



Our school value this half term is: **“Compassion”**

*‘Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience’*

Colossians 3.12

## Notices

### Mrs Hall Leaving

As a school we are sad to announce that Mrs Hall is leaving today. Following her time as a parent, Mrs Hall has also worked at our school for 22 years and has been an integral part of our staff during that time. She has offered huge support and care to many of the children in our community during this time and her immense contributions to all the children and school life will be greatly missed. Our community is blessed to have had Mrs Hall work with us for so long and we wish her and her family well on the next step in her journey.

### Year 3 Christmas Ukulele Concert

On Friday 9th December, parents of children in Year 3 are invited to attend our Christmas Ukulele Concert at **3pm**. Children will be released to parents as normal after the performance at 3:30pm. For the concert we would like the children to please come into school dressed as Christmas elves on this day.

### Child Action Northwest

Please see the flyer on page 2 of this newsletter to view details of Child Action North West, a charity that supports parents of children with emotional and mental health needs. This is a service that is accessible to all families.

### Cost of Living

School are aware of the challenges for everyone at the moment due to the increased pressure of costs of living in the UK. Please find out the most up-to-date information about what help is available for households and businesses in Lancashire on the Cost of Living Support website [here](#).

### PHA Christmas Cinema Night

#### ‘The Grinch’

Children are invited to attend our PHA’s Christmas Cinema Night on **Thursday 1st December** from 3:30pm to 5:15pm at Christ Church Ministry Centre. Tickets are **£5 per child** and include Christmas themed snacks. Permission slips are available from the school office.



### Up and coming dates for your diary

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

Wednesday 30th November—PHA meeting at 7:00pm

Thursday 1st December—PHA Cinema Night

Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th December—KS1 Nativity

Friday 9th December—Reception Nativity

Friday 9th December—Y3 Ukulele Concert 3pm

Friday 9th December—Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 12th December—KS2 Nativity in church

Wednesday 14th December—Christmas Dinner

Friday 16th December—School closes at 2pm

### Attendance

Attendance is a crucial part of every child's education. On page 3 you can see further details of the importance of punctuality and attendance in a letter written at the end of last academic year.

### Toy Sunday at Christ Church

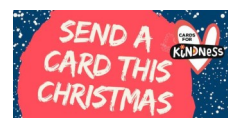
On Sunday 27th November, Christ Church are holding their annual toy service. They are asking for donations of new unwrapped toys. Recipients will be children accessing the foodbank, Ukrainian refugees living in the area, YKids Bootle and SWACA (Sefton Women's and Children's Aid). Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

### Southport Soup Kitchen Donations

With Christmas fast approaching it's a tough time for many people and especially more so this year. Southport Soup Kitchen have been approached by so many people that live in our community for help with presents for children and the guests who use this service. If you are in a position to help, Laura (Holly's mum from Y6) will be starting to collect items for them this week. Whether it's a selection box, a present for a child or a toiletry set, any donations really are appreciated (they must be unused and unwrapped so they can match them with the requests they get). Donations can be sent into school or to Laura's house at 65 Rutland Crescent, L39 1LP (please call 07843 445227).

### Cards for Kindness Campaign

This campaign aims to tackle loneliness in our care homes by encouraging people to send a festive card to a local home to brighten up someone's day. This is a chance for pupils to use their artistic skills to help others in the community. There is a serious side too, as campaigns like this help to tackle loneliness. Opening the cards and discussing the messages also prompts conversations among residents and brings back memories, bringing many health benefits, particularly for people living with dementia. Click [here](#) to find out more.





# S.P.A.C.E @CANW

Supporting Parents And Carers Emotionally

Are you a parent/carer with a child or young person who is experiencing emotional or mental health issues?

**Anxiety**

**Low mood & Depression**

**Self-harm**

**Eating Disorders**

**Sleep Problems**

**Suicidal Thoughts**

**Obsessions/Compulsions**



We are offering a friendly, supportive, peer support group led by an experienced parent where you can share experiences, develop skills and strategies, and gain access to other support.

**There is support for everyone**

Join us for a brew, biscuit and a chat at one of our face to face groups, or online in one of our virtual sessions in the comfort of your own home and log onto our Facebook page for further support and signposting.



 **GROUP**  
**S.P.A.C.E@CANW**

[www.facebook.com/groups/s.p.a.c.e.canw/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/s.p.a.c.e.canw/)

**01254 244596**  
**EHWB@canw.org.uk**

Registered Charity No: 222533

## Attendance

I am continuing to ask for your support in improving whole school attendance and punctuality. 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 school.