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# DAWPOOL CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*... The Abundant Life that Jesus Offers*

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## DAWPOOL NEWS

### ISSUE 1 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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**School Vision:** *The Dawpool community are united in their ambition to create a school which embodies the person, love and work of Jesus Christ: a school which enables Christian values to flourish and where all children may experience the abundant life that Jesus offers.*

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We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas. The children have settled back into school very well and it's been lovely hearing all about the exciting Christmas time they all had.

### **NEXT WEEK**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

3.30-4.30pm Multi Sports Club for F2 Y1 Y2

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

3.30-4.30pm Chess Club Y3-6

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

3.30pm-4.15pm Choir

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

### Communication

Regular communication between home and school is one of the most positive ways in which children can be supported through their school years, and we seek to encourage this dialogue wherever possible. We very much value your support and interest in your child's education.

Staff, including senior leadership, are present on the school gate each morning to greet families and to answer any questions. Parents and carers will continue to receive letters and email messages to keep you informed at the most appropriate time. For urgent messages we will use our text messaging service. We also have our school [website](#), [Twitter](#) feed and online [calendar](#) showing the latest information about school activities and events.

The Dawpool News is published every Friday and previous copies are archived on the school website [here](#).

Information about the curriculum and your child's current learning can be accessed through the [Curriculum](#) and [Class Pages](#) section of the school website.

All parents and carers are welcome to attend school social and community events and invitations to these events will come via newsletter, email, social media messages or

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correspondence from Friends of Dawpool School (FoDS).

Parents can contact their child's class teacher via the school office (telephone 0151 648 3412 or email

[schooloffice@dawpool.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@dawpool.wirral.sch.uk). Staff will do their best to make contact with you as soon as possible within their working hours.

Due to the high volume of emails received in school each day, it is not always possible to respond quickly. We will strive to respond to email as soon as possible. However, if you require a timely response, please telephone the school and speak with staff directly.

All pupil absences / appointments should be directed to the school office on 0151 648 3412 (option 1).

Parents' evenings will take place after half term and we will confirm the dates with parents shortly.

## ATTENDANCE

### Attendance

It is crucial that we monitor children's attendance closely, as those who attend school above 95% have the highest chance of success. In cases

where a pupil's attendance drops below 90%, the Department for Education identifies them as a 'Persistent Absentee,' a designation that can significantly impact their learning and progress. This week, we have written to parents of pupils who fall under this category.

We understand that sickness can happen, but it is still vital that all pupils have access to the high-quality education we provide. We ask for your support in ensuring your child's regular attendance at school.

### Mild illness and school attendance

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours). We ask parents to read [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#) for more information.

### Anxiety and school attendance

In addition to respiratory illnesses, children may be absent from school due to symptoms of anxiety. Worry and mild or moderate anxiety, whilst sometimes difficult emotions, can be a

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normal part of growing up for many children and young people. Being in school can often help alleviate the underlying issues. A prolonged period of absence is likely to heighten a child's anxiety about attending in the future, rather than reduce it. If your child is experiencing persistent symptoms of anxiety, please inform school at the earliest opportunity so that we can provide support.

### Family holidays and school attendance

To support excellent attendance of pupils, all of the Term Dates until **Summer 2025** can be found on the [council website](#) and on the [School Calendar](#).

Please note that family holidays will not be authorised in term time. This includes leaving school early on a Friday to facilitate weekend breaks. Unauthorised holidays will be reported to the local authority and a fixed penalty notice may be issued. All non-emergency appointments, including routine dental appointments, should be made out of school hours.

### Foundation 1 Classroom

Next week, we will begin the process of replacing the roof on the Foundation 1 classroom. If weather permits, the project should take approximately 2 weeks to complete. We have made arrangements to ensure that the school

day will continue uninterrupted, but a portion of the school car park will be designated for storage during this time. Our Foundation 1 pupils are currently happy and settled in their temporary classroom in the main school building. We are looking forward to completing the roof work and creating a smooth transition back to their original classroom in due course.

### WINTER WEATHER

It's the time of year when we may experience adverse weather conditions.

In the event of severe snow or ice first thing in the morning, please check to see if the school is open before travelling:

- A message will be posted on the homepage of the school's website from 7:30am.
- A message will be posted on the school's twitter feed from 7:30am.

If extreme weather develops during the school day, we will aim to remain open until the end of the normal school day. However, this may not always be possible. Parents should check to see if the school will remain open:

- A message will be posted on the homepage of the school's website.

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- A message will be posted on the school's twitter feed.
- An email will be sent to the primary contact.

Parents are expected to check the website, emails and Twitter feed when it is clear that a closure is a possibility. A copy of the school's **Adverse weather policy** can be found on our school website [here](#).

LEFT TO  
THEIR OWN  
DEVICES?

### Left to their own devices?

#### Confident Parenting in a Digital Age

In this ever-evolving digital age, it can feel overwhelming to keep up with our children's online activities. With technology advancing so rapidly, parents may sometimes feel that their children have more knowledge about the online world than they do.

To support our parents, we have created a new section on our school website called '**Left to Their Own Devices: Confident Parenting in a Digital Age.**' This section features 40 minutes of

video content, designed to help parents understand the online world that our children inhabit. It addresses common challenges and offers practical tips for parenting in a world of screens.

The video content includes:

- Confident Parenting in a Digital Age (10 minutes)
- The Challenge of Gaming (10 minutes)
- Contact, Conduct, and Content (4 minutes)
- Practical Ideas (6 minutes)
- Living Online (7 minutes)
- Session Notes Booklet (available for download)

You can access these informative videos on our school website [here](#).

#### F2 Admissions 2024

The deadline for applications for a school place for your child starting F2 in September 2024 is this coming **Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> January**. Please ensure you have completed your application via the Wirral council portal [here](#).

#### Healthy Snacks

We remind parents/carers that children should avoid bringing sweets, cakes or sugary snacks

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into school. Playtime snacks should be healthy options only. We have a [lunchbox policy](#) on our website that we would ask parents to be aware of. Thank you for your help.

#### Funded Mental Health Qualification

Attached with this week's Dawpool News is some information about a mental health awareness course that may be of interest.

## CHURCH NEWS

Sun 14th January Vision Sunday	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am All Age Service at St Chads
Sun 21st January	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's
Sun 28th January	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Chads 3.00pm Baptism of Zoe Pollock at St Bartholomew's

For more information about St Bartholomew's Thurstaston and St Chad's Irby, please visit:

#### Website:

<https://www.thurstaston.org.uk/>

#### Email:

[office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)

#### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stchadsstbarts/>

#### Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/StBartsStChads>

Please see below information about forthcoming events at St Chad's church.

## ARTY PARTY

BY REBECCA LE BROCC



Friday 8pm

15 March

## St Chad's Hall

Following a guided tutorial (all art supplies provided), by the end of the night you will have created your own acrylic painting on canvas for you to take home as a reminder of your fantastic night.

Price is £18.00 payable on booking.  
Wine, hot drinks & snacks provided.

Book via Church Office  
open Tuesday to Thursday mornings  
call 0151 648 8169  
or email [office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)

**\*\*\* Places limited book early \*\*\***

St Chad's Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH

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**Breakfast**

**Bring & Buy**

**Saturday 20th January**

**9.30am -11.30am**

**Toast & Teacakes**

**Hot and COLD drinks**



**St Chad's, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH**

Have a lovely weekend.

David Burrows  
Head Teacher

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