

Newsletter

Summer 1 2026

In God's love we learn and grow together

What is Easter?

Easter is a special Christian celebration. It remembers when Jesus Christ came back to life after he died. This is called the Resurrection and shows God's love and the promise of new life.

Christians prepare for Easter during a time called Lent, when they pray more, help others, and make good choices. Good Friday is the day Jesus died, and Easter Sunday as the joyful day he rose again.

Today, many people also celebrate Easter with fun traditions like egg hunts and chocolate eggs, which are symbols of new life and springtime.



MRS S BARRETT, RETIREMENT

After 30 incredible years, we said goodbye to Mrs Barrett on Tuesday 31st March.

Joining us in 1996, Mrs Barrett has supported generations of children and families with kindness and care. We wish her all the best in her retirement.



UKULELE CONCERT

On 24th February, the whole school had a fabulous opportunity to listen to a special concert by the local ukulele group call the 'Dingle Ukes'. They played folk songs, older pop songs and locally written songs. The children had a fantastic time listening, clapping and singing along with the music.



Thank you to 'Wheel Meet Again' and 'Dingle Ukes' for coming to visit.



WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day remains a firm favourite here at St Finbar's, and we were thrilled to celebrate it once again! The school was buzzing with excitement as children arrived dressed as their favourite book characters, with many proudly sharing their best-loved stories.

The day was packed with engaging, book-themed activities. In addition to the literary fun, we raised valuable contributions for the school fund and delicious toast was available for children at break time.



£111.50 was raised on the day.

Our themed lunch menu included:

Attack of the Cheese Burger, Goodbye Mr Chips, Herby and his Potato Jacket and Don't Put your Finger in the Jelly, Nelly! A big 'thank you' to our catering team for organising and researching books to match the food provided.



On Thursday 12th March, Tulip class had a fantastic day at Martin Mere, taking part in their Generation Wild Project. The children became Guardians of Nature, completing a range of challenges to learn how to care for the natural world.

Afterwards, we enjoyed exploring the beautiful nature reserve and spotting wildlife, it was such a lovely day of outdoor learning and adventure!



Daffodil class also had a fantastic adventure at Martin Mere on Thursday 19th March. The children explored a variety of habitats and saw firsthand how nature supports both our planet and our own well-being. It was a wonderful day of discovery and appreciating the natural world.



MOTHER'S DAY SALE

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Mother's Day Sale on Friday 13th March. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our staff and governors, who donated a wonderful array of gifts, we raised £192.83 for our School Fund.



It was lovely to see the children choosing special treats for the important females in their lives, continuing a tradition that stretched back further than many realise.

While we celebrate gifts today, the modern Mothering Sunday has its roots in the 16th century, when people would return to their 'mother church' for a special service. Over time this evolved into a day for domestic servants to be given time off to visit their families, often picking wild flowers along the way for their mothers.

SUMMER UNIFORM



The 'summer' school uniform can be worn from Tuesday 13th April. The 'summer' uniform gives your child the additional option to wear shorts or a red and white check dress.

We have lots of pre loved (free of charge) summer uniform. Please ask at the school office or message the school office via Arbor and we will see what is available and get it ready for you to collect.



SCHOOL WEBSITE

Don't forget to visit our school website regularly for important updates, event calendars, school policies and helpful resources. It is a good way to stay informed about what is happening in our school community.



St Finbar's Catholic Primary School
<https://www.st-finbars.co.uk>

[St Finbar's Catholic Primary School: Home](https://www.st-finbars.co.uk)

Welcome to the website of St Finbar's Catholic Primary School. Our Mission Statement; In God's love we learn and grow together.

<https://www.st-finbars.co.uk/>



We are again updating how we communicate with you! In addition to our usual emails via **Arbor**, we will now also be sending **In-App messages**. To ensure you don't miss any important dates, please make sure you have:

1. **Signed up** for your Arbor account. Please note that parents/carers cannot share email addresses.
2. **Logged in** to the Arbor App on your device. By staying logged in, you will receive instant notifications and can read all school messages directly in the app.

Moving forward, any **new school clubs**, and **future parents' evenings** will be bookable directly through the app. **Free School Meal voucher** information will also be sent to your Arbor In App messages. We do not want your child to miss out on these opportunities, so having the app ready to use is essential.

Furthermore, if you need to get in touch with us, please use the app to contact school directly.

Thank you for your continued support.

SCHOOL COUNCIL



Our School Councillors have been working on making sure every child's voice feel heard within our school. They have developed a suggestions box that now sits outside our dining hall, so that all children can write suggestions of any ideas or improvements they would like to see in school. They will check the box before each School Council meeting and we can discuss any suggestions.



Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is **FREE** to all our children in Reception to Year 6.

It opens at 8.00 am every school morning. Last entry to Breakfast Club is 8.30 am. There is always a selection of cereals, bagels, toast, sausage & beans, yoghurt, fresh fruit and drinks.

A big 'Thank You' to **Magic Breakfast** who supply us with bagels, cereal and juice and for our staff who look after our children.

Please do not drop your child off before 8.00 am as there are no staff available to look after them.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

If you require assistance to complete a school form/school application form, please contact the school office (0151 727 3963) or email finbars.rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk Our office staff will arrange a date and time for you to come to school and complete the paperwork with you.





Do not forget that our Pre-Loved Uniform 'shop' is always open.

Please ask at the school office or email the school office on (finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk) with your requests (e.g. item, sizes etc) and we will see what is available and get it ready for you to collect.



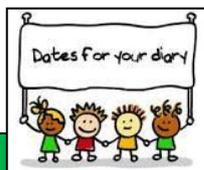
If you would like to donate any part of the school uniform or PE kit, it must be washed and in good condition. Please drop any donations to the school office. We have been able to help many of our families and will continue to do so.



If you wish to apply for a **Nursery** place at St Finbar's, please contact the school office on 0151 727 3963 or email finbars-rec@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk We currently have places available for children age 3+.

For places in any other year group, please contact the school office and they will inform you of the correct procedure to apply for a place.

Please contact the Local Authority admission on www.liverpool.gov.uk/admissions if you require a place for your child. You can also contact the school direct who will be able to assist you.



April 2026

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 1 st | Wednesday | Last Day of Term |
| 2 nd – 10 th | Thursday – Friday | Easter Holidays |
| 13 th | Monday | Children return to School. Breakfast Club is Available |
| 17 th | Friday | Year 4 Swimming Lessons Commence |
| 21 st | Tuesday | Superstarters Re-commences |
| 22 nd | Wednesday | Reception National Child Measurement Programme |
| 27 th | Monday | Year 6 SATs Parent/Carer Meeting, 2.50 pm |

May 2026

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 4 th | Monday | Bank Holiday: School Closed |
| 5 th | Tuesday | Children return to School. Breakfast Club is Available |
| | | Last Year 6 SATs Booster Session |
| 8 th | Friday | Year 4 Trip to Martin Mere |
| 11 th – 15 th | Monday – Friday | Year 6 SATs |
| 19 th | Tuesday | Year 5 Trip to Martin Mere |
| 20 th | Wednesday | Year 5 Visit King's Leadership Academy: Details to Follow |
| 21 st | Thursday | Themed Lunch 'Chippy Tea' |
| | | Last Day of Term |
| 22 nd – 1 st | Friday – Monday | School Closed for Half Term |

June 2026

| | | |
|------------------|----------|--|
| 2 nd | Tuesday | Children Return to School. Breakfast Club is Available |
| 5 th | Friday | Year 3 Swimming Lessons Commence: Details to Follow |
| 11 th | Thursday | Year 4 Sefton Park Palm House: Details to Follow |
| 19 th | Friday | Visit by Bishop Tom Neylon |
| 22 nd | Monday | Year 2 Trip to Martin Mere: Details to Follow |

July 2026

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| 1 st | Wednesday | Secondary School Induction Day |
| 10 th | Friday | Year 6 Trip to Martin Mere: Details to Follow |
| 17 th | Friday | Last Day of Term |
| 20 th | Monday | School Closed for Children: Staff Training Day |



Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Patrick
High Park Street, Toxteth, Liverpool L8 8DX
olmc@caol.org.uk
0151 727 1463



OLMC Tea/Coffee & Cake: Please join us after the 11.15 am Mass. Cup of tea/coffee and a slice of homemade cake, £1. Everyone welcome.

Mass Attendance Sheets: The attendance sheets at the back of church are for **all** parents/carers to sign each week to enable us to keep records for future reference for any faith forms for schools that we may be asked to fill in. These forms will give us an accurate record of attendance and will be kept for a minimum of 3 years.

Mount Carmel Parish Centre: If you would like to hire our function room for your event, please contact Ann Marie on 0151 727 1695.

OLMC Food Bank: Open every Wednesday, 9.00 am – 12 noon. If you can donate store cupboard items e.g. soup, pasta sauce, tinned tuna, meat and biscuits, please drop them off in church or the presbytery. Thank you.

First Holy Communion Date: Saturday 9th May at 12 noon for Holy Family and St Finbar's Catholic Primary School.

Important Notice First Holy Communions: Proof of Baptism is needed before your child can make their communion. If your child was baptised anywhere other than Mount Carmel or St Patrick's you will need to obtain a copy of the baptism from the church, they were baptised in. Please give your copy to Liz (Mount Carmel), The Sisters (St Patrick's) or to Fr Silviu or Anne (Parish Office). We need proof as soon as possible.

OLMC With You Always Programme (First Holy Communion)

Sessions start at 10 am prompt in the Church.

Session 6 Sunday 19th April

Session 7 Sunday 26th April

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please note that this programme is different from the 'Little Church' which takes place during Mass.

OLMC Parish Centre: Prize Bingo, Sunday 12th April, 2.00 pm. Please come along and join. All proceeds towards the Lourdes Fund.



We have been sent the following information from Unity in Community.

We are a charity based in Hull who aim to support the most vulnerable people in society. We were successful in a funding application for supporting people struggling to top up their pre-payment meters across the country. As the cost of living continues to rise, we are aware that many people will be struggling to make ends meet. Unity in Community are able to support households with fuel vouchers; these vouchers are sent via text message. We would like to offer this support to the parents, carers and guardians of students who attend your school.

Help Available - Gas & Electric: Unity in Community will be providing vouchers to help towards paying for gas and electricity. To qualify you must pay for your energy through a **prepayment meter** and have **not received energy vouchers from Unity in Community** within the past 12 months. This is in response to the ongoing cost of living crisis and beneficiaries can be working, unemployed, self-employed or retired. For more information and to register, call **01482 420836**, Monday to Friday, 9am – 3pm – if busy, please keep trying.

We look forward to working with you to support families through a challenging time.

Rhea McGowan
Project Coordinator

Unity in Community, 372 Greenwood Avenue, Hull, HU6 8AP

Tel: 01482852292

Company No. 3484285
Registered Charity No. 1075237

ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

UNDERSTANDING ONLINE STRANGERS & KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

ISSUE 22

ONLINE STRANGERS

Children can come into contact with strangers online through games, social media, and apps. Many of these platforms allow users to chat publicly or privately, making it easy for anyone to start conversations with your child.

Strangers might join group chats, send direct messages, or pretend to share similar interests to build a connection. It is important to be aware of how easily this contact can happen and to help children recognise when an interaction is not safe.



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE FROM ONLINE STRANGERS

- **Explain what a stranger is** – Help your child understand that someone they only know online is still a stranger, even if they seem friendly.
- **Use privacy settings** – Set accounts to private and turn off messages from people your child doesn't know.
- **Stay involved** – Ask your child to show you the apps and chats they have so you can understand their online activity.
- **Know how to report and block** – Show your child how to block users and report concerns within apps.

APP SPOTLIGHT - DISCORD



This week's platform spotlight is **Discord**. Discord is an online communication platform that has become a space for communities with diverse interests. It allows users to connect through voice, video, or text within chatrooms known as 'servers'. Servers can either be public or invite-only, meaning children can easily join public servers.

- Discord's minimum age is 13+, but is recommended for ages 17+.
- Discord does not moderate its servers, so users might encounter inappropriate content or discussions that are not suitable for children.

Scan the QR code to learn more:



UK Government

NHS

WRAP YOUR CHILDREN UP WITH THE BEST PROTECTION - VACCINATIONS

Are your child's vaccines up to date?
Check their red book or speak to their GP practice.

**STAY STRONG.
GET VACCINATED.**



Level 2 Education Support Course

STEP INTO THE CLASSROOM WITH OUR ONLINE SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

Liverpool City Region
Combined Authority



FREE
Fully-funded 8-week course Post-course certificate



Ofsted
Good Provider

Start date: 27th April 2026

Our Course:

 **Online**
Will be completed through Microsoft Teams, and will follow a flexible learning model (Monday to Friday)

Career Pathways:

- Teaching Assistant
- 1:1 Support Roles
- Lunch Time Supervisor
- & so many more!

What does it include?

 Level 2 Certificate in **Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health**

 Level 2 Certificate in **Understanding Autism**

“ Take that leap and go through with it. People will support you. It's for your own growth. Take that step - it will be okay! The confidence you will gain from this course is invaluable ”

ENROL TODAY

 0345 835 8146
adam.shearer@aspireeducationacademy.co.uk

