



# St Wilfrid's Weekly Newsletter

*Love God, Love Each Other, Love Learning*

SEPT

24.10.25

ISSUE 8



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



## Christian Value this half term: **RESPECT**

### THIS WEEK:

Well, we have done it! An eight-week term—the longest half term for schools—and we finished on a high note. This week, we had a roundup of our Respect learning on Monday. We all visited Wilfrid's Wood. M and M Productions put on a brilliant performance of Cinderella. Our KS1 Athletics Team finished third out of eleven schools, and our Korfbal team made it to the final. Today, we concluded our half term with our Values Worship and presented children with their Respect Awards.

### NEW STARTERS: Congratulations.

Congratulations to all our new starters! They have completed not only their first full term in school but also the longest half term they will ever need to undertake (eight weeks). They have settled into the class really well and have gelled together as a group. Please remember that our September 2026 cohort will certainly be a single class, as we begin taking 30 children in each reception class

**Building Works:** Over the half-term, there will be some work taking place on the hall roof. This is to address issues that have arisen as a result of the solar panel installations in October 2023. Hopefully, after the half-term, the hall roof will be fully waterproof once again!

This week, all our children have participated in Wilfrid's Wood, providing them with a fantastic opportunity for outdoor learning. In the next half term, staff will also undergo training on 'Active Learning' and how to ensure our children engage in learning through being active.

### Lockdown Procedures: Monday 20th October.

I am pleased to report that the lockdown practice was highly successful and that all the children responded positively. I believe it is essential to have a system in place to ensure that we can safely guide all our children into the school building and secure them. Well done to everyone involved.

### PARENT'S EVENING—Thank You

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend Parents' Evening this week. It was a great opportunity for our teachers to share many successes from this term. Please remember, if you have any questions about your child, you should approach the class teacher in the first instance.

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

Well, the children had a ball—literally! This week, we welcomed M&M Productions. This was a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience live theatre, something that many of them truly enjoy. The children clapped, sang, and laughed (Oh no, they didn't) throughout the excellent show. I sincerely hope we can have M&M Productions back again in the future! It was a wonderful enrichment experience for our children. If you haven't already, a £2 contribution would be greatly appreciated.



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## SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS:

### St Wilfrid's School Council ~ Friday Fruit

The School Council have been working hard on setting their targets for the coming year. One area of school they want to develop is how healthy we are. They recognise that Key Stage 1 have the option of fruit every morning with their milk, School Council would like to extend this option to Key Stage 2 by creating a Fruit Tuck Shop. We will be introducing this new venture by creating 'Friday Fruit', a fruit shop available each Friday during both Year 3 & 4 playtime and Year 5 & 6 playtimes where the children can purchase slices of fruit or small bowls of fruit that they can enjoy as their snack. The School Council are keen for this to be an opportunity not only to be healthy but to try new types of fruit that they may otherwise not try. The fruit will be priced at 20p to 30p for whole pieces or slices of fruit.

### Reminder: 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 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. **The removal of earrings is considered best practice.** 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.

### PASTORAL POST: REMINDER

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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## CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL:

This year, we will once again be supporting International Aid in their Shoe Box Appeal.

Boxes are available from your child's class or the school office.

Please bring your boxes into school anytime before

**Friday 14th November** (Collection Day)

## 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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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	END OF TERM BONUS
1st prize £20	£35
2nd prize £15	
3rd prize £10	

Sign up via ParentPay, direct debit or by emailing [stwilfridsptfahalton@gmail.com](mailto:stwilfridsptfahalton@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**



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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:

Please check your child's bag! The Cards came home this week and you have a limited time to order. Please remember that a significant % goes to our PTFA. As well as getting personalised Christmas Cards!

### STAR OF THE WEEK:

ASH: Oliver  
WILLOW: Conner  
CHERRY: Rory  
CHESTNUT: Claudia  
BEECH: Louie  
PINE: Tallula  
SYCAMORE: Maisie  
OAK: Erica

### 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

### 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.



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## DATES:

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

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

**CHANGE OF DATE:** Now Tuesday 11th Nov 10.45am (moved from Fri 7th Nov **10.45am**)—Remembrance Service in school-  
Worship Council to Lead

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

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

Thur 13th—Kindness Day—Whole School Theme

Thur 13th 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 Nov—Last day for Shoe Boxes to be brought to school

Fri 14th Nov—Children In Need—Children can wear own clothes—Money Donations to Children in Need, please.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thur 27th Nov—Library Van visiting school - 100 new books arriving

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

Tue 2nd Dec KS2 Theatre Trip

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

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

Thur 11th Dec KS1 Panto visit

**Other Events will be added**

## FINAL THOUGHT:

Well, we made it! It has been a brilliant start to the year, although it has certainly been a long half-term. The children have been fantastic and have settled into the new school year very well. Our new starters have been amazing!

I trust you all have a good half-term break. Please remember we start **back on Wednesday, 5th November**. Thank you for all your support in ensuring the children arrive at school each day; I appreciate that this is not always an easy task. Enjoy a wonderful break, and we will see you for a busy, Christmas-themed term.

Please do all keep safe over the upcoming festivities.

Mr Curwen