



Friday 17th October 2025



Weekly Newsletter

🎄 Cauliflower Cards 🎄

Your child should have brought their design home this evening. This form needs to remain in the best possible condition and MUST be RETURNED to school when an order has been placed. The deadline for returning the form is **Friday 24th October**. There is a lot of admin that goes on behind the scenes, and the forms are collected by an external provider. Unfortunately, any orders received after the deadline will miss the collection.

Friday 24th October 3:30pm - deadline for forms to be returned.

🎄 HOW TO MAKE AN ORDER: all instructions are on the order form.

There is also a video on the form that you can scan that shows you how to order!

If you have any questions, please ask your child's class teacher initially, or put a message on tapestry with the [#cauliflowercards](#) so I can get back to you. 🥰

Many thanks for your support,
Team LSJP 🧡

★ High School Open Applications ★

Year 6 parents/carers need to apply for their child's place at high school before **31st October 2025** using the link below:

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/resident/education/schools/School-Admissions/Secondary-Schools.aspx>

👩‍🦰 Flu Vaccine Update 👩‍🦰

On Thursday 23rd October, the team from Intrahealth will be in school to give the flu vaccine to those pupils who require it. There are also catch-up sessions planned at the venues on the dates listed below:

27.10.2025	9:00am-4:00pm	Meadows Family Hub 110 Raynard St, WN5 9RQ
28.10.2025	9:00am-4:00pm	Family Hub Formby Avenue, Atherton M46 0HX
29.10.2025	9:00am-4:00pm	Family Hub Hindley, WN2 4LG

🍷 Harvest 🍷

Harvest is a time to be thankful for all we have been given. We appreciate donations and the fantastic generosity from our parents. This year, we would love to mark the occasion by asking families to donate a box of cereal. All of these will be donated to local food banks. To mark this occasion, there will be a special worship focused around, 'the domino effect'. This will emphasise how our actions can affect others, and what we can do to make sure that our actions are positive. Not only will we have our special worship, we will use all the cereal boxes to make a whole school domino effect.

If you could please donate a box of cereal to school by Tuesday 21st October, our local food banks and St John's would appreciate it gratefully. Thank you!

🏆 Sporting News 🏆

Last Friday, we had a group of Year 4 children take part in a Futsal competition at Fred Longworth High School. Mr Miller was delighted by the boys' performance as they worked hard throughout their matches showing some great skills. Well done everyone!

💖 Poppy Appeal 2025 💖

From Monday 20th October, we will begin selling Poppy appeal products in the school office before and after school. There are a selection of snap bands, key rings and bracelets along with traditional paper poppies. Please pop in and support this great cause if you are able.

Thanks, LSJP Team

Year 2 - Lancashire Mining Museum

Wow what an incredible time Year 2 had at the Lancashire Mining Museum this week. The children were all so excited for this trip and couldn't wait to learn more about their History Topic. ✨ ✨

They started the morning by going on a train ride and looking at different aspects of the colliery. All children thoroughly enjoyed this and were super excited to be on a train! 🚂

The children learned all about the trains and the routes they took to drop off the coal; they visited the engine room where they learned how the winding engine transported the coal and the miners in and out of the mines; and they visited a Miner's cottage to see how different life was for those who lived back then.

But that wasn't all, later in the day the children visited the Blacksmiths to look at different metals and how they were shaped, and they also got to experience what life was like underground inside the coal mines.

What a fabulous experience! The Year 2 staff were so impressed with the children's behaviour and their knowledge of this topic- well done Year 2! 🎉

⭐️❤️ Leigh St John's Open Day ❤️⭐️

This is an opportunity for current and prospective parents, who have children starting school in September 2026, to have a tour of the school and meet with members of the school leadership team prior to submitting their school application in January. This will take place on **Thursday 13th November**.

Parents with younger siblings due to start reception in 2026 will need to call into the school office to collect an admissions pack which includes the supplemental form that needs to be returned before the application closing date of **15th January 2026**.

Polite Reminder

We would like to remind Parents and Carers that Tapestry is the main communication tool used in school and there are many messages posted throughout each day beginning early in the morning to late in the evening.

We understand that you will post at a convenient time for yourselves; however, we are sure that you will appreciate that many of these messages appear outside of our staff's working day. Please take into consideration that our staff members have families and lives away from school too and that if messages are received outside of usual working hours, they may not be able to and are not expected to respond immediately. Each of our classes has a minimum of 30 pupils so it would not be feasible for staff to respond to 30 requests in this manner. Staff will always endeavour to respond to any Tapestry messages at the earliest opportunity, but this may not always be immediate. Thanks for your support, LSJP Team

Holidays - not allowed in term time

Again, we are continuing to receive notifications from families regarding taking holidays in term time. We politely remind parents and carers that holidays should not be taken in school time. Holidays are unauthorised absences and may result in penalty fines, including the final week of term can result in an EPN Fine that can be issued from a September return. Holidays in term time also have a detrimental effect on children's emotional well-being as often when they return to school, particularly after a 2-week absence, friendship groups have often moved on/shifted. If you have any queries about this matter, then please speak to Mrs. Hughes.

DIARY DATES

DATE	Event
Each Sunday	St Mary's Church Sunday Service @ 10am with Sunday School. Junior Park 2K Run @ Leigh Sports Village (free for 4-11yr. Old's) 9am
Wednesday 22 nd October	Year 6 Poetry Workshop @ Leigh Library- Black History Month
Thursday 23 rd October	KS2 ATSA Cross Country @ Atherton High School
Friday 24 th October	School Closes for Half Term Break
Monday 3 rd November	School reopens @ 8:45am
Thursday 13 th November	Reception 2026 Open Day Tours in School



OPEN DAY

FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE DUE TO JOIN
RECEPTION CLASS SEPTEMBER 2026

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

TO BOOK YOUR TOUR, PLEASE TELEPHONE MRS JONES
(SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER) ON 01942 672825

Enjoy meeting the wonderful children and dedicated staff.

Discover how St John's develop curious learners who are
passionate about their bright futures.

'Feel' the St John's family vibe and why it is a special
place to be each day!



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE:

- OUR SCHOOL PROSPECTUS
- PROSPECTIVE PARENTS WHOLE SCHOOL VIDEO
- 360° PHOTOGRAPH OF THE RECEPTION CLASSROOM
- AN A-Z OF LSJP
- 'TAKE A PEEP AT RECEPTION' VIDEO



Dear Parents and Carers,

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new Government regulations will come into effect from 19 August 2024, and we wanted to bring this to your attention now, as it will affect when penalty notices are issued in Wigan.

In line with the [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk), Wigan Council will prioritise the 'support first' approach expecting that support will have been offered to families in cases where it is appropriate, and parents/carers are encouraged to communicate with the school should any support be required to improve attendance.

Penalty Notices are requested by schools and academies and issued by the Local Authority to the parents/carers of statutory school age children, per parent, per child. For example: two children in a family absent from school for a leave of absence may result in each parent receiving a Penalty Notice for each child at the below rates.

What are the changes?

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
5. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them.

We would like to thank parents and carers for their support in making sure that children do not miss any learning time.

Yours sincerely,



Catherine Pealing
Assistant Director – Education

FAQs

If I have already booked a holiday for next year, could I receive a penalty fine at the new higher rate?

Yes, if the absence has not been authorised by the Head Teacher of your child's school. Remember, only a Head Teacher can agree whether an absence can be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Who can be issued with a penalty notice?

- **Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has had unauthorised absence from school.**
- **In education law, anyone who lives with a child and who has day-to-day care of the child is also considered to be a parent whether they are the biological parent or not. For example, this will include step-parents and partners.**

Do the new rules only apply to holidays during term time?

- **No, it applies to all unauthorised absence from school including holidays. Unauthorised absence includes other absence that has not been agreed such as truancy, arriving late after the register has closed and failing to provide reasons for absence.**

How do I request for my child to have leave granted during term time?

- **You must submit an Absence Request form at least 20 days before the proposed absence. It will be for your child's Head Teacher to decide as to whether there are exceptional circumstances that will allow them to grant the time off. Do not assume that the absence will be granted until you have received confirmation from the school.**

Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have to be taken all at the same time before a penalty fine is issued to the parent/carer?

- **No, a penalty fine can be issued for any combination of absences over a 10-week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms.**

What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it?

- **Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine is an opportunity for you to settle out of court. If you don't take this opportunity, you can be prosecuted for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.**

What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance?

- **In the first instance you should contact your child's school and ask for advice on how they can support you to improve the situation.**