



24th June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support during another busy and exciting half term at Sacred Heart. The children have enjoyed a wide variety of activities in school and on visits and I hope that you have enjoyed seeing a variety of photographs on Twitter which showcase these events.

Communication about School activities and events

Communication is very important to us here at school and I know you want to be kept fully informed too. This newsletter only gives you a short summary of all that is happening and we don't want you or your child to miss out. The very best way to keep up with school letters and information is to make sure you have the school app downloaded onto your phone. We use Parent App which has had some challenges in the past. As a result of feedback from ourselves and other schools, Parent App has upgraded and you will need to make sure that you upload the new App when prompted by text or email from the Parent App system. As long as you have provided us with a mobile phone number and / or email address on the annual data collection sheet, you should receive this prompt before the end of June.

If you have any problems accessing Parent App, please call into the school office, where our friendly team will be happy to help you. We want our communication to work, so don't be shy to come in and ask us for help if you are not sure about the technology.

The new App will allow you to give access to school communications to other carers such as grandparents. Please consider sharing this access with those who you want to be involved in your child's life in school.

We rarely send out paper letters, so please do ensure that you have the App. With school visits coming up in the next half of the term we want to make sure every child is able to participate, but if you have not responded to a letter on the App requesting permission for a trip, your child may miss out.

Holy Communion

Our thoughts and prayers are with the twenty-three children who are preparing for Holy Communion at Sacred Heart this year. The celebrations will take place in June and July. The catechists have informed me that there will be another opportunity for those children who have not yet received the Sacraments. Fr John will send further details in September.

Holiday Requests

A reminder that holidays will not be authorised in term time except in exceptional circumstances. The attendance policy is on the school website for you to see the full details. There is no substitute



for being in school every day and family holidays are expected to be taken in the weeks that the school is closed for this purpose. Any request for a holiday to be considered in term time, must be accompanied by written evidence of the exceptional circumstances.

At least 10 school working days' notice must be given.

Holidays are rarely granted and where a holiday is taken without the required notice, or without permission being granted, a fixed penalty notice will be issued.

Online Free School Meals

I am pleased to report that the school has received some additional funding this year, due to the number of pupils now registered for free school meals. Thank you to everyone who has signed up for this.

If you haven't already signed up, please take the time to do so this weekend. The system is very easy to use and once registered the computer system will regularly check if you have become eligible for funding, without you having to do anything further. To apply online, it's quick and easy using the online form at: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-wirral/> or alternatively obtain a form from the school office.

Walk to School News

Thank you for supporting our campaign to encourage the children to come to school by scooter, bicycle and on foot. The children have loved telling me about walking to school and chatting to you on the way. They really appreciate having this time with you, and they know they are doing good for their health and the planet at the same time!

As a result of this campaign, more than two-thirds of our school community are coming to school on foot rather than by car. This is a fantastic achievement and we couldn't have done it without you. Our loc

al MP, Angela Eagle came to school today to congratulate the children on their success. We also had a visit from "Strider", the "Living Streets" Mascot who helped to give out certificates and badges to the children in recognition of their achievements.

Staffing News

Today we said a fond farewell to Mrs Macaulay who has taught at Sacred Heart for nine years. Mrs Macaulay has most recently taught Year1 and has been a wonderful model to the children and staff of our school code of "Care, Courtesy and Commitment." It has been a privilege for me and the staff team to work alongside Mrs Macaulay and we wish her luck in her new career.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Jackson
Headteacher