



Our school value this half term is: “Generosity”

‘God loves a cheerful giver’

2 Corinthian 9.7

Notices



Welcome back

A huge welcome back to another school year. The children have returned to school with excellent attitudes and happy smiles. Everyone in school is looking forward to the year ahead.

Meet the Teacher

We would like to invite parents to attend a ‘Meet the Teacher’ opportunity on **Wednesday 14th September**. This will allow you to meet your child’s teacher in person and gain information about school and the up and coming year. Miss Geeson will be arranging individual parent meetings for Reception in the coming weeks. The times for Y1 to Y6 are as follows:

4:00pm – Year 1 Miss Daw

4:30pm – Year 5 Mrs Frackelton

5:00pm - Year 2 Miss Simmons

5:30pm – Year 4 Mrs Nolan

6:00pm – Year 3 Mrs Chapple

6:30pm – Year 6 Mr Swift

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

All children from Reception to Year 6 will be offered the nasal flu vaccination in school on **Tuesday 8th November**. The e-link containing all information and [consent forms](#) will be available to parents/guardians shortly.

Collections and arrival of children at school

I would like to thank everyone for their support at these two important parts of the school day. We have put systems in place to ensure the safeguarding of our children. It is important that at the end of each day we have clear spaces to dismiss children and whilst this can take a short time I hope everyone understands this is necessary to ensure the safe handover of children.

Can I remind all families that the carpark is not a pedestrian area and no children should be playing on there or around the cars for their own safety.

Aughton Christ Church C of E Primary School joins the nation in expressing our deepest sympathy on the passing of our Queen. Our thoughts and prayers are especially with her family.

As we celebrate her remarkable reign, we give thanks for her life and unwavering service to us all.

Following on from yesterday’s sad announcement, we held a special worship in school this morning and gathered outside to listen to the church bells ringing at 12pm.

Aughton Christ Church will be open for private prayer and reflection at the following times:

Friday 9th September

12 noon until 4pm

6pm—8pm

Saturday 10th September

4pm—6pm

4pm bells will toll—proclamation of the new monarch

On both of these days, Church will be open for private prayer and lighting candles. A loose leaf book of condolence will be available.

Term & Holiday Dates for 2022/2023

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

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.

Up and coming dates for your diary

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

Monday 9th to Friday 16th September—School Council election week

Wednesday 14th September—Meet the Teacher

Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st September—Y5 Bikeability

Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st September—Life Education

Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th September—School photographs

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.