



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Charles Street, St. Helens, WA10 1LN

11/07/2025



Award of Excellence

It is hereby certified that

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

has achieved

Thinking School Status

as recognised by

Dr Dave Walters
Grounded Practice Educational Services
on behalf of the University of Exeter

July 2025

Date _____

Signature: _____

We Care, We Share, We Value.



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

**has achieved the Gold School Games Mark
award for their commitment, engagement
in the School Games for 2024/25.**





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.

In Nursery and Reception, students have been learning about the Christian virtue of service. We explored what it means to serve God and live our lives with Jesus in our hearts. Nursery and Reception learned a song called 'Jesus is my superhero.' They performed it in assembly and spoke about how we can share God's love through words and actions.

Goodbye & Good Luck



Good luck
we will miss you



Good luck
we will miss you



Good luck
we will miss you



Good luck
we will miss you



Good luck
we will miss you



A Fond Farewell and New Beginnings

As you are aware, Miss Chauveau and myself will be leaving Holy Cross at the end of this term: Miss Chauveau is retiring, and I am taking up a new headteacher post in a different borough. However, we will also be saying goodbye to **Mrs Slater**, who will be leaving **Holy Cross** to pursue a new chapter in her professional journey. While we are sad to see her go, we are deeply grateful for the dedication, warmth, and commitment she has brought to our school community.

Over the past **14 years**, Mrs Slater has made a lasting impact on our students, not only through high-quality teaching but also through the care and encouragement has shown each day. From classroom learning to extracurricular involvement, her contributions have been truly appreciated. We thank Mrs Slater wholeheartedly for her hard work and the positive influence she has had on so many young lives.

We will also be saying goodbye to **Miss Redcliffe**, **Miss Wilson** and **Mrs Flood**, who have been with us this past year. During their time with us, they have made a positive impact on our pupils' learning and wellbeing. Their professionalism and dedication have been greatly appreciated, and we thank them sincerely for becoming a part of our school family and giving their best each day. We wish them the best of luck on the new path ahead.

We have already said goodbye to **Mr Oakes**, our much-loved Site Manager, who set off last week to begin a new career in Outdoor Management. We thanked Mr Oakes for his hard work and for the great care he has taken with Holy Cross to keep it in excellent condition.

We are pleased to welcome Miss Dilsworth to our teaching team, on a permanent basis. Many of you will already know Miss Dilsworth, as she has been with us for the majority of this academic year. Miss Dilsworth will take up her new post in September as Year 4 class teacher - I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Miss Dilsworth.



We continue to celebrate the Jubilee year as pilgrims of hope.



Last week, ten of our children took part in a St. Helen's Borough schools mass. We teamed up with six other primary schools to make this a very special mass indeed, with lots of lovely prayers, readings and singing. We were united in our faith and love for God in this time for renewal, reflection and pilgrimage, with a focus on hope in the face of global challenges. Afterwards, we celebrated with juice and a magnificent cake!



Take a look at our Dojo Champions.

What a line up of super stars!

These children have achieved the highest number of Dojo points given this half term for their year group.

Our Dojo champions received certificates and a prize and will enter the end of year Dojo Master Competition.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-ENABLED SCAMS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a widely used tool, with lots of positive applications being discussed and developed. Sadly, however, as with most technology tools, there are those who will seek to use it for malicious and dishonest practices, with children and other vulnerable groups particularly at risk.

PHISHING EMAILS: BETTER & QUICKER

Phishing scams – emails designed to trick people into handing over login details or money – are not new, and do not rely on AI; however, AI has made them far more dangerous. Criminals can now generate highly convincing emails at speed, mimicking an organisation's tone, branding and language with ease. This makes phishing attempts harder to spot, especially for young people who may not yet know what to look out for.

ONLINE MARKETPLACE FRAUD

Online marketplaces are now a common way to buy and sell everything, from second-hand clothes to cars. Criminals are exploiting this by using AI to enhance or completely fake product photos and videos, and pressure buyers into paying deposits or full amounts upfront. These tactics are becoming more advanced, making it vital to pause, check, and verify the sale before parting with any money.

VOICE IMPERSONATION

AI can now realistically impersonate a person's voice when given a small sample of someone's speech patterns. This is especially concerning where voice has been enabled as an alternative to password-based logins. One such example was the use of AI deepfake audio as part of a fake kidnapping scam: the criminals used an AI voice clone of a 15-year-old to convince her parents she had been kidnapped and elicit a ransom.

EMPLOYMENT SCAMS

Using AI, criminals can create fake online profiles that seem completely real. These synthetic identities can chat with young people about fake job offers, asking for money to secure a visa or paperwork. In 2025, The Guardian reported a scam targeting young people with promises of quick cash, posing as TikTok staff.

INFLUENCER & INVESTMENT SCAMS

AI tools now make it easy to manipulate video and audio, with technology available that can generate entirely fake content using the likeness of celebrities or influencers. Criminals are using this to create convincing videos of well-known figures promoting fake products or services, which young people can be particularly susceptible to. Cryptocurrency scams are a common tactic, luring people into investing in schemes that do not exist. Once payment is made, the criminal simply disappears with the money.

ROMANCE SCAMS & SEXTORTION

AI chat bots can now mimic real conversations, often accompanied with realistic fake photos and videos, which makes it easier for criminals to build trust with young people – among other things, this can lead to fraud or sextortion. In 2024, the NCA's CEOP Safety Centre received 380 reports of sextortion. Alarmingly, in the first five months alone, police received an average of 117 monthly reports involving under-18s, showing how serious and targeted this threat has become.

Advice for Parents & Educators

THINK CRITICALLY

The key to addressing the increasing growth of AI-enabled scams is to think critically and show caution. Inform children that if something is too good to be true, then it probably is. Encourage them to stop and carefully consider what they are seeing and reading before taking any action. For example, if a social media post expresses urgency, proceed with caution; if content seems unusual, even from a known person, it may be that their account has been hacked.

USE TRUSTWORTHY SITES AND SERVICES

Online marketplaces are useful when buying and selling items; however, where possible, encourage children to use reputable companies and their online shopping sites. These companies are likely to have more sophisticated cyber-security safeguards in place, underpinned by consumer legislation, enabling them to control how products and services are displayed and traded on their sites.

SEEK TO VERIFY

Criminals may breach an influencer's account or spread misinformation and fake content; however, their approach will generally be limited to a single account, site or service. Where possible, show children how to verify information to check its legitimacy before proceeding. Small actions, such as phoning the person who is the subject of a suspicious email, or checking content via an individual or company website or social media sites can make the difference. The greater the risk, the more effort we should expend to confirm whether the information presented is true or false.

REPORT IT

As the sophistication of scams increases, the likelihood of being tricked by them also increases, especially when not paying attention or acting quickly. It is important that young people know how to report incidents as they happen. Show children how to report their concerns to the social media site, Action Fraud, banks, and other individuals or organisations linked or involved. If you are unsure of the most effective reporting channel, contact Action Fraud.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Futures Group, Vice Chair of the ISC Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Attendance

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Our whole school attendance this week is

95.9%

The Government set target is 97%.

Well done to

Year 4

for having the best attendance this week with

99%

Attendance this week

Nursery	93%
Reception	96%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	97%
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.



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Jamal Ogundimu

Mason Lee

Mrs Kettle

Miss Hawron

Miss Andrews

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->



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. 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!

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.



• 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.



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