

St. Basil's

Catholic Primary
School

*"We love, learn and succeed
following Jesus"*

OCTOBER 2023

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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Safeguarding:

At St. Basil's Catholic Primary School we are committed to providing a nurturing, caring and safe learning environment where pupils thrive, are confident, happy and secure. **If you have any safeguarding concerns, then please speak to one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads.**

For further information about Safeguarding at St Basils please see the following documents by either clicking the link or scanning the QR code;

Safeguarding Parents Leaflet

[20097821 \(stbasilsprimary.halton.sch.uk\)](https://stbasilsprimary.halton.sch.uk/20097821)



Child Friendly Leaflet

[20095039 \(stbasilsprimary.halton.sch.uk\)](https://stbasilsprimary.halton.sch.uk/20095039)



Designated Leads for Safeguarding at St Basils:

Mrs Sheppard (HT)

Mrs O'Donnell (DHT)

Mrs Bond/Miss Yearley (Family Liaison & Welfare Officers)

Miss Abbot/Mrs Jones (SENCO)

Mrs McCabe (Attendance)

Mr Duffy (Pupil Welfare Governor)

Attendance update

Please be aware that students who have an attendance of below 90% will not have their absences authorised unless medical evidence is provided.

You can view your child's absence record via the School Gateway App. You access this via the reporting tab and then Attendance, it will give you your child's attendance rating.

Thank you for your co-operation.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE (Colour coded in line with the traffic light system)

Week commencing 09.10.2023



Well done to class 3AW for the second week running and 6KL with the highest rate of attendance, an amazing 100%!!

FSAR	1DD	2LG	3NC	3AW	4CG	4GS	5JS	6CH	6KL
98.1	96.9	94.8	90.7	100	94.8	96.5	86	97	100

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



School closes at 3.20pm on Thursday 26th October for half term break

Friday 27th October - INSET Day

School re-opens after half term break on Monday 6th November

School Photographer REC and Y6 - Thursday 9th November

Y5 Remembrance Collective Worship - Friday 10th November

6KL and 6CH Swimming - Tuesday 7th November daily until Friday 10th November

**6KL and 6CH Swimming - Tuesday 14th November daily until Wednesday 15th
November.**

(There have been some changes to swimming due to maintenance of the pool)

Please check for updates on future newsletters

Thank you!

Next Wednesday and Thursday (25th-26th October), the children will be engaging in some special activities which have been designed to promote care for our common home – the Earth. As well as a focus on care for creation and ways that we can protect our planet, we will also emphasise care for one another. Our themed days are in response to a letter from Pope Francis, appealing to us all to take action. His letter is entitled 'Laudato Si' (which means 'Praised Be' in Latin.)

Please follow the link below to watch a short animation from CAFOD to explain this theme further.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOgF2Kgel6k>

The children should come to school wearing their own clothes on these days, something suitable for outdoors and you don't mind getting messy! They will need to ensure they have a coat and an extra pair of footwear suitable for outdoor activities such as wellies or boots etc.

Thank you

We look forward to sharing news and photographs with you about our special days!



Week commencing 23.10.23 School Meal Menu is Week 2

NUTRITIONIST APPROVED 5

WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Homemade pizza with wedges	Lasagne & garlic bread	Roast of the day with gravy and roast potato	Chicken fajitas with savoury rice 5	Fish of the day with chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Tomato pasta bake	Vegetarian curry with 50/50 rice and naan bread 5	Quorn roast with gravy and roast potato	Cheese pie	Vegetable burger with chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS 5	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar
DESSERTS	Ginger biscuit	Carrot and orange muffins	Fruit and ice cream 5	Lemon drizzle cake 5	Jelly and fruit
FRESH FRUIT OR YOGHURT	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt
JACKET POTATO	Cheese	Tuna	Beans	Tuna	Cheese and beans

Mellors MENU Variety is the key to a healthy diet. try something new today!

MEAT FREE - MEAT FREE MONDAY
5 - 1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY
 - CHEF'S CHOICE

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SELF SOLIHULL APPROACH **inourplace** **NHS**

Understanding your own trauma

To support your emotional wellbeing, this online course is designed to help learners to:

- understand the diverse nature and impact of trauma experiences
- learn effective ways to process trauma
- nurture resilience through healthy relationships
- understand more about emotional health and wellbeing

Created by experts in trauma and recovery
Private, self-paced learning available any time

www.inourplace.co.uk

Residents of HALTON

In paid partnership with:



Use Access Code
TOGETHER

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink or water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.



FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Spicco is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written IT guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://hlpai.app/about/privacy.html>



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 13.05.2023



CLOSING DATE

24TH October 2023

Following our recent communication by email on 10th October regarding two parent governor vacancies.

Do you:

have an interest in our children's education?

have a desire to make a difference?

want to develop and hone your leadership skills

Then why not serve your local community and use your skills and expertise by becoming a School Governor?

What do governors do?

The governing body is responsible for making sure the school improves each year. It sets the direction and makes sure the school is meeting its targets. This involves:

Working with other board members to plan the school's strategic direction.

Overseeing the school's financial performance, ensuring money is well-spent.

Holding the headteacher or school leadership to account.

Governors attend meetings (usually around 6 per year) where reports about the school's progress are discussed. Although becoming a governor requires drive and commitment, you'll enjoy many professional and personal rewards, including career development opportunities and the chance to support young people's futures.

Who can be a governor?

No formal qualifications are needed to become a school governor, but you do need to be aged 18 or over. Everyone has experience and skills to offer, so an effective governing body has people from different backgrounds with a mix of skills. A good governor has:

common sense

the ability to work in a team

an interest in education and a commitment to the school

patience, energy, enthusiasm and some spare time

a willingness to listen, learn and to spend time in school

a willingness to undertake training.

What support will you receive?

Many of our volunteers are first-time governors, meaning they need a helping hand to get to grips with the role. We have a comprehensive series of governor training courses to enable governors to carry out their roles effectively. We produce a termly governor training programme of virtual learning opportunities, catering for new governors as well as the more experienced who want to further their knowledge in a specialised area.

Full details of how to apply were included in our email dated 10th October.



BASIL TOTS PLAYGROUP

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
9AM - 10.30AM

EVERYBODY WELCOME

£1 ENTRY - REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED



St. Basil's
Catholic Primary School

St Basil's Catholic Primary School
Hough Green Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 4SZ

Telephone: 0151 424 7887

We will be collecting items in school for the Widnes Foodbank until Wednesday 26th October ready for collection on Thursday 26th October .

Thank you for your support!

The Big Widnes Foodbank
Harvest Appeal
2023

UHT milk

UHT juice

Coffee

Tinned soup

Tinned veg

Tinned potatoes

Custard

Desserts

Tinned meat

Scan to find donation collection points

HELP SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FOODBANK BY DONATING AN ITEM OR TWO THIS HARVEST

Simply take your items to a local donation collection point and drop off

www.widnesfoodbank.org.uk

Widnes foodbank

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England & Wales.
Charity Registration Number 1155230.

Find a story your child loves

Sharing stories with children helps them...

do better
in all
lessons

be
happier

have
close family
bonds

sleep
better

with brain
growth

understand
the world and
others

concentrate
better



BookTrust – supporting millions of children to discover a love of reading every year.

Follow us on social @BookTrust

Scan the QR code to find the perfect story for your child.

IN ADDITION TO THE BELOW SESSIONS, WE WILL ALSO HOLD A SESSION IN SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 9AM TO 12PM. Please contact school on 0151 424 7887 if you would like to attend the session being held at school.

Help for Households in Halton



Would you like to learn a new skill or expand your current knowledge? If you take home less than £26,000 a year, come and join our FREE taster cookery sessions.

Sessions last for two hours and at the end of the session you will receive a **FREE slow cooker** and a **FREE food voucher for your local supermarket**. The scheme is funded by the household support fund which has come to us via central government.

To qualify you must:

- Live in one of the following wards, Halton Castle, Halton Lea, Central & West Bank, Grange, Appleton or Hough Green
- Take home less than £26,000 a year or receive benefits

	Venue	Date	Time
Runcorn	Halton Lea Library	Wednesday 18th October	10:30 - 12:30
Runcorn	Castlefields Community Centre	Thursday 19th October	10:00 - 12:00
Runcorn	St Andrew's Church, Grange	Thursday 26th October	10:00 - 12:00
Widnes	Transform Widnes (St Paul's Church)	Monday 23rd October	10:00 - 12:00
Widnes	St Basil's Parish Club	Wednesday 25th October	10:00 - 12:00



To secure your place, contact us on



- 0151 511 5200. You may be asked to leave your name and phone number and we will contact you back as soon as possible.



- E-mail us at public.health@halton.gov.uk

Help for Households

HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Admission to Secondary School September 2024

If your child is in Year 6 they are eligible to apply for Year 7 class in September 2024, and you can apply NOW:

- You must complete a preference form online at [School admissions website](#), where you will be given a receipt
- A paper copy of the preference form can also be requested from schooladmissions@halton.gov.uk or at any Halton Direct Link Office
- All **online** applicants will receive their offer of a school place electronically on the 1st March 2024
- Offer letters will be posted to applicants who submit a paper preference form on 1st March 2024
- **Don't leave it too late** – you are likely to miss out on the school place you want if you apply late. **Deadline is 31st October 2023**



Closing date for Secondary School Applications:
31st October 2023

Admission to Primary School September 2024

If your child was born between 01/09/2019 and 31/08/2020 they are eligible to start Reception class in September 2024, and you can apply NOW:

- You must complete a preference form **online** at [School admissions website](#), where you will be given a receipt
- A paper copy of the preference form can also be requested from schooladmissions@halton.gov.uk
- All **online** applicants will receive their offer of a school place electronically on the 16th April 2024
- Offer letters will be posted to applicants who submit a paper preference form on the 16th April 2024
- **Don't leave it too late** – you are likely to miss out on the school place you want if you apply late. **Deadline is 15th Jan 2024**



Closing date for Primary School Applications:
15th January 2024



St. Basil's
Catholic Primary School

PRE-SCHOOL

at St Basil's Catholic Primary School

3-4 Year Old Places

Ofsted
Good School

Available Now



Offering morning,
afternoon and full days
for 15 and 30 hour
funded places.

**BOOK NOW PLACES
ARE AVAILABLE**

Please contact the School Office on
0151 424 7887
to book an appointment

St Basil's Catholic Primary School
Hough Green Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WAB 4SZ
Telephone: 0151 424 7887

*We love, learn and succeed
following Jesus*

You are always welcome to any mass within St Wilfrid's Parish, timetable is below

Mass & Service Times

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil	St Bede	5:00pm
	St Basil	5:00pm
Sunday	St Bede	9:00am
	St Michael	9.30am
	St John Fisher	10:30am
	St Bede	11:15am
	St Bede	4:00pm

Weekday Mass Times (see parish newsletter for weekday variations)

<p>Monday</p> <p>St Basil</p> <p>9.00am Exposition & Morning Prayer</p> <p>9.30am Holy Mass</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>St Bede</p> <p>11:30am Exposition & Holy Rosary</p> <p>12 Noon Holy Mass</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>St Bede</p> <p>6:30pm Exposition & Evening Prayer</p> <p>7:00pm Holy Mass</p>
<p>Thursday</p> <p>St Michael</p> <p>11.30am Exposition & Holy Rosary</p> <p>12 Noon Holy Mass</p>
<p>Friday</p> <p>St John Fisher</p> <p>9.00am Exposition & Morning Prayer</p> <p>9.30am Holy Mass</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p>10.00am Holy Mass</p> <p>10.30am Confessions and Holy Rosary</p>

St Bede's Church is open for private prayer Monday to Friday 10.00 - 13:00