

The Keys Newsletter

5th September 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this very short week, and to see their happy faces filling our classrooms and playgrounds once again. A very special welcome goes to our new children and families in Reception, we are so pleased you have joined our school community, and we look forward to getting to know you.

Over the summer break, we were able to make some improvements to our school building. The corridors, Little Foxes entrance, library, and side rooms have all been freshly painted, and new flooring has been laid in several areas around the school.

A big thank you to our wonderful PTA, who have funded a brand-new art shed following a request from our Pupil School Council. This will soon be up and running, giving children even more opportunities to get creative during the school day and busy during breaktime. If you have any colouring pencils or colouring books that you need to dispose of, we will take them to keep the shed stocked.

Next week, on Tuesday at 3.35pm, you are invited to visit your child's classroom and see where they will be learning this year. In addition, there will be a chance for both our new and existing families of Reception children to meet in the hall for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee, kindly provided by our PTA. Just a note that Superstars does not start until a week on Monday and we will be sending out the enrolment link for the Autumn Term shortly.

We are looking forward to another exciting and successful year ahead, working in partnership and continuing what makes St Peters such a special place.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Paul Robinson
Headteacher

Tuesday 9th September

Reception Class – Tea and Tissues

We warmly invite the parents and carers of our new Reception children to join us for tea, coffee, and refreshments at 9:15am.

Organised by the PTA, this is a lovely opportunity to meet other parents/carers, connect with the PTA, and chat with some of our staff. Enter via the Little Foxes entrance.



Whole School - Classroom Open Afternoon

At 3:35pm, all parents and carers are welcome to visit their child's new classroom.

After the usual dismissal, children may guide their parents/carers around their classroom, showing off their pegs, trays, and other areas.

This event is open to all classes, and we've allowed plenty of time for families with siblings to explore multiple classrooms.

Could we ask parent/carers wait on the playground until 3.35pm. Your class teacher will come out and open the classroom.



Afterschool Multisport – Years 1 to 6

If you would like your child / children to attend the sessions for the autumn term, please could you complete the information via the link below or scan the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/6nkSQD4J8C>

We require sign up for all children; previous registrations will not transfer over.

The final deadline to register is 7am on Friday 12th September. Sessions will begin week commencing 15th September.

- Year 5 & 6 Multi Sports Mondays 3.30pm - 4.30pm
- Year 4 Multi Sports Tuesdays 3.30pm - 4.30pm
- Year 1 Multi Sports Wednesday 3.20pm - 4.15pm
- Year 2 Multi Sports Thursday 3.20pm - 4.15pm
- Year 3 Multi Sports Friday 3.30pm - 4.30pm



Prime Minister's letter to parents and carers on Best Start in Life

Please see link below to the Prime Minister's letter to parents and carers on Best Start in Life:

[Prime Minister's letter to parents and carers on Best Start in Life – The Education Hub](#)



LEGO CLUB

Here is a link for next terms Lego sessions which will run on a Tuesday from 16th September for Year 1 to Year 6:

<https://superstars.classforkids.io/info/1918>

Superstars Lego sessions are back for your children to get their creative minds working. Children will be given a theme of the week and off they go and build whatever their imagination desire. These sessions are fun and interactive along with a Show and Tell at the end so they can show their peers.



FRENCH CLUB

Kidslingo will be back to run an after-school French club this term on Thursdays for Years 1-3!

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Please see the School Spider message sent earlier today for more information on the sessions, including how to sign up.



THE RAINBOW TEAM



The Rainbow Team

Safeguarding Nurture Wellbeing Behaviour

When the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between me and all living beings on Earth.

Genesis 9:16



Mrs Colley: RainbowTeam Lead

Mrs Colley:	Senior Mental Health Lead Behaviour Lead Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Vinyard:	SENCO
Mrs Harrison:	EYFS / KS1 Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Davidson:	Pastoral / Nurture

Our Early Help approach

**If you feel your child could benefit from some pastoral support,
do not hesitate to contact us.**

Our Senior Mental Health Lead ensures that all our pupils who require pastoral care for issues such as bereavement, friendship issues, home issues and anxiety, receive time each week with our pastoral staff who offer over 8 hours of individual and small group sessions.

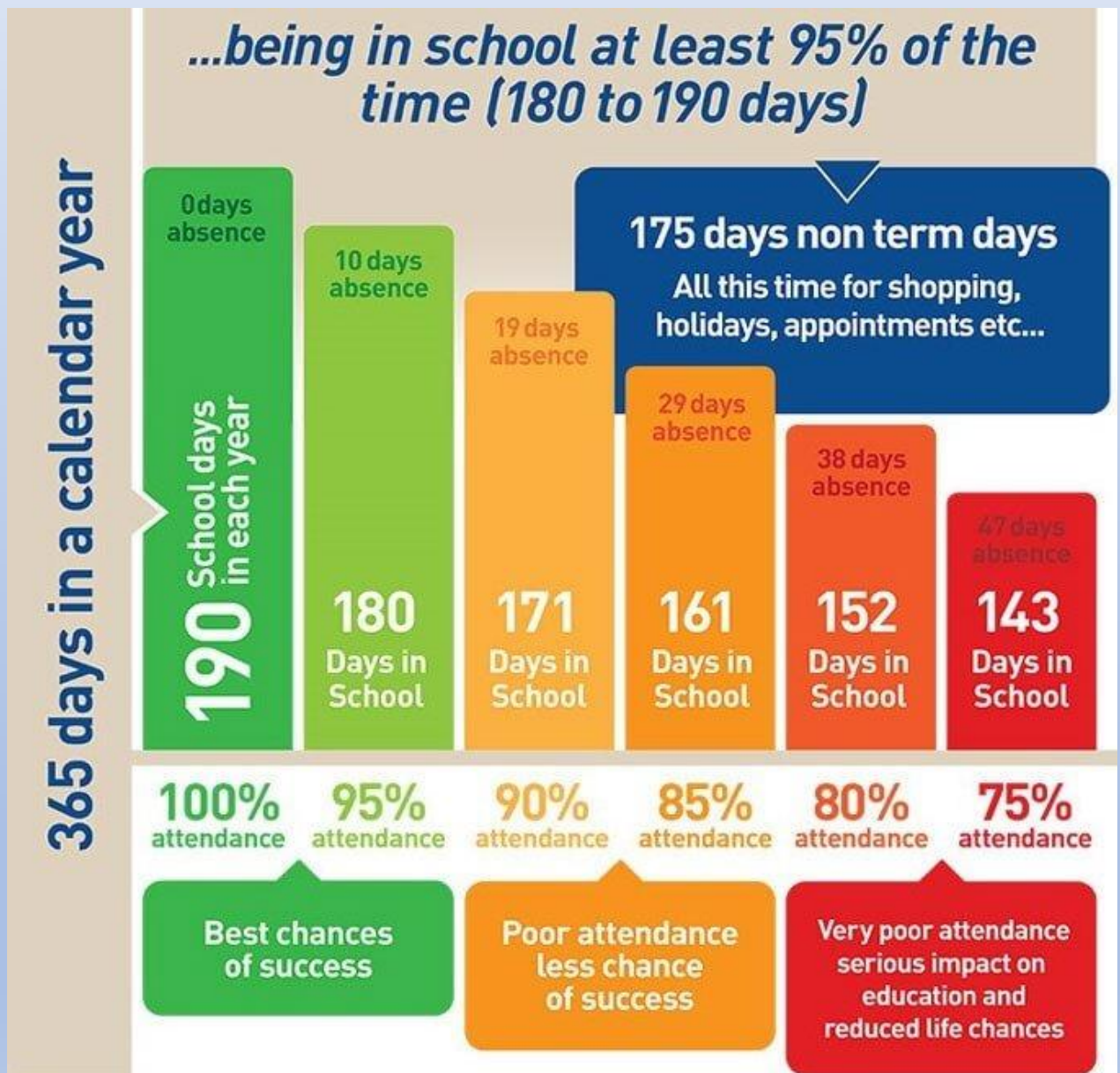
If you feel that your child could benefit from this offer, please contact Mrs Colley.

The team has regular meeting to discuss and measure the progress of pupils who fall into specific categories, including attendance, wellbeing issues, SEN, behavioural issues and safeguarding.

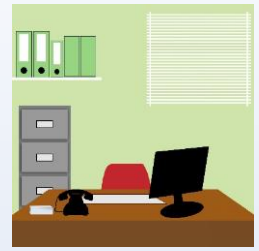


Attendance

Whole School Target: 98%



OFFICE NEWS



UNIFORM

Uniform can be ordered direct from Touchline UK Liverpool Rd, Warrington, WA5 1AE, 01925 413777

sales@touchline-embroidery.com

We also have a small number of items on the School Money site under SHOP which you can pay for then contact school to arrange for them to be sent home with your child.

ABSENCE

When reporting on the absence line, can we politely request that you leave a brief description of your child's illness rather than just saying they are unwell. If your child has vomiting or diarrhoea please note that they should not return to school for a period of 48 hours after the last incident. This is a local authority policy

Applications for Holiday Leave must be submitted to school at **least 4 weeks** in advance. Forms can be found on the school website or requested from the school office. In accordance with Government and Local Authority policy, holidays taken during term time will only be authorised in **exceptional circumstances**.

CHANGES

It is very important that if you change contact numbers, emails or addresses that you advise us as soon as possible. Any changes must be sent into school via email.

Thank you

Contact Details

St Peter's C.E. Primary School
Birley Street
Newton-le-Willows
WA12 9UR
01744 678630
stpeter@sthelens.org.uk
<https://twitter.com/NLWStPeters>
www.st-peters.st-helens.sch.uk





CHAT &
CHILL OVER
A BREW

JOIN OUR COFFEE MORNING

Come and meet the Children's Commissioner for St Helens Council.

This is your opportunity to give feedback on children's services and highlight what would make a real difference for you and your child or young person with SEND. Your voice matters. Your experiences can help shape future services.



Friday
12th September
10am-12pm

**Wonderland
Community Centre**
WA10 3JQ

**FREE
PARKING**

CONTACT US ➤

Email
listen4change@outlook.com

Website:
listen4change.uk

Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins

Come along to one of our drop in sessions in St Helens.

Our team will answer questions you have about the neurodevelopment pathway process.

You don't need to be using our service, you can drop in if you have any questions to ask about this.

We look forward to meeting you.

Tuesdays at Parr Children's Centre and Central Link Family Hub
See details and times below

12 August at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

23 September at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

25 November at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

26 August at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

7 October at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

9 December at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

9 September at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

21 October at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

18 November at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

16 December at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

We work with children and young people with complex neurodevelopmental difficulties, who need an assessment to gain a better understanding of their needs.

Parr Children's Centre, Ashtons Green Drive, St Helens, WA9 2AP

Central Link Family Hub, Westfield Street, (off Peter Street), St Helens, WA10 1QF

If you need more information you can contact us on 01744 415 608 or email: mcn-tr.sthelensneuropathway@nhs.net



SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

10 Conversation Starters for Parents

Talking about mental health to children is sometimes hard. To the point that we can put off raising the subject, not wanting to unearth problems or raise overwhelming subjects that we perceive our child is too young or not ready for. But rather than keeping children in the dark, this guide is designed to help you confidently talk about mental health, so they feel comfortable talking about their own worries and end any stigma before it begins.



1 LISTEN

This sounds obvious, but it is not something we are always great at. Active listening is where we listen without interrupting or making judgements and shows interest in what is being said. If your child feels listened to in the 'smallest of problems' they will become confident that you will listen when the 'biggest of problems' arise.

2 ASK TWICE

The campaign from time to change is great. <https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/support-ask-twice-campaign>. Be tedious about your child's wellbeing. Children instinctively know when your questions and support come from a place of wanting to help and care.



3 THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A STUPID QUESTION

This advice also relates to the first point. If your child can ask you any questions about the smallest of things and you listen and answer without shaming or belittling, then they will have more confidence to ask the biggest of questions.



4 BE OPEN AND HONEST

Children appreciate honesty, particularly if you are having to share information or talk about a difficult subject. For example, you may be talking about death or loss: 'It's very sad that Nana has died' or 'I feel sad that Nana has died'. How you talk about a subject will differ depending on their age and developmental maturity. Talking about death to a younger child for example will be different to that of an older teen, as their experience and understanding of death is different.

5 KNOW WHEN TO SEEK HELP

Assess the severity of the mental health difficulty you are noticing. Is the difficulty making it hard for your child to function regularly throughout everyday life? How frequently is your child affected, how long does it last and how persistent is it? Are they having problems controlling the difficulty? Talk to your child about your concerns and that it is likely they will need further support beyond family and friends.



6 TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH NATURALLY

Speak about mental health as part of everyday life, so that talking about our feelings and those of others is normalised. If the usual 'are you ok?' is not creating an opportunity for dialogue then say something like 'I know when something like that has happened to me I felt like this... is that how you are feeling or are you feeling something else?'

7 EMPATHISE

'It makes sense that you would feel this way, it is understandable'. Children often worry about things that we, as adults, might see as trivial or silly. However, for them at their age and stage it is a big concern and they need our kindness and care when they show their vulnerability and share their worries.



8 HELP YOUR CHILD FEEL SAFE

Teens particularly feel that by talking about their worries or concerns that this will make things worse. Reassure your child that you will discuss a plan of action together and what may or may not need to happen next. If they are a younger child, it is likely you will need to lead the conversation and explain next steps.



9 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Be mindful of the language you use at home to describe and talk about mental health. Stigma often arises from misconceptions and a choice of language which is harmful. Using the word 'mental', 'man-up' or other such words in a derogatory way won't encourage your child to talk about their mental health for fear of being belittled.



10 IT IS OK TO SAY 'I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT'

Adults do not have all the answers but often children think they do. It is ok to acknowledge that what your child is experiencing is not something you have come across before or know anything about, but that you will work it out together and seek help together.



Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



Sources of Information and Support

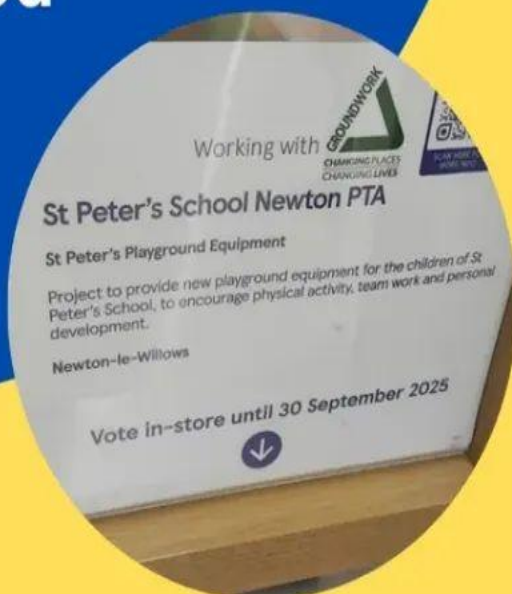
Your GP
Young Minds <https://youngminds.org.uk/v>
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/>
<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parenting-tips/2016/november/a-simple-guide-to-active-listening-for-parents/>
<https://www.themix.org.uk/mental-health>

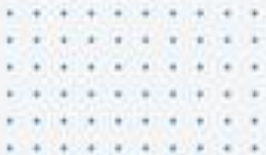
Tesco Blue Tokens!

We will be in 4 different stores from July - September. We are guaranteed £500 and possibly up to £1500 if we get the most tokens! The money raised will be spent on new playground equipment.

Use your tokens to vote for us in
**Earlestown, Haydock, Haydock Express
and Garswood**

Thank you!





The PTA are
on



Social Media

Several light blue squares of varying sizes are scattered around the word 'Media'.

Facebook: St-Peters Pta

Instagram: stpeters_pta_nlw



Please send us a request to keep up
to date with news/events/reminders!