



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Charles Street, St. Helens, WA10 1LN

13/12/2024

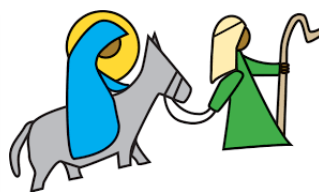
Advent Prayers: Week Two

Peace

iBelieve.com

Jesus, Prince of Peace,
through your power and
inspiration,
may all peoples welcome each
other to their hearts as sisters
and brothers.
And may the peace they long
for
ever flower and ever reign
among them.

Amen.



ANATOMY OF AN ADVENT WREATH

Candles, because
Jesus is the
Light of the
World, the Light
in the darkness
of winter

Purple for
royalty,
anticipation,
repentance

Pointy leaves
to remind us
of the crown
of thorns

Red holly
for the
blood of
Christ

Pink for Joy

Evergreen, a plant that lives
through the winter when all else
dies, because God's love is
everlasting @LittleWayChapel

Arranged in a circle
because like a circle, God
has no beginning or end



Advent Service



We Care, We Share, We Value.

Is my child too ill for school?

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Ear infection

If your child has an [ear infection](#) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Does your child need care this winter?

NHS
St Helens and Knowsley
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Trust



If your child is ill it can be a worrying time, but lots of childhood illnesses can be treated quickly and effectively at home or by accessing the right healthcare service. Here is our handy guide to services available in your area. By choosing the right service you can help your little one feel better, quicker.

Online symptom checker

Our friends at Alder Hey have created an online symptom checker with lots of useful advice on common symptoms in children. Visit the website: www.alderhey.nhs.uk/symptom-checker

You can then decide where best to get the right care for your child.

When to go to a doctor

If you are worried about your child's health, then you should speak to your GP first. Out of hours, you can call 111 who will help to decide whether your child needs to be seen right away or if the issue can wait to be treated the next day by your own family doctor.

Common illnesses that can be treated by your GP are;

- Persistent coughs
- Skin infections
- Eye infections
- Ear pain



When to go to A&E

Accident and Emergency is for people with life-threatening illness or injury, so if you think your child needs immediate attention, then you should attend A&E.

Conditions that require immediate attention include;

- Shortness of breath or working hard to breathe resulting in drawing in of the chest when breathing or making a grunting noise
- Seizures
- Severe bleeding or burns
- Head or eye injuries
- Allergic reactions causing swelling of the face, lips, eyes or tongue, fainting or trouble breathing
- Serious animal bites
- Infants under 2 months of age with a fever
- Blue or purple lips, skin or fingernails
- Uncontrolled pain



When to go to a pharmacy

Your local pharmacy can offer advice and has a wide range of over-the-counter medicines that can help treat common illnesses. Make the pharmacy your first stop to help with;

- Coughs and colds
- Sore tummy
- Minor cuts, bumps and bruises
- Minor stings and bites



When to go to urgent treatment / walk-in centres

If your GP surgery is closed, or your child's condition is more urgent, but not life-threatening, then your local Urgent Treatment / Walk-in Centre has specialist nurses and doctors that can help.

Many local centres have x ray equipment too, which means you don't always need to attend A&E. Common conditions that can be treated here include:

- Cuts and scrapes
- Minor burns
- Minor breathing difficulties (asthma / croup / bronchiolitis)
- Suspected fractures
- Uncontrolled fever



If your child is struggling to breathe or loses consciousness, you should call 999



Urgent Treatment & Walk-in Centres

Your local centre is closer than you think.

Open 365 days a year, including bank holidays, to treat all sorts of urgent illnesses and injuries.



St Helens Urgent Treatment Centre
Monday to Saturday 7am-10pm
Sunday & Bank Holidays 9am-10pm

Widnes Urgent Treatment Centre
Monday to Sunday 8am-9pm

Huyton NHS Walk-in Centre
Monday to Saturday 8am-8.30pm
Sunday & Bank Holidays 10am-8.30pm

Runcorn Urgent Treatment Centre
Monday to Sunday 8am-9pm

Kirkby NHS Walk-in Centre
Monday to Saturday 8am-8.30pm
Sunday & Bank Holidays 10am-8.30pm

Halewood NHS Walk-in Centre
Monday to Saturday 8am-8.30pm
Sunday & Bank Holidays 10am-8.30pm

IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

yes

until...

NHS

CHICKENPOX	At least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over.
DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING	48 hours after their last episode.
HIGH TEMPERATURE	If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.
IMPETIGO	Their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics.
MEASLES	4 days after the rash first appeared.
MUMPS	5 days after their swelling started.
SCABIES	They've had their first treatment.
SCARLET FEVER	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics.
WHOOPIING COUGH	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics.

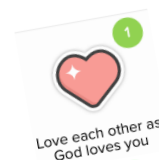


NO



CONJUNCTIVITIS	You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.
COUGHS & COLDS	It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH	If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.
HEAD LICE	There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing your GP.
THREADWORMS	Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend treatment.
SORE THROAT TONSILLITIS	You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.
SLAPPED CHEEK	You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

House Teams Weekly Points



9,810

10,138

10,073

9,172

Leader Board Totals

Charity

Hope

Faith

Peace

797

789

851

806



STARS OF THE WEEK



Attendance

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Our whole school attendance this week is

95.5%

The Government set target is 97%.

Well done to

Year 2

for having the best attendance this week with

92%

Attendance this week

Nursery	93%
Reception	96%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	99%
Year 3	91%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	94%

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...

Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...

or They Would Have Missed Approximately...

5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

Happy Birthday!

On this special day,
we celebrate how blessed the world
became when God gave us you.



©WishesMsg.com

Josh Baker
Deborah Afolabi
Priya Wiseman
Ivy Radford

We Care, We Share, We Value.

Swimming—Wednesday's

Y6 need their swimming kit in school every Wednesday—the coach leaves at 9.00am

Lunch Clubs

Rosary Club—Monday 12.30-1.00
 Minnie Vinnies—Tuesday 12.30-1.00
 Rota Kids—Thursday 12.30-1.00
 Young Carers—Friday 12.30-1.00

School clubs

KS2 Dodgeball—Monday 3.30-4.15pm
 Y1-Y6 Mindfulness—Tuesday 3.30-4.00pm
 Choir Y3-Y6—Wednesday 3.30-4.00pm
 Multi-Skills Y1—Wednesday 8.00-8.40am
 KS2 Books on film—Wednesday 3.30-4.00pm

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2024/2025

Term	School opens on:	School closes on:
Autumn term 2023	3rd September	25th October
	4th November	20th December
Spring term 2024	6th January	14th February
	24th February	4th April
Summer term 2024	22nd April	23rd May
	2nd June	16th July
Inset days	2nd September 17th & 18th July 21st & 22nd July <u>Bank Holidays</u> 18th April 21st April 5th May	

Year Group	Homework
N	Library book read to them (each night) Talking task – phase one phonics (weekly) Practical maths (weekly)
R	Reading (each night) Reading & spelling tricky words practice (weekly) Number (weekly)
KS1	Reading (each night) Times Tables (each night) Reading & spelling tricky words practice (weekly) Maths (weekly) English comprehension (weekly)
KS2	Reading (each night) Times Tables (each night) Reading & spelling tricky words practice (weekly) Maths (weekly) English comprehension (weekly)

CYPMHS Crisis Response service as they have had some updates.

This service is for Children & Young People who are in need of immediate assistance for their **mental health or behaviour.**

<https://www.merseycare.nhs.uk/our-services/warrington/child-and-adolescent-mental-health-service-crisis-response->



December Kindness 2024

SUNDAY

1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others

8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member

15 Say hello to your neighbour and brighten up their day

22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed

29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people

MONDAY

2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are

9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead

16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to

23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness

30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why

TUESDAY

3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment

10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them

17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you

24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh

31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2025

WEDNESDAY

4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about

11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank

18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving

25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!

THURSDAY

5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely

12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today

19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated

26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature

FRIDAY

6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find

13 See how many different people you can smile at today

20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need

27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat

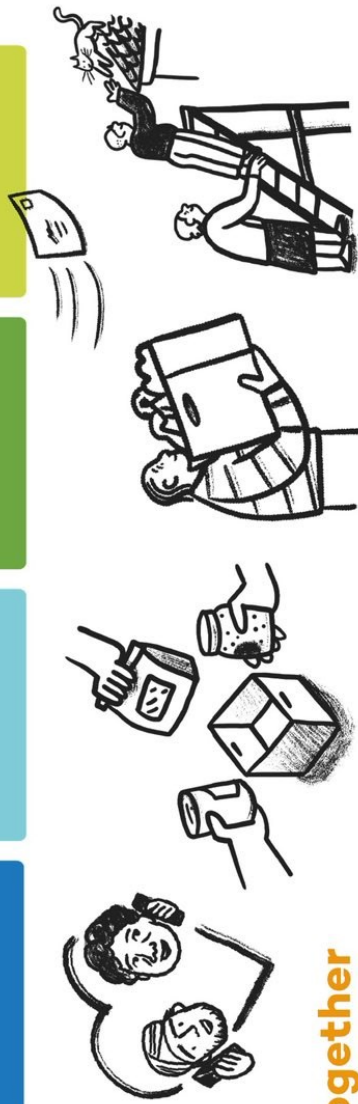
SATURDAY

7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today

14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one

21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you

28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite was launched back in 2017, but it remains massively popular – with more than 650 million active players. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons'.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite: it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic 'skins', music tracks and LEGO items – which don't really impact on gameplay but can cost a significant amount. These items are bought with in-game currency, V-Bucks – earned through completing the Battle Pass (which also costs V-Bucks) and can also be purchased from the game's store for real money.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like Family Guy and Avatar: The Last Airbender to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could have children asking questions about the monster from Alien or Geralt from The Witcher a little sooner than you otherwise might have.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. 'Crossplay' lets friends play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC – while the 'party chat' feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can, however, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as fishing mini-games and dancing emotes. Machine guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different over-arching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'party'). These regular renewals help to hold players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to play Fortnite with their friends. With that in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of a child's social group and coordinating their gaming around certain times of day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help children feel that they're getting adequate opportunities to socialise with their friends online.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free, but each also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 and are also available as part of larger bundles. The purchase of passes can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for completing chores like tidying their room.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game: make sure any young player knows this.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents and carers to do something fun with their child, while also making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

RECYCLE YOUR TREE



TO REGISTER

SCAN HERE!

www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

- Registration Opens 15th November 2024
- Registration Closes 8th January 2025
- Collecting 13-17th January 2025

giftaid it



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

After costs, Willowbrook Hospice receive 90% and up to 10% will be distributed by Just Helping to other local charities. More information on where your donation goes can be found on our website.

JustHelping supports volunteers, businesses, and charities to contribute to their community and the environment. Our national Christmas tree collection raises essential funds for charities in the local community.



ASDA Cashpot for schools

If you shop at ASDA, please consider selecting us as your chosen school as this will help our school cashpot to grow.

**you scan,
we donate
££s TO
SCHOOLS.**



Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

[Cashpot for Schools Terms & Conditions](#)

[Asda Rewards terms & Conditions](#)

1

Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app

Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select a specific primary school or select 'Schools in Need'.

2

Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com

Asda will donate a percentage of your shop to your chosen school each time you shop and scan.

3

Asda does the rest

The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to schools to spend on what they need most. This won't affect your own Cashpot earn.

Once opted in and selected a school, we will add £1 to your chosen schools Cashpot to help get them started.

Each school will get an additional £50 added to their Cashpot, after at least one customer has shopped and scanned their Rewards app.



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

MUSIC SERVICE ENSEMBLES AT ST HELENS TOWN HALL 2024 - 25 **FREE!**

TUESDAY...

ROCK & POP BAND

4.30PM - 5.50PM

WEDNESDAY

**WIDER
OPPORTUNITIES BAND**

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

**INTERMEDIATE
WIND BAND**

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

**INTERMEDIATE
STRINGS**

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

MUSIC THEORY CLUB

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

**YOUTH WIND
ORCHESTRA**

5.15PM - 6.30PM

WEDNESDAY

SINFONIA

5.15PM - 6.30PM

WEDNESDAY

MUSIC THEORY CLUB

5.15PM - 6.30PM



**ST HELENS
COUNCIL
MUSIC
SERVICE**

INSPIRING MUSICAL CREATIVITY

FOR EVERY CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON WE WORK WITH



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@sthelensmusic

**01744
677946**

music.service@sthelens.gov.uk

**SCAN THE QR CODE
BELOW TO JOIN AND
REGISTER TODAY**





See Miss Davies for more information on main meals for the family for £4 per week.

Wesley Methodist Church
Vincent Street, St Helens WA10 1LF

For a **small weekly fee** local residents can join up as members and access a whole range of benefits.

Entrance to a weekly shop at the Pantry

Meet new people or volunteer

Free welcome gifts



Pay by cash or standing order

There are no qualifying rules for joining and we also give out tea/coffee and toast while you wait.



Opening times:
Tuesday

 www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk

 @Hopesthelens  @Hopesthelens

You can also call us on 01744 264 14

Could you foster?



Together we can help change the life of a child.

Foster with St Helens Borough council, we are **OFSTED** graded **GOOD** and judged to be **OUTSTANDING** for our care leavers

Tel: 03456460098

Email: Enquiry@foster4.co.uk



FOSTER

St Helens
Borough Council

sthelens.gov.uk/fostering

ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL