



Our school value this half term is: "Generosity"

'God loves a cheerful giver'

2 Corinthian 9.7

## Notices



### Nasal Flu Vaccinations

All children from Reception to Year 6 will be offered the nasal flu vaccination in school on **Tuesday 8th November**.

If you would like your child to receive the nasal flu vaccine in school, please follow the link below to complete an [online consent form](#). The link contains the consent form and additional information such as FAQs regarding the vaccination. The link will close on Tuesday 1st November.

<https://www.nhs.uk/flu/information?id=119370&Type=FLU>

### Secondary School Admissions

Year 6 parents please note the following:-

All applicants can apply via Lancashire County Council now by clicking [here](#).

The statutory closing date is **31st October 2022** at 23:59. You must apply even if your child already has older siblings in the school. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

### E.R. Reilly Visit

Children's author, Eamon Reilly, will be visiting school on Tuesday 20th September to talk to the children about his work and give them 'top tips' for writing their own stories.

### Term & Holiday Dates for 2022/2023

Please see the forthcoming academic years' term and holiday dates by clicking [here](#).

### School Milk

Children from Reception to Year 6 are eligible for daily milk at school a subsidised rate. If you would like your child to receive milk at break times, please contact the school office.

### Attendance

Please see page 2 of the newsletter.

### Healthy Snacks

Please see the 'Healthy Snacks' document attached to the newsletter section of our website. We would also like to remind everyone that we have a strict **NO NUTS** policy.

### School Closure

Following the announcement from Buckingham Palace of the death of our sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, a period of National Mourning will continue until the end of the State Funeral. The official date of the State Funeral is **Monday 19th September 2022**. This day will be a bank holiday and therefore school will be closed on this day.

### After School Club Notice

Learning Curves Nursery are looking to appoint an enthusiastic After School Club Playworker to work alongside a fabulous team in their very busy after school club for 3 evenings per week 3:30pm—5:30pm (term time only). For more information please call on 01695 816767 or email [info@learningcurvesnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@learningcurvesnursery.co.uk)

### Up and coming dates for your diary

For the full list of dates for the Autumn Term click [here](#)

*Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st September—Y5 Bikeability*

*Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st September—Life Education*

*Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th September—School photographs*

### Church Notices

#### Bumps and Babies

Couples who are pregnant or who have babies under the age of 9 months are welcome to attend for support, chat, advice and friendship. The group will meet on Mondays from 10am upstairs in Christ Church Ministry Centre.

#### Tower Open Day—24th September

For the first time in 3 years, we are opening our church tower again for visitors to enjoy the outstanding views and see the bell-ringers in action. Refreshments available. Children under 10 are not permitted up the tower. Free tickets are available through Eventbrite at the below [here](#).

#### Organist Recital

On Saturday 24th September 7pm, we look forward to welcoming Professor Ian Tracey, organist titular of Liverpool Cathedral for a 90 minute recital 'Last night of the proms'. Professor Tracey will be joined by Jack Watson, Vocal Soloist. Programs are now available from the church office for £15, which includes a glass of Prosecco.

## Attendance

I am also asking for your support in improving whole school attendance and punctuality as we move into the next academic year. Everyone has received their child's attendance as part of their school report. It is important to acknowledge that, in our school, many children have very high attendance. Indeed, if your child has attained **97%** or above, their attendance is in line with our target and is **outstanding attendance this year**. We also understand that there are reasons for absence on occasion and we will always work with families who have specific concerns and ensure we can overcome barriers together. During the COVID pandemic it was necessary for pupils and families to isolate if they or a close contact tested positive. That is not now the case and it is essential that we take a whole school approach to return to our previous positive attendance rates.

The impact upon children's education through lost learning is huge. At a time when so much education has been disrupted it is vital that we make every school minute count. I urge you to ensure that your child is in school and on time every day to prevent anyone falling behind with their learning. Persistent cases where poor attendance and punctuality do not improve can be considered to be **neglect**.

Government departments track school attendance figures. It is considered that attendance of **90%** or below is persistent absence which will be closely monitored by school staff. Failing to improve on this **90%** can lead to prosecution, which school want to help families avoid.

This year our whole school attendance has been **94.71 %**. There are clearly differing reasons for this and one of our priorities is to ensure we meet our usual high standards and set targets as we head into next year.

Aughton Christ Church C of E Primary School has set a whole school attendance **target** which is **97%** as, before the pandemic our attendance rates were always consistently between **97% and 98 %**. There are things you can do to improve your child's attendance and avoid falling into the persistent absence category. It is important to remember that any time out of school can lead to fines and prosecution.

If your child is unwell and you are unsure whether to send them to school, contact the office to seek advice on 01695 421391

**Avoid taking any holidays during term times. NO** holidays will be authorised. We will again be applying our strict policies which **include fines** for taking holidays in term time. It is Government law that holidays cannot be approved by the Headteacher in term time. All families are asked to **not book any holidays during term time** for the up and coming school year. Keep up to date with what percentage attendance your child has so that you know if they are at risk of persistent absence (office staff will provide this for you). Speak to school staff with any concerns. Talk to your child about the importance of them being in school and let them know how important you feel it is. The table below provides an example of the impact of lost learning through pupil absence:

Attendance % over a school year	Equal to number of days absent	Converted to approximate weeks of absence	Approximate number of lessons missed	School Concern Level
95%	9.5	2	47.5	Pupil can catch up and still succeed
90%	19	4	95	Poor attendance We are concerned
80%	38	8	190	Very poor attendance We are very concerned
70%	57	12	285	Serious concerns

\* So a child who has an absence percentage of 80% has missed 38 days of school and has missed 190 lessons.

Punctuality is also highly important. Pupils who arrive late to school are not only losing learning but also disrupting the learning of others as they arrive late for lessons. Pupils do not like being late into school and we witness how upsetting it can be for them. We want to prevent this. Our school doors open at 8:45 am to allow children to become settled and begin their learning. They **MUST** be in school for 8:55am for the start of registration. The table below provides an example of the impact of lost learning through pupil lateness.

Number of minutes late per day over a school year	Approximate equivalent number of days lost learning
5	3
10	6.5
15	10
20	13

We also want to help families get their child to school on time. Here are some things you can try:

- Have everything you/your child needs for school prepared the night before
- Ensure that your child goes to bed reasonably so they are not too tired to get up in the morning
- Ensure your child has a good night's sleep by minimising their use of devices at bed time
- Have a consistent bedtime routine for your child
- Set an alarm to allow plenty of time for your morning routine in getting to school on time
- Bring your child to breakfast club (8:00am – 8.45am).

At Aughton Christ Church Primary school, we will be informing you of your child's **attendance** and **punctuality** at **parents evening** and in **termly letters**. We will always work with families regarding any concerns about attendance or any potential barriers so I ask anyone with concerns to contact me.

Thank you for your support.