CHRISTMAS TRIPS:

This year, for our Christmas theatre trips, we are providing opportunities for both Key Stage 1 (KS1) and Key Stage 2 (KS2).

Key Stage 1 will be watching Puss in Boots at the Lancaster Grand on 11th December at 1:00 PM. The cost is £10.50, which includes an ice cream or sorbet. This will mean a return to school at approximately 3:45 PM.

Key Stage 2 will be watching The Snow Queen at The Dukes in Lancaster on 2nd December at 10:15 AM. The cost is £13, which also includes an ice cream or sorbet.

On both days, a picnic lunch will be the meal choice for those having school dinners.

Thank you from the PTFA, who are funding the coach trips for both days.



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PTFA 100 Club

Join St Wilfrid's PTFA 100 Club for just £10 a year to be in with a chance of winning at every half term draw. Money raised funds exciting school resources such as books, trips and visitors.

HALF TERM PRIZES
1st prize £20
2nd prize £15
3rd prize £10

END OF TERM BONUS
£35

Sign up via ParentPay, direct debit or by emailing stwilfridspthahalon@gmail.com

PTFA:

The 100 Club is back!

Join our PTFA run lottery and help support exciting school trips and resources for our children.

All proceeds go directly to the PTFA to benefit our children, and yes, parents can win too!

How it works:

At the end of each half term you could be in with the chance to win*:

1st prize £20 approx.

2nd prize £15 approx.

3rd prize £10 approx.

Plus a bonus £35 draw at Christmas, Easter & Summer

You have to be in it to win it!

One payment of £10 for the full year via ParentPay or bank transfer to: St Wilfrids Halton PTFA

30-14-60 00116085

(or why not set up an annual standing order!)

Good Luck!

* Prizes depend upon the number of 100 participants.

PTFA NEXT EVENT: Christmas Fair (School Event Supported by the PTFA)

Friday 28th November

PTFA NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 12th November. 6.30pm

Halton Social Club

The Petal Parlour

Danielle Kennedy
Floral Designer

Unit 1.4 - Halton Mill - LA2 6ND
danielle@thepetalparlour.co.uk
www.thepetalparlour.co.uk
@thepetalparlourhalton
01524 489230

New Business in Halton!

As promised, please take note of the new florist in Halton. Mrs Kennedy recently left St Wilfrid's to establish her own flower business in the area. We wish her all the best in this exciting venture. **Tel: 01524 489230**



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PTFA: 2x Initiatives

BAGS TO SCHOOLS:

Our PTFA have organized a clothes & shoe collection with Bag2School.

Bag2School will be collecting from school on the morning of **Wednesday 26th November**.

Bag2School is the UK's leading textile recycler and fundraiser working with schools and since its inception in 1999 it has now paid out over £48 million.

By getting involved in our Bag2School collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles in the bag that will be provided – this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <https://bag2school.com> for full details). In addition to raising much needed funds it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.

More information to follow once our collection bags have arrived. In the meantime, keep an eye out around the house for any unwanted clothing that could be turned into funds for our school.

CHRISTMAS CARDS:



Over the past week, children have been designing Christmas cards for families to purchase. We have sent the designs away, and they will be returned to you so you can order your child's design. A percentage of the money raised will be given to the PTFA as part of their fundraising efforts.

STAR OF THE WEEK:

ASH: Daisy
WILLOW: Theo M
CHERRY: Andria S
CHESTNUT: Matilda
BEECH: Jenson
PINE: Las
SYCAMORE: James B
OAK: Sienna

CLASS ASSEMBLIES:

Ash: Thur 7th May
Willow: Fri 30th Jan
Cherry: Fri 1st May
Chestnut: Fri 19th June
Beech: Fri 6th March
Pine: Fri 6th Feb
Sycamore: Fri 20th March
Oak: Fri 27th Feb
Class Worships;
Start: 9.15am followed by a café.
End of day Cake Sale too!

SPECIAL DAYS:

Throughout the year, we will recognise various special days. These may be acknowledged through brief mentions in worship or class, or as well as a more focused observance of the day. Only World Book Day requires dressing up!
15th Sep: National Day of Democracy
13th Nov: World Kindness Day
29th Jan: National Puzzle Day
10th Feb: Safer Internet Day
5th March: World Book Day (**Dress Up**)
18th March: Global Recycling Day
15th April: World Art Day
1st July: International Joke Day
No Screens Day—TBC
Quiet Day—TBC
Other days will happen, however, we will always give advance notice.

FUTURE PTFA EVENTS:

Thursday 5th Feb—School Quiz Night
Fri 20th March—Film Night
Thur 21st May— School Disco
Fri 3rd July—Family Fun Night



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POPPY APPEAL:



From next week, Year 6 will be selling a variety of items for the Poppy Appeal, with a suggested donation of £1 for each item. I kindly request that if your child chooses a slap band, it should only be worn at home; other resources can be worn to commemorate this significant time of year.

DATES:

WB 20th October—Wilfrid's Wood Week —Each Class will Visit Wilfrid's Wood

Tue October 21st—Flu Vaccinations in school—Details sent

Tue 21st October KS1 Athletics Competition—Children involved will be contacted

Tue 21st October Korfbal Competition—Children involved will be contacted

Wed 22nd October—M and M Productions—Cinderella—In school

Wed 22nd October—Parent's Evening

Friday 24th October 9.15am—Values Worship

Friday 24th October—School Closes for Half Term—**3pm**

High School Application for Year 6—Deadline (All Schools): Friday 31 October 2025

Wednesday 5th November —School Reopens to pupils (Themed Lunch)

Thur 6th November—Girl's Football Competition—Those involved will be contacted

Fri 7th November 10.45am—Remembrance Service in school—Worship Council to Lead

Tue 11th November (Change of date from The Prattle) - Hot Chocolate Drop In 4pm – 4.45pm

Wed 12th November Community Tea 2pm—3pm—School Hall

Thur 13th November—Kindness Day—Whole School Theme

Thur 13th November MFC Competition—Those involved will be contacted

Thur 13th Grammar Information Meeting - In School—Parent Apps will be sent to confirm attendance. 3.30pm—4pm

Fri 14th November—Children In Need—Children can wear own clothes—Donations, please.

Fri 14th November—Messy Church—School Hall 3.15pm—5.15pm

Mon 17th November Year 6 Health Needs Questionnaire—In school—Information sent

Thur 20th November Year 3 / 4 Football—Children involved will be contacted

Fri 21st November—Non Uniform Day—Christmas Fair Donations please.

Fri 21st November—Year 5 / 6 Athletics Fixture—Children involved will be contacted

Wed 26th November—Swimming Gala (none club swimmers) Children involved will be contacted

Thur 27th November—Library van visiting school - 100 new books arriving

Fri 28th November—SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR 5pm—7pm—**Supported by the PTFA**

Tue 2nd December KS2 Theatre Trip

Tue 2nd December—Final Hot Chocolate Drop In 4pm—4.45pm

Tue 9th December Nativity to Parents 2pm and 6pm - Details after half term

FINAL THOUGHT:

As we approach the end of an eight-week half term, I want to express how proud I am of all the children. They have been working incredibly hard. There is just one week left. Let's finish strong!