



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

20/06/2025

Charles Street, St. Helens, WA10 1LN



Saturday was a very special day for our pupils who made their Sacrament of First Holy Communion. We are extremely proud of them.

Thank you to Miss Chauveau who has worked incredibly hard in preparing our children and their families. Thank you also goes to our families, our staff, parishioners and Fr. Jino for their help in preparing children for this next phase in their faith journey.

May they always feel the warmth of Christ's love, the strength of

We Care, We Share, We Value.



Dear Parents and Carers,

My name is Mr. Platt, and I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Deputy Headteacher of Holy Cross from September. I feel privileged to be joining such a warm, caring and welcoming school community, with a strong Catholic ethos.

Upon my recent visits to Holy Cross, it is clear how well-regarded the school is in the local area, how talented the staff team are and how polite and enthusiastic the children are too. I am extremely excited to be a part of this. I believe that strong partnerships, between school and home, are essential for pupil success; I am eager to work together, with yourselves, to build on the school's already strong reputation.

A little about me, I have been a class teacher in St. Helens for the past nine years, at Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School. I have been a school leader for the past six years and I am passionate about creating a positive learning environment, where every child feels safe, supported and inspired to reach their full potential. I am keen to bring my existing skills to Holy Cross to play a part in the education of your children. Personally, I enjoy watching and playing all kinds of different sport (though I am more of a spectator these days!) and I have a season ticket for Saints, which has been something I have enjoyed since high school.

I look forward to seeing you at future school events and getting to know you all very soon.

Best wishes,

Mr Alex Platt

STARS OF THE WEEK





Virtues to Live by: Honesty

Definition of Honesty

HONESTY – is telling the truth. It is speaking the truth without exaggerating or omitting things, but also with kindness and tact. It is having the courage to admit the truth even when it is hard to do. When you are honest you can be trusted. When you are trustworthy you can be relied upon to do something and to keep the promises you have made. You have integrity when you are honest to others and to yourself; you do not try to be like someone you are not, you are your true self. When you are honest your actions match your words: you practise what you preach.

“May my goodness and honesty preserve me, because I trust in you.” (Psalm 25:21)



*Well done to our Virtues
winner this week, for
living out our virtue and
being a shining example
of **honesty**.*

Our Virtue to Live by:

Honesty

I tell the truth.

I am reliable and trustworthy.

My actions match my words.

I am honest with myself and others even when it is difficult.

“Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbour, for we are all members of one body.” Ephesians 4:25



Virtues to Live by

I am Honest

when

I tell the truth.

I can be trusted.

I am honest about my words and actions.

I make promises I can keep.

My actions match my words.

I am true to myself and follow what I know to be right.

In Year 2, pupils have been learning about the Christian virtue of honesty. They explored what it means to be truthful and honest in school and at home, with their family and friends. Through Bible stories, discussions, and role-play, they learned how Jesus taught and lived out the virtue of honesty, and how they can follow His example in their everyday lives.



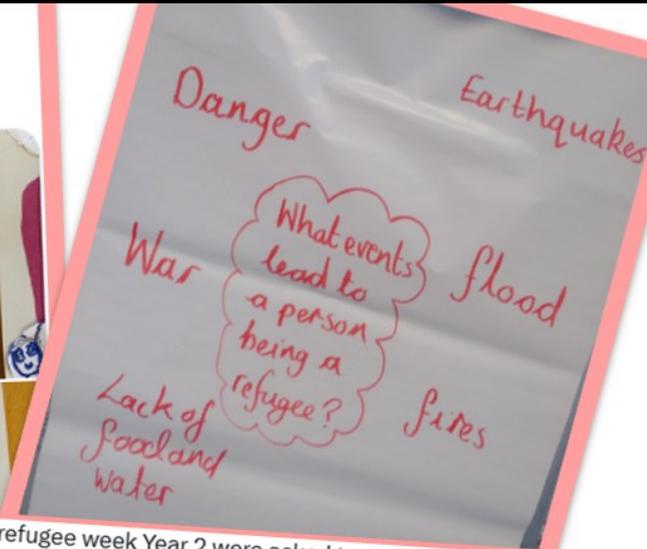
REFUGEE WEEK 2025 COMMUNITY AS A SUPERPOWER

16-22 JUNE '25

THE WORLD'S LARGEST ARTS & CULTURE FESTIVAL
CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS, CREATIVITY
AND RESILIENCE OF REFUGEES.
WWW.REFUGEEWEEK.ORG.UK



Reception thought about #RefugeeWeek and how being away from home might make us feel. We made houses and shared how we could welcome people 🏠❤️



As part of refugee week Year 2 were asked to create a passport to St Helens for families moving to the area so that they felt safe and welcomed. We also talked about the events that lead to a person being a refugee and recorded them as a class.

For Refugee week, Nursery have been looking and reading different stories about 'Being brave'. We spoke about different things that could be scary or unsafe for us and what could potentially help us.



LINKED ARTICLES

Article 10 (family reunification)

Governments must respond quickly and sympathetically if a child or their parents apply to live together in the same country. If a child's parents live apart in different countries, the child has the right to visit and keep in contact with both of them.

Article 22 (refugee children)

If a child is seeking refuge or has refugee status, governments must provide them with appropriate protection and assistance to help them enjoy all the rights in the Convention. Governments must help refugee children who are separated from their parents to be reunited with them.



1. Dignity of the Human Person

Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.
Jeremiah 1:5.



"...there are still too many situations in which human beings are treated as objects whose conception, configuration and utility can be programmed, and who can then be discarded when no longer useful, due to illness, weakness and old age..."
Address to European Parliament, 25 November 2014.



Refugee Week

OUR RESPONSE TO MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IS ROOTED IN THE INNATE WORTH OF EACH HUMAN PERSON.

[PRINCIPLE 1, LOVE THE STRANGER]

caritas social action network

@holycrosssthe1

In Year 6, as part of refugee week, thought about one thing that's wonderful about us and ways we can protect the dignity of people around us- especially those who might feel left out or different. We created "Respect Starts with Me" shields #RefugeeWeek



@sthelencouncil Thank you for organising the Active Bystander workshop - we give it a shiny 5 stars - excellent, informative, thought provoking, relevant to the lived experience of pupils, enabling them to make connections. We loved it!

Y5 Celebrated Refugee week by participating in an 'Active Bystander' workshop. We learnt about different stereotypes, discrimination and how we may see these in the world today.



Caritas Diocese of Soild

Refugee Week

Heavenly Father, protect all people who have been forced to leave their homes. You love them all. You have not forgotten them. You know their names. You know their stories. You know their journey. Guide them to a place of welcome and safety. May we be a source of compassion and love for our brothers and sisters who have endured so much and let us learn to live together in friendship. Stay with us, Lord, on our journey. Amen.

ANNUAL 2022 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

For Refugee week, Year 1 read the stories My name is not Refugee and The suitcase. We talked about how it would feel to be a refugee and if we were asked to pack a suitcase to move countries, what things we would take. #RefugeeWeek



A beautiful watch - highly recommended by pupils #RefugeeWeek #PilgrimsOfHope

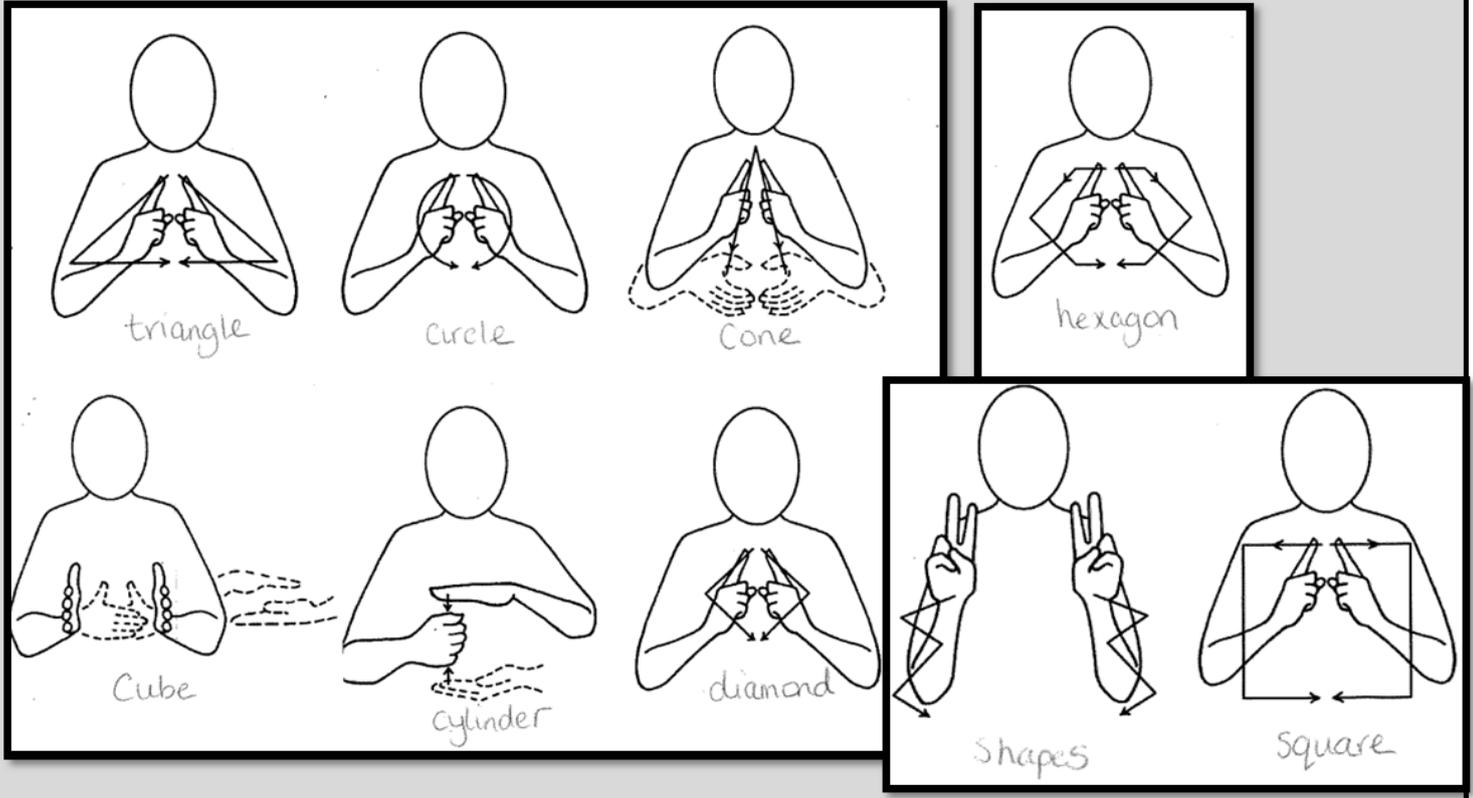
The Moomins turn 80 in 2025 #moomin youtube.be/DXhymmhXY?si... via @YouTube

youtube.com The Moomins turn 80 in 2025 #moomin Tove Jansson's first Moomin story, "The Moomins and the Great Flood", was published in 1945. In the...

holycross@sthelens @holycrosssthe1 · 9m "Heavenly Father, protect all people who have been forced to leave their homes. You love them all." #PilgrimsOfHope includes a focus on supporting refugees and asylum seekers. #RefugeeWeek

Sign with us!

Each week children develop their basic sign language skills so that as a school family we can all communicate with members of our school who use BSL and Makaton.



Language of the Month:

Tagalog

We have 20 languages spoken amongst our school family. Each month we explore a different language from our diverse school community.

Good morning Magandang umaga	Thank you Salamat
Good afternoon Magandang hapon	Please Pakiusap
Goodbye Paalam	Well Done Magaling!

Isa 1	Dalawa 2
Tatlo 3	Apat 4
Lima 5	Anim 6
Pito 7	Walo 8
Siyam 9	Sampung 10

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS



YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING



Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE



YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED



YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION



There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK



While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS



YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

SET TIME LIMITS



The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY



YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.

WATCH TOGETHER



It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

Meet Our Expert



Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youtube-kids-2025>

Family Picnic – Saturday 28th June 2025

All families are welcome to attend the Family Picnic on Saturday 28th June (11am–3pm) at

St Anne's Church, Prescot Rd, Ormskirk L39 4TG.

We especially wish to invite those families with children who are being baptised, making their holy communions or confirmations. Mass will be celebrated at 12pm.

The poster features a vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a family picnic in a park. In the foreground, a family of four is sitting on a yellow blanket, eating and talking. In the background, another family is having a picnic on a green blanket. A large, stylized tree with a purple trunk and green foliage stands on the left. A QR code is positioned in the lower-left corner of the illustration. The top of the poster has a blue sky with white clouds and several birds flying. The title 'Family Picnic' is written in large, orange, bubbly letters, and 'Saturday 28th June' is written below it in a similar style. A brown rounded rectangle on the right side contains text and icons. A Polaroid photo of St Anne's Church is pinned to the left side of the poster.

Family Picnic

Saturday 28th June

Join us for a relaxed afternoon hosted by the Archdiocese of Liverpool!

Bring your picnic blanket, food and drinks, and enjoy some time together in the lovely grounds of St Anne's Church. after midday Mass.

There'll be something for everyone:

- ⚽ Games for younger children
- 🎨 Children's liturgy for older kids
- 🎭 Animate Youth activities for teenagers
- 🌿 Reflection for Adults

🕒 11am - 3pm

📍 St Anne's Church, Ormskirk

Whether you recently made your First Holy Communion or Confirmation, or you just want to come along -

Everybody is welcome!



Families are encouraged to bring their own food. There will be games for younger children, children's liturgy, Animate Youth activities for teenagers and reflection time for adults. If you are interested, please sign up here

[Family Picnic Booking Form Link](#) and for more information please contact Ian at i.parrott@rcaol.org.uk

Attendance

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Our whole school attendance this week is

96%

The Government set target is **97%**.

Well done to

Year 2 & Year 4

for having the best attendance this week with

100%

Attendance this week

Nursery	95%
Reception	90%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	96%

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...

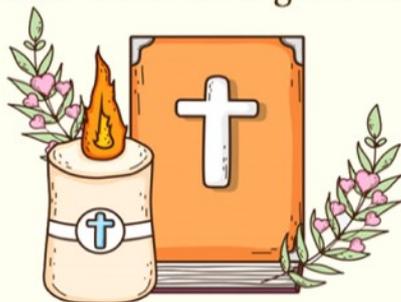
or They Would Have Missed Approximately...

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

Miss Chauveau

We Care, We Share, We Value.

Swimming—Wednesday's

Lunch Clubs

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

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2024/2025

Term	School opens on:	School closes on:
Autumn term 2024	3rd September	25th October
	4th November	20th December
Spring term 2025	6th January	14th February
	24th February	4th April
Summer term 2025	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

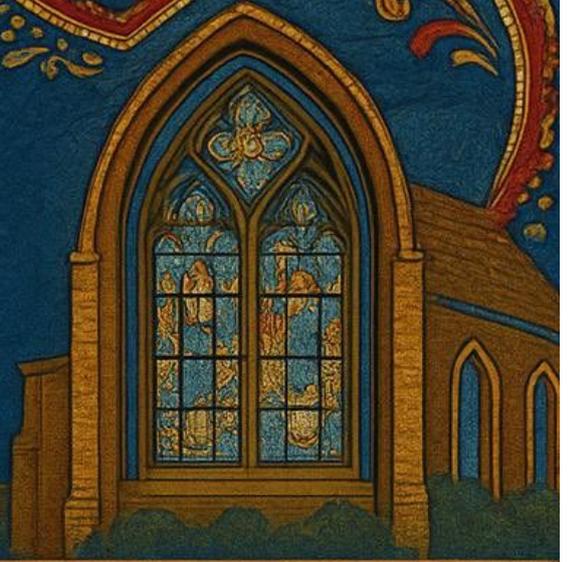
service as they have had some updates.
 This service is for Children & Young People who are in need of immediate assistance for their mental health or behaviour.

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





HOLY CROSS
AND ST HELEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH,
ST HELENS



CURRY NIGHT

INDIAN FOOD FESTIVAL



on Sunday, the 29th June 2025
from 05.00pm to 08.00pm
at Holy Cross Pariah Hall
You are most cordially welcomed

Joyful June 2025

SUNDAY

1 Decide to look for what's good every day this month

MONDAY

2 Say positive things in your conversations with others

TUESDAY

3 Re-frame a worry and try to find a helpful way to think about it

WEDNESDAY

4 Take a photo of something that brings you joy and share it

THURSDAY

5 Think of 3 things you're grateful for and write them down

FRIDAY

6 Get out into green space and feel the joy that nature brings

SATURDAY

7 Do something healthy which makes you feel good

8 Find joy in music: sing, play, dance, listen or share

9 Ask a friend what made them happy recently

10 Bring joy to others by doing something kind for them

11 Eat good food that makes you happy and really savour it

12 Write a gratitude letter to thank someone

13 Take a light-hearted approach. Choose to see the funny side

14 Share a happy memory with someone who means a lot to you

15 Look for something to be thankful for where you least expect it

16 Speak to others in a warm and friendly way

17 Take time to notice things that you find beautiful

18 Look for something good in a difficult situation

19 Get outside and find the joy in being active

20 Rediscover and enjoy a fun childhood activity

21 Send a positive note to a friend who needs encouragement

22 Watch something funny and enjoy how it feels to laugh

23 Create a playlist of uplifting songs to listen to

24 Bring to mind a favourite memory you feel grateful for

25 Show your appreciation to people who are helping others

26 Make time to do something playful, just for the fun of it

27 Be kind to you. Do something that brings you joy

28 Notice how positive emotions are contagious between people

29 Share a friendly smile with people you see today

30 Make a list of the joys in your life (and keep adding to it)



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

Our Mini Vinnies are asking for your kind help to support their fundraising for the St. Vincent de Paul Charity.



The SVP currently support our school through an annual funding for library books and with donations for household items and specific needs for families who find themselves in difficult times.

The SVP charity has supported over 38% of our school community this year and 100% of our pupils.

DONATE YOUR OLD OR FOREIGN COINS & BANKNOTES TO HELP

The St Vincent de Paul Society Reg. Charity No. 1053992

CHANGE FOR CHANGE
YOUR OLD AND FOREIGN CURRENCY CAN HELP US TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF OTHERS

- ✓ All foreign coins & banknotes
- ✓ Current UK coins and banknotes
- ✓ Any old British & Irish money
- ✓ Even obsolete currency!

Please take your coins and banknotes to your local Support Coordinator

Currency services supplied by cash4coins

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.



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



• St Helens •

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.

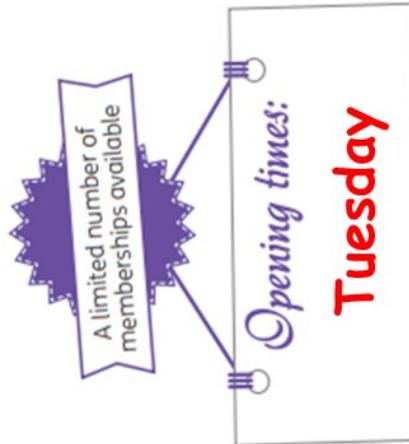
Entrance to a weekly shop at the Pantry

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.



www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk

[f](#) @Hopesthelens [t](#) @Hopesthelens

You can also call us on 01744 264 14