



**Queen's Park C.E./U.R.C.
Primary School**

Queen's Park Post Friday 4th October
2024

Our value this half-term is - **thankfulness**. 'In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God' Thessalonians (5:18)



A message from Mrs Kellett



Happy October! The weather has definitely gotten a lot colder this week - the heating finally went on in the Kellett household. It is so important that the children come into school with a warm coat, preferably waterproof. We try and get the children out for some fresh air so it is essential, in this cold weather, that they are dressed appropriately.

Supervision at the end of school

Can you please supervise your children at the front of school at pick-up? We have children in and out of the parked cars, up the bank and playing on the grass. It is really important that the children are supervised at this time as the main gates are open to allow for more access.

Drinks containers

Please don't send your child in with glass drinks containers for obvious reasons.

Opal

Thank you to all our families that have donated some of the items from our 'Bring it in Bingo' I can't tell you the difference it is making to lunchtimes. We will continue to take donations for our outdoor

kitchen this week too. Send any unwanted items into school. Please ask family, friends and neighbours - we need a lot!

Wellies

We will require all children to have a pair of wellies after half term so we can launch our OPAL plans to have the children. We want to be using the field all year round. It will be essential for your child to have suitable footwear to be able to access the fantastic opportunities we are planning.

WELLIES AND WATERPROOFS



As we begin on our OPAL journey, it is essential that each child has their own pair of wellies and a waterproof coat.

Wellies and waterproofs will help us to allow the children access across our wonderful school grounds (even if it is a bit wet and muddy!)

Fancy coats are fantastic looking... but we don't want them to get full of mud or get too wet, so a plain waterproof coat is best.

Children will need to bring in their pair of wellies with them into school for Tuesday 5th November (at the latest).

Bring-it-in

BINCO

**We need your help! We are looking for donations.
Can we get them all?**

Please send them in with your child.

As we develop our outside area, we are in need of the following items...



Frying pans



Large
Spoons



Cake Tins



Saucepans
(no lids)



Baking
Trays/Racks



Whisks



Cutlery
(no sharp knives)



Spatulas



Metal Bowls

MUD KITCHEN

World Mental Health Day



Thursday 10th October is World Mental Health Day. To raise awareness for Young Minds, our School Council have arranged a 'wear yellow day.' You can wear as much or as little yellow as you want such as a pair of socks or a yellow PE top.

Thanks,

School Council

PTFA News



We are so lucky to have a wonderful PTFA who are committed to supporting our school. We are so appreciative of the time and support that is given to our school from this group. They are always looking for new members. Their next meeting is on **Wednesday 16th October at 3:15pm** in the community room. All welcome!

They have organised a '**PTFA Pop In**' on **Thursday 17th October at 3:15pm**. This is an informal opportunity to come in and have a coffee in school. Please pop along if you can.

Date for the diary - PTFA Christmas Fair - **Friday 13th December**

Staff in the Spotlight



Let me introduce you to our lovely Mrs Leadbetter. Mrs Leadbetter has worked at Queen's Park for over four years. She has a very important role in school as our Pastoral and Safeguarding Lead alongside our lead for attendance. She works with lots of other agencies to ensure our children and families get the right support. She is dedicated to keeping our children safe and absolutely loves all things Christmas.

Experience Harvest

Experience Harvest

On Tuesday 1st October 2024, we visited Ormskirk Street, United Reformed Church to take part in 'Experience Harvest'. Throughout the morning, we explored different types of harvest and linked them to the Fruits of the Spirit. We also compared the similarities and differences between a Christian Harvest festival and the Jewish festival of Sukkot.

*Harvest of the garden - Patience
Harvest of the ocean - Peace
Harvest of the flock - Humility
Harvest of the grain - Generosity
Harvest of the earth - Joy*


The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it
Psalm 24:1



Thank you to everyone at URC Ormskirk Street for the wonderful Experience Harvest session you delivered this week for our year five children. I know it was enjoyed by all. It takes a lot of time and effort to put on these events for our children and we really do appreciate it.

Education Sunday

EDUCATION SUNDAY

2024: Everything Is Possible


Queen's Park C.E./URC
Primary School

Date: Sunday 6th October 2024.
Location: Queen's Park CE/URC Primary School (Hall)
Time: 10am

*Along with our three churches, we invite you to a fun, family
worship. Coffee and cake to follow.*

There will be a collection for ACE (Africa's Children in Education) to support the work they do at The Arise School, Tanzania..



You are all invited and very welcome to attend a worship session at school led by our children and our three churches.

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Location: Queen's Park CE/URC Primary School (Hall)

Time: 10am

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Coffee and cake to follow.

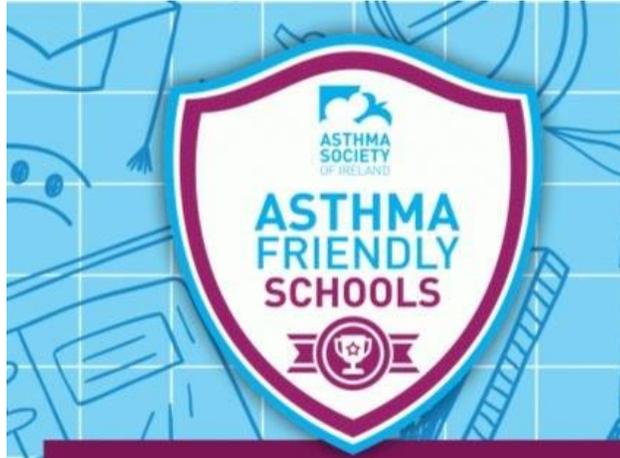
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Asda Cashpot Rewards



*Thank you to everyone who has downloaded the Asda reward app. You have raised **£385.84** for our school. There are **58 days left** of the scheme. If you shop at Asda, please download the free Asda reward app so we can access the funding.*

Asthma Friendly School



We are proud to announce that our school is working towards being recognised as an Asthma Friendly School within St Helens. This program is a partnership between schools and NHS health authorities which sets out to recognise, educate and manage children with asthma. If your child has been diagnosed with asthma, you will receive an updated care plan from Mrs Hughes. Can you please complete and return to school as soon as possible.

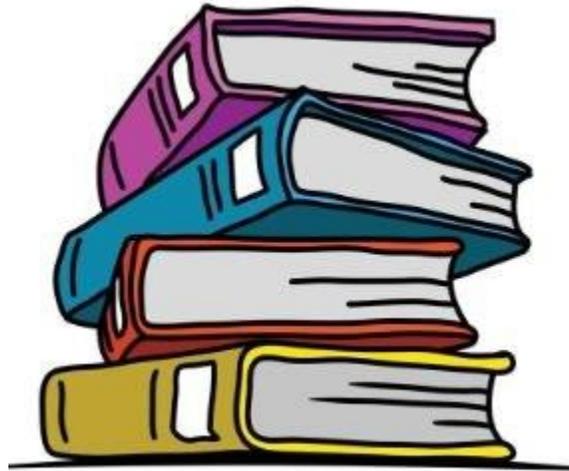
Uniform



I am really proud of our uniform and how smart our children look. We started this term really well with the children in full school uniform but we are seeing some children starting to come into school without ties or without appropriate school shoes. We have plenty of spare uniform to help so please ask if there is an issue. I have asked the teachers to start sending letters home to parents of children who are not following our policy - this includes wearing earrings.

*We changed the PE timetable this year to help parents. We had feedback from you that having PE on different days was problematic for some families. We expect the children in full school PE kit on the days they have PE. This includes a yellow t-shirt or jumper and blue shorts or joggers. **Black leggings and black shorts are not part of our PE kit.** Can you please ensure your child has the correct kit for their lesson? This is an important life lesson especially in preparation for high school where a detention would be issued if a child is not prepared for their lesson. Again, we have plenty of spare so come and ask if you need anything at all!*

Reading Volunteers



Do you have a spare hour? Helping a child to read is such a rewarding experience. We are always looking for volunteers to come in and listen to our children read. It can be any day for as long as you have spare. We really would appreciate the support and you would be making a huge difference to our children and their reading journey. Please contact the office if you can help!

Parental Engagement Dates - Reading

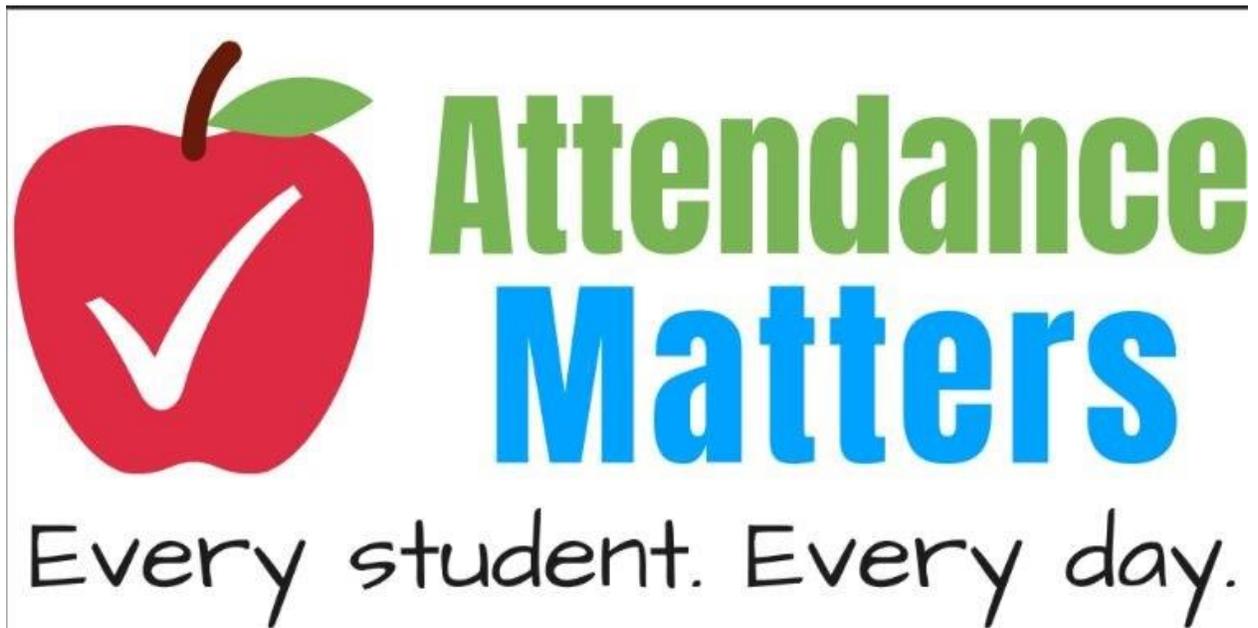


Thank you to our Y3 parents who came to join in a guided reading session this week. We hope you found the session useful.

Wednesday 9th October - Year 2 at 9am

Wednesday 16th October - Year 1/EYFS

Attendance Matters



In August 2024, the Government released new legislation linked to school attendance. There have been some important changes that I will communicate with you over time so you are fully aware of the implications for families. I will give you 'bite-size' facts each week to ensure you are fully up to date with the expectations.

Working together to Improve School Attendance

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education either by attendance at a school or by education otherwise than at a school.

This is from the new guidance document. It is the legal responsibility of every parents to ensure their child is in school.

342 children had perfect attendance last week! Can we beat this next week?

Attendance Update

We work really hard each and every week to make sure every class beats out school target of 97% - this will help us to succeed

*Our Attendance this week - **95.7%***

*Our Attendance this year so far - **95.7%***

Individual Class Attendance

PR 91%	QR 97.6%
P1 95.9%	Q1 87.6%
P2 98.6%	Q2 97.3%
P3 93.3%	Q3 95.6%
P4 94.8%	Q4 97.5%
P5 99.3%	Q5 98.3%
P6 95.3%	Q6 99.3%

Dojo Winners



PR Hunter D

P1 Jaxon L

P2 Amirah-Jo A

P3 Rory C

P4 Amber C

P5 Lewis D

P6 Jacob C

QR Isla B

Q1 Cayden S

Q2 Rhys F

Q3 Harry W

Q4 Kiki A

Q5 Giulia M

Q6 Reuben C

Star Badge Winners



PR Phoebe M

P1 Reegan C

QR Freddie H

Q1 Naraya S

P2 Noah M

Q2 Lillian N

P3 Elizabeth G

Q3 Isla R

P4 Alex D

Q4 Nacho PP

P5 Nastya T

Q5 Annabelle O

P6 Elena E

Q6 Daisy W

Important Dates for your diary this half term



Autumn Parents' Evening - Wednesday 23rd October 3pm - 6pm

Don't forget to book via School Spider. Any issues - please contact the office.

Y3 Class Assembly - Wednesday 9th October at 2:30pm - Y3 Parents invited

School closes for half term on Friday 25th October

School re-opens for Autumn 2 on Tuesday 5th November

PTFA Christmas Fair - Friday 13th December

Safeguarding tip for the Week

At the National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing and create a more formally delivered by National Crime Safety. These guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit thenationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its most unique feature is that anything you disappear 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of the screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a 'hotbot' function called 'My AI'.

SCAMS AND BLACKMAIL

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages feature by, for example, telling a user they have a special prize or want to get into a relationship if they send them money. Teens then (understandably) panic and worry about the long-term consequences. Snapchat's own research found that 83% of teenagers had experienced this – either on this app or others.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has features called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which are content streams where there is relevant to each user, but it could also be seen as an easy way to hook users into watching videos endlessly, furthermore.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are moderated by the police, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to front-load explicit images or videos – so anything continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replicates to quote its human-like mother. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of issues arising from My AI for instance, false diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or convey an unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users – notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

A feature called 'SnapMap' highlights your device's exact location to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, selected friends or just you. Snapchat also has a 'Snap Map' feature, which is intended as a buddy system to help friends keep track of each other – but it could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

SET CONTROLS VIA FAMILY CENTRE

Snapchat has parental controls called 'Family Centre'. You must invite a child to the Family Centre to be able to use it. The Family Centre lets you see who they have chatted with in the last 30 days (but not to view the specific messages) and report any concerns.

TALK ABOUT REAL LIFE SCAMS

If a young person is mature enough to have Snapchat, then they are mature enough to have a conversation about scams. Discuss the importance of never posting strangers and discourage them from sharing nudes. If they are caught in a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately, then block and delete the predator and screenshot any evidence.

DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it is a real person, it's essential that you'd people understand this is a chatbot. Encourage children to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions. Are the accounts reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends and that it's their job to talk to an adult person in relation to medical matters.

CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation, but it's important to talk about what young people can be reluctant to have. But it's important to talk about what young people can be reluctant to have. Remind children that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up – and how long it is shared. It's vital that children understand that some 'challenges' which become popular on the platform may have harmful consequences.

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap stories are visible to everyone who follows you, their location is visible unless they're using a location mask. Don't let children add strangers to their friend lists. Encourage them to tell you immediately, then block and delete the predator and screenshot any evidence.

BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or to spy on them, report or block them. There are guides to share why they're reporting that user – such as bullying or malicious images, spam or masquerading as someone else.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various e-learning resources and created our research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

WakeUpWednesday The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://thenationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2023>

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Some examples of the lovely adventures and achievements of our children over the Summer break.





1 - Faith celebrating her duathlon success



2 - Faith with the Mayor of Nantwich celebrating her duathlon success



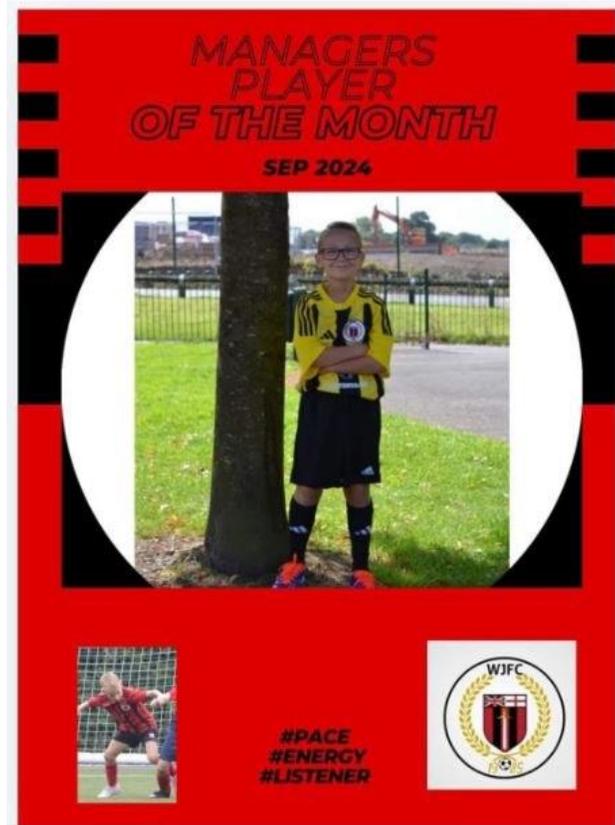
3 - Man of the Match for Joe - two weeks running



4 - Rhys and Harry enjoyed 101 Dalmatians at the theatre

Managers player is Noel for Sep.

Well done Noel .



5 - Manager's player of the Month for Noel



6 - Inga was awarded 'Parent's Player of the Match' Well done Inga



7 - Violet being presented with her Summer Reading Challenge from the Mayor of St Helens



8 - Isla being presented with her Summer Reading Challenge from the Mayor of St Helens



9 - Finley, Malakai and Mason enjoying themselves at a birthday party.



10 - Finnley and Codell ice-skating at the weekend for fantastic work in school earning the dojo certificate



11 - Amber has been growing her own peppers at home. They look delicious



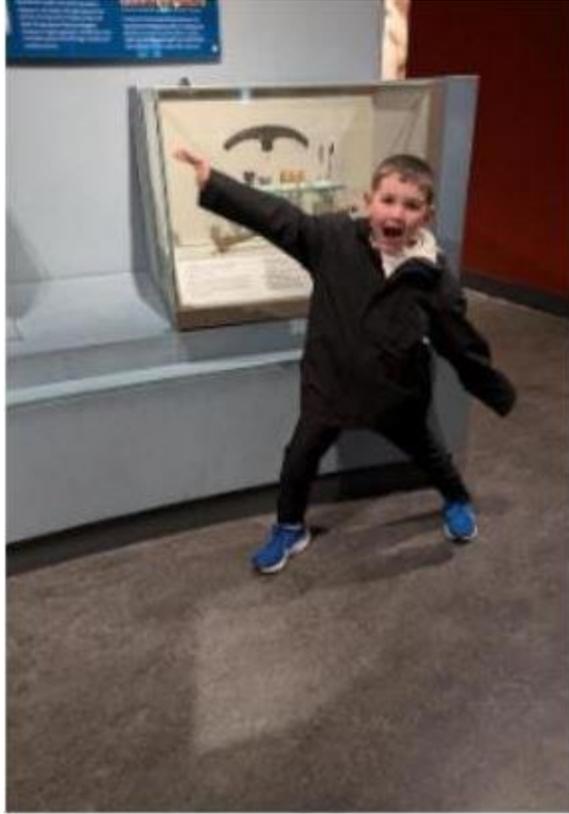
12 - Well done to Orry on his first swimming certificate



13 - Scarlett went along to St Helens fire station with Rainbows this week.



14 - Georgia came 3rd for her trio and 1st for her group dance in a recent competition with her dance school



15 - Harry had a wonderful time visiting the museum.



16 - Florence enjoying a wonderful sunset



17 - April receiving her award for completing the Summer Reading Challenge from the Mayor of St Helens



18 - Noel in Y5 medal for 'Player of the Month'

We hope you have a restful weekend

