



Our school value this half term is: "Generosity"

'God loves a cheerful giver'

2 Corinthian 9.7

Notices

Christmas Jumper Swap



We are running a Christmas Jumper sale on the Friday after half term (4th November) to try to encourage the reuse of 'preloved' Christmas jumpers. This is a new initiative which we hope will offer a service to our community in different ways. We will accept donations of clean adults' and children's Christmas jumpers, in good condition, from Monday 17th October until Thursday 3rd November. **Full details can be found on a letter [here](#).**

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

All children from Reception to Year 6 will be offered the nasal flu vaccination in school on **Tuesday 8th November**.

If you would like your child to receive the nasal flu vaccine in school, please follow the link below to complete an [online consent form](#). The link contains the consent form and additional information such as FAQs regarding the vaccination. The link will close on Tuesday 1st November.

<https://www.nhsimms.uk/FLU/information?Id=119370&Type=FLU>

Secondary School Admissions

Year 6 parents please note the following:-

All applicants can apply via Lancashire County Council now by clicking [here](#).

The statutory closing date is **31st October 2022** at 23:59. You must apply even if your child already has older siblings in the school. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

Parking

We kindly ask parents to be mindful of where they are parking when collecting/dropping off children at school. We've had concerns raised by residents in the local area about cars being scratched and driveways being blocked. Please support our local community.

PHA Meeting

Our PHA organise events and raise significant funds towards many aspects of school for our children. There is a meeting of the PHA on **Wednesday 2nd November at 7:00pm**. Please come along to find our more.

Up and coming dates for your diary

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

Monday 17th October—Y6 to see 'Mary Poppins'

Monday 17th October—Instrument try out Y2-6

Tuesday 18th October—Y3 to Tatton Park

Friday 21st October—INSET day

Monday 24th to Friday 28th October—Half Term

Friday 4th November—Christmas Jumper Swap

Tuesday 8th November—Nasal Flu Vaccine

Wednesday 16th November—Parents Evening

Music Tuition Years 2 - 6

On Monday 10th October we held a special assembly in school where Chris and Victoria Cull from Ormskirk Music Centre told all the children about the different instruments they can learn in school. On **Monday 17th October** there will be an after-school session from 3:30-5:00pm for parents if children in Years 2 – 6 to come and discuss the instruments with your children and actually try them out. At this evening you will be able to talk to the music teachers and sign up for instrument tuition should you wish. For more info, please click [here](#).

Attendance

Please see page 2 of the newsletter.

Welfare Position

We currently have a welfare position available in school to join our committed lunchtime team. Please click on the link [here](#) to see details of this position if you or anyone you know is interested.

Half Term

Please note that school will finish on Thursday 20th October at the normal time of 3:30pm and will reopen at 8:45am on Monday 31st October following the half term break.

Church Notices



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.