

# October 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new year. It has been wonderful to see our children settling back into school over the past few weeks; we are all really pleased with the strong start they have made to the new year. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all our new families - hopefully you are already feeling part of the St Silas community. It is always lovely to stand by the gate in the morning and see all the smiling faces coming past, eager to get into school. This says so much about our children and our school. As usual, there is a list of diary dates in the newsletter; you will see that it is a busy time here at St Silas! I hope you enjoy the autumn term.

## CELEBRATIONS

It is a very exciting time for everyone here at St Silas CE Primary School and our family of schools within the Rainbow Education Multi Academy Trust. Back in 2014, we became the founding school of the Rainbow Education MAT, and this month, we are celebrating Rainbow's 10th birthday along with all the other schools in the trust. We are extremely proud that our family has grown over the past 10 years, and we have recently been shortlisted in the Most Inspirational Multi Academy Trust category at this year's Educate Awards, so we have plenty to celebrate! Each class in school will take part in a special celebration event. We will also be hosting a celebration service at the Anglican Cathedral. We hope you join us in wishing all the children and staff who make the Rainbow so special a very happy 10th birthday!

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

## BIRTHDAY PARTY DAY

As part of our 10th birthday celebrations, we will be having a party day in school on Friday 11th October. We would like children to wear party clothes or bright rainbow colours. There will be music, games and party food for children throughout the day. There will then be a cake sale at the end of the day. If you are able to, please make, bake or buy a cake to donate to our cake sale. Cakes will be on sale at the end of the day, so please bring a small amount of change to buy a cake! Thank you for your generosity and support.



## THE SCHOOL DAY

Please don't forget that the school day starts at 08:45. This is when lessons begin and children start learning. The school gate is open from 08:35. Please make sure that children arrive on time. Every minute matters, and we don't want any of our children to miss out.

## OUR WEBSITE

If you haven't looked at our new website yet, click the link below to have a look: [stsilasprimaryschool.co.uk](https://stsilasprimaryschool.co.uk) All the information you need about our school, the curriculum, uniform, trips, enrichment and term dates is on there along with plenty of photos so that you can really get a feel of what makes St Silas so special!

## INSTAGRAM



For the very latest news and loads of pictures, follow us on social media. Find us [@stsilasschool](https://www.instagram.com/stsilasschool).

## JOBS AT ST SILAS

We are currently looking for a midday assistant (10 hours per week) and a cleaner (15 hours per week). If you would like to apply, please log on to our website for more information and to download an application form. The deadline for applications is 12:00 on Friday 18th October.

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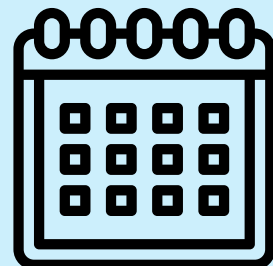
## ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

The government has just introduced new statutory guidance for schools. You will receive a separate letter about this from Mrs Nugent, our Designated Attendance Lead. There is too much information to include in this newsletter, but please do read the letter from Mrs Nugent so that you are aware of the changes relating to absence from school, notices to improve, fixed penalty notices (fines) and prosecution (court action possibly resulting in a criminal record).

## ATTENDANCE

Our current attendance is 95.2%. This is below the government's target of 97%. 17% of pupils are currently classed as persistently absent - this means that their attendance is below 90%. Every day of school that is missed makes a huge difference to your child's education, so please make sure that your child is in school and on-time unless there is a valid reason. Please note that medical evidence may be requested in the case of absence due to illness. This is standard procedure. Please also try to avoid making non-urgent appointments for your child during school time wherever possible. Thank you for your support.

## DIARY DATES



Here is a list of diary dates to help you plan ahead. Please look out for more details about these events on the school website, ParentApp and Instagram.

04.10.24	Coffee morning for parents / carers
11.10.24	Birthday Party Day and Cake Sale
15.10.24	Rainbow 10th Birthday Service
23.10.24	Blackpool Illuminations trip
25.10.24	End of autumn term 1
04.11.24	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
05.11.24	Start of autumn term 2
08.11.24	Y4 trip to Chester
22.11.24	Coffee morning for parents / carers
16.12.24	Christingle Service (09:15)
17.12.24	KS1 Nativity (09:30 & 14:00)
18.12.24	KS2 Christmas Show (09:30 & 14:00)
19.12.24	Christmas Fair (14:00 - 15:30)
20.12.24	End of autumn term 2 (school closes at 13:00)

## READING



One of the most important things that children can do at home is read. We make sure that children bring books home that they can read on their own or with a grown up. Reading for 20 minutes a day will have a huge impact on your child's overall achievement in school and beyond. We prioritise reading in school, and we ask that you do the same at home. It is the most valuable homework your child can do! Children who read at least 5 times go into a weekly reading raffle for the chance to win a free book from our vending machine!

## VOLUNTARY PLACEMENTS

We receive many requests from parents, carers and ex-pupils who are interested a volunteer placement at school. We are only able to provide a small number of placements, and we are already full for the rest of this academic year. If you have already contacted school to request a placement, we will be in touch with you to discuss this further. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer any more placements at the moment.

## KNIT AND NATTER

Mrs Nugent's Knit and Natter Club has started this half term. It's extremely popular, and it has been lovely to see so many parents and carers getting involved. It's lovely to invite you into school for the chance to relax, make friends and have a bit of a chat. Look out for news of more groups for parents and carers coming soon!

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

Website:

[stsilasprimaryschool.co.uk](https://stsilasprimaryschool.co.uk)

E-mail:

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0151 727 6067



[@stsilasschool](https://www.instagram.com/stsilasschool)

St Silas CE Primary School is part of the  
Rainbow Education Multi Academy Trust.  
[rainboweducationmat.co.uk](https://rainboweducationmat.co.uk)  
[@rainbow\\_edu\\_mat](https://rainbow_edu_mat)

