



St Sebastian's R.C. Primary School  
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15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear parents/carers

We have had a very busy week: our meet the teacher meetings have begun, and the Year 2 class have been on a school trip to Staircase House. We had our first Celebration Assembly this morning and parents of those children who have received a certificate, were invited to join us.

**Certificates** – Congratulations to Jason, Georgia, Isaac, Ella, Lennox, Folarin and Summer who received a Gospel values award this week. And to Anthony, Oliver, Dnyah, Liam, Glory, Jorgie and Tina who received a Character award. They attended the tea party today.

**Parent Governor** – We have a vacancy for a parent governor on our Governing Board. A separate letter has been sent to all parents today. It is really important for the success of the school that we fill this role. If you are interested in applying or want to find out more, I am happy to speak to you about the role of a parent governor. I am usually on the KS1 playground each morning or you can arrange to speak to me via the school office.

**Author Visit** – We are very excited to be hosting M G Leonard in school next Tuesday. All the children will meet her and the older children will take part in a writing workshop. At the end of the day, parents and pupils can meet her to have a copy of one of her books signed.

**Reading books** – Reading books are part of the school uniform and should be brought to school **every day**.

**Countersigning** - St Sebastian's RC Primary School have taken the decision not to countersign passport photographs, passport applications, British naturalisation applications and similar documentation. This is a school policy. Therefore teachers and other staff, if approached by parents or carers with such a request, will be unable to oblige. This decision has been taken with much deliberation to prevent abuse, fraudulent gain, the need to ensure consistency and fairness. Our capacity to undertake non-school business in a busy primary school is restricted as we focus on teaching and learning.

**Year 3 school dinners** – Pupils in Year 3 no longer automatically get a free school meal. If you feel that you meet the criteria for free school meals, please apply online <https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals/> or telephone: 0161 793 2500.

**Flu Vaccination forms** - Flu vaccination forms have been sent out this week. Could they be returned to school by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. If you have not received a form and would like your child to be immunised contact the school office.

**Homework Club** - Payment requests for this half term are now live on school comms (school gateway) for those who would like to book their child/ren on homework club. Payment must be made in advance.

**School Spider** - From October half term we will be moving from School Comms (School Gateway) for our payment and communication system to School Spider. A "how to guide" is being sent out next week on how to set up an account, if you have not done so already, can you try and set this up this account before we break up for October half term.

**Earrings** – Our school uniform policy states that we only allow simple stud earrings to be worn to school for health and safety reasons. If your child continues to come to school with hooped earrings in, we will ask them to remove them.

**Breakfast Club** – Please can you book Breakfast Club in advance. When you arrive at Breakfast Club please phone **07706 580 001** to alert staff that you have arrived.

<b>Whole School Attendance last week</b>	<b>Attendance Award Winners</b>
90.27%	Year 2 – 93.52%

We aim for **96%** attendance each week so the whole school attendance for last week is very disappointing. Please remember to notify the office if your child is unable to attend school because of illness.

**No holidays will be authorised in term time and any holidays taken may result in a fine.**

**Late arrivals** – our school day begins at 8.45am. There are still a significant number of late arrivals and this has a huge impact on your child's education and wellbeing. When your child is late, they miss vital learning. Please ensure that your child is in school by 8.45am; aim for 8.40am when the school gate opens. If your child is late, you must accompany your child to the office and log the reason.

**Meet the teacher meetings** – You are invited into school on the following days to meet your child's class teacher(s). A separate letter has been sent out. The dates are as follows:

Monday 18 September - Year 6 meet the teacher meeting 3.25pm

Thursday 21 September – Year 4 meet the teacher meeting 3.25pm

**Dates for this half term:**

Thurs 21 Sep – Y3/4 trip to RHS Bridgewater

Fri 29 Sep – Y4 trip to Knowsley Safari Park

Fri 29 Sep – MacMillan Coffee Morning

Tues 3 Oct – EYFS stay and play from 2pm

Tues 3 Oct – Y3 football tournament for selected players

Tues 10 Oct – Flu Immunisations (Rec – Y6)

Weds 11 Oct – Parents invited in for story time at 3pm

Weds 18 Oct - Parents evening 3.30-6pm

With love and prayers,

Mrs Doyle

*'Do everything in love.'* 1 Corinthians 16:14