



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Charles Street, St. Helens, WA10 1LN

27/06/2025



We are beyond proud of our pupils who have taken up their role as altar servers at our parish church Holy Cross and St. Helen.

If your child would like to be an altar server, please see Fr. Jino.

We Care, We Share, We Value.



Virtues to Live by: Service

SERVICE – You put other people's needs before your own. You want to make a difference to their lives. You look for ways to help others and do not wait to be asked. You put your heart and soul into your work. You notice that other people have things to offer and help them to make a real contribution.

"Each of you should use the gifts God has given you to serve others." (1 Peter 4:10)



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

Our Virtue to Live by:

Service

I look for ways to help others without being asked.

I give my time to serve willingly.

I encourage others to use their gifts to serve.
By serving others I share God's love.

"Each of you should use the gifts God has given you to serve others." (1 Peter 4:10)



Virtues to Live by

I am Serving

when

I think of the needs of others and how I can help.

I am willing to give my time to serve others.

I know there are different ways to serve.

I bring joy to myself and others.

I discover my own gifts.

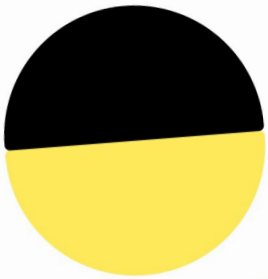
I am enthusiastic when I help.

Year 1 have been learning about the Christian virtue of Service. They explored how actions can help to serve others and how we are serving God by looking after one another. They talked about being the very best version of themselves, provides a service to all and that they can also help others to develop best versions of themselves and all they offer to the world. They also linked their learning to the school's Mission statement and how we care for God's children, we share our gifts and we value everyone's service.

Learn & Share

This half term, our Learn & Share sessions with families have focused on taking action to live a simpler lifestyle and appreciating God's Creation. Pope Francis, as a Pilgrim of Hope, has stood boldly for climate justice—reminding us that caring for creation is a moral duty. May we all answer the call to be faithful stewards of our planet.

Day 1



God created light. He saw the light was good and separated it from the darkness
Genesis 1:4

Day 2



God created the sky.
Genesis 1:8

holycross@sthelens
@holycrosssthel1

Nursery have been looking at ways to help the beautiful planet. They have drawn pictures on turning off light switches, recycling our bottles and cardboard. We even came up with using collected rain water to water our plants. 🌱🌍♻️

#WorldEnvironmentDay25



Nursery's Learn and Share this morning. We had so much fun looking at the Creation story and creating beautiful pictures with our adults 🌍🌟



Year 2 hosted their learn and share session with parents/careers this afternoon. The theme was 'caring for God's creation.' The children did some beautiful leaf rubbings and finger painting. 🍁🌍✝️



Day 3



God created dry land plants and trees.
Genesis 1:12

PRAISE
GOD
FROM
WHOM
ALL
BLESSINGS
FLOW



Thank you to our incredible parents and carers who attended Year 1s Learn and Share last week. The children loved creating their Art work about Noah's Ark using different techniques.



Day 4



God created the sun, moon, and stars.
Genesis 1:14-19

Day 5



God created the fish of the sea and the birds of the sky.
Genesis 1:20-23

Day 6

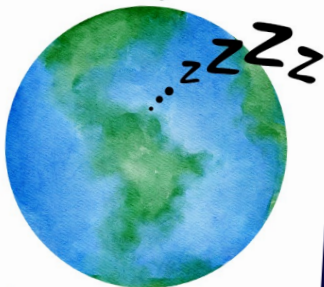


God created all animals that live on land. He created people in his own image.
Genesis 1:24-31

In our Learn and Share, Y3 created pieces of 'sun and stars' art, using pastels and chalk, inspired by John 8:12. Our pieces are called 'Light of the World'.



Day 7



God saw everything he made and found it very good and rested.
Genesis 1:31-2:15



holycross@sthelens @holycrosssthe1 · 20m
It's Reception 'learn and share' this morning. We are busy creating our 'creation' art work with our adults 🌍 🎨



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holycross@sthelens @holycrosssthe1 · 21m
It's Reception 'learn and share' this morning. We are busy creating our 'creation' art work with our adults 🌍 🎨



A wonderful Learn and Share for year 4 this morning! We talked about Picasso, cubism and how we could use cubism to portray Matthew 8:23-34



SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE DATES 2025

 Bargain Lovers and Deals 

M&S

20% off all uniforms. Predicted Tuesday 1st July.

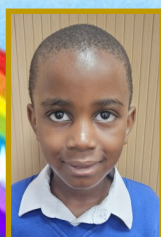
Aldi

£5 uniform bundle confirmed. Sunday 29th June.

Tesco

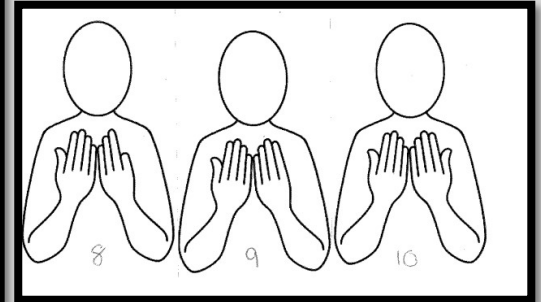
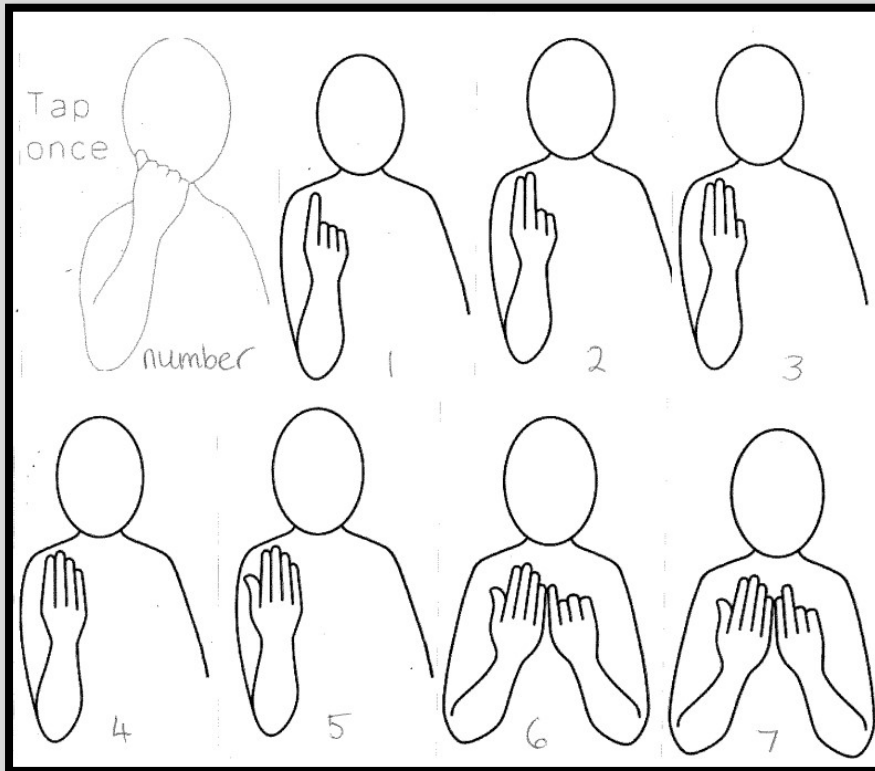
25% off all uniform. Predicted Monday 21st July.

STARS OF THE WEEK



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

Sampu

10

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Hitman* have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Splatoon 4* allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, *'The Super Mario Bros. Movie'* (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of *Daily Star* and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including *IGN*, *TechRadar*, and plenty more.



The National College®

Attendance

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Our whole school attendance this week is

96.1%

The Government set target is 97%.

Well done to

Year 5

for having the best attendance this week with

99%

Attendance this week

Nursery	91%
Reception	95%
Year 1	98%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	93%
Year 4	98%
Year 5	99%
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

Amber Lyon

Nevaeh-Rose Melvein

Cassandra Murray

Thomas Clough

Peniel Briston

Norah Justine

Samwise James

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



😊 Plan Your Summer in St Helens! 😊

A Free Drop-In Event for Parents, Carers and Young People – Including HAF and Short Breaks

 Date: Thursday 3rd July

 Time: 4pm – 7pm

 Venue: Saints – Totally Wicked Stadium

Looking for Holiday Activities, Short Breaks, or free food and fun this summer?

Come along to Plan Your Summer and find out what's on for children and young people across St Helens.

- ✔ Meet providers offering HAF – Holiday Activities and Food (free for eligible children)
- ✔ Find out about Short Breaks for children and young people with additional needs
- ✔ Discover clubs, activities and support available throughout the summer holidays
- ✔ Ask questions, collect leaflets, and plan your family's summer

No need to book – just drop in!

Free refreshments available.

Everyone welcome – families, carers, and young people of all ages.

Joyful June 2025

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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

2 Say positive things in your conversations with others

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

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

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

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

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. 4053992

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 Regional 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.



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

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.

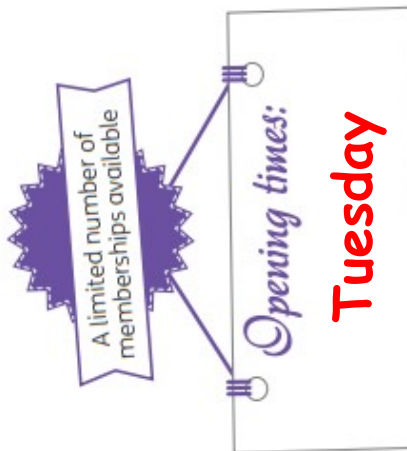
Entrance to a weekly shop at the Pantry

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.



www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk

[f @Hopesthelens](https://www.facebook.com/Hopesthelens) [@Hopesthelens](https://www.instagram.com/Hopesthelens)

You can also call us on 01744 264 14