



18.7.2025

Dear Parents,

This is my final Friday letter for this academic year as there are only two days to go next week. I hope that you have found them useful. It is a good way to share news, to have the odd moan and to celebrate achievements. This week has been incredibly busy week with lots going on.

KS2 SAT Results

We were absolutely delighted with the achievements of our Year 6 who have worked so very hard to fulfil their potential. Thanks to Mrs Seville for her belief, dedication, drive and focus to ensure that every child succeeded. Thank you to Mrs Walker and to Mrs Cannavan and Mrs Harkness who have been on the Year 6 journey this year. Thank you too, to all the staff in school who have played a part in shaping these wonderful, young people.

PTFA – Summer Fair

I am delighted to share that the Summer Fair raised £2500 and with Match Funding from parents who work for Barclays that will rise to £4000. Thank you all for your contributions and support and thank you to the small but mighty PTFA team who pulled off yet another successful fair.

Peter Pan

What a fabulous way to celebrate our Year 6 this week. I was blown away by the acting, singing, dancing, confidence and talent on show. What a wonderful cohort of young people they are. Thank you to Mrs Seville, Mrs Walker, Mrs Ryan and Mrs Harkness for their direction. Thank you to all the staff involved in such a professional performance and for allowing the children to shine. Thank you to all of Year 5 who formed the chorus and who were integral to the success of the superb show.

Leavers' Mass

This morning we celebrated our Year 6 with a beautiful Mass. Thank you to Fr Paul for his lovely words. Thank you to Mrs Cannavan and Mrs Seville who organised the Mass. It was lovely to share such an occasion with families.

Tuesday 22nd July 2025 – We will be finishing at the normal time of 3pm on this day.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Children under 12 years can join in the Summer Reading Challenge at Cheshire West and Chester Council's libraries. **It is completely free** and I'd like to encourage as many children as possible to take part. This exciting new theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.

The details can be found on this link: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

REPORTS: Reports went home with children last week. You will have also received your child's registration certificate showing their attendance and late marks. Please acknowledge that you have received the report and comment on the slip provided. Your comments are most welcome.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

If, over the summer you wish to contact school, please be aware that the standard email addresses are not routinely checked. If you need to contact us with a safeguarding concern then please email: safeguarding@st-wilfrids.cheshire.sch.uk . This email address is checked, although not daily. In the case of an emergency you will need to contact the police using 999.

Non urgent emails will be forwarded to the admin@st-wilfrids.cheshire.sch.uk

As the academic year draws to a close.....

THE CHILDREN

The reason we do what we do. Each and every day we are blessed with their enthusiasm, their thirst for knowledge and faith, their resilience and determination, their humour and their care for each other and the world around them. As a staff we are so proud of all of their achievements this year.

Our wonderful year 6 have worked hard and played hard and their end of year performances and results showed everyone just how amazing they are. A highlight of the year for the staff and for Year Five & Year Six, was the residential experience where all the children left their comfort zones, were wonderful company and did themselves proud whilst making memories that will last.

PARENTS

Thank you for your support for your children, the staff in school, myself and our governors. Education works best when it has a strong practice of communication. We welcome your feedback when there is an issue and if you have any suggestions for how we can enhance our provision, please do let us know. Thank you to the many who have emailed or spoken to us to let us know how much you have enjoyed an event or appreciated a member of staff's intervention in something. The comments on the report slips have been a joy to read.

OUR GOVERNORS

Our superb champion, Mrs Morrissey, our Chair of Governors has been a constant source of advice, knowledge and support again this year. Always only a phone call away, we are blessed as her support for the children, staff and myself are a tangible example of her dedication to the role of Chair of Governors. We thank her for her commitment to this voluntary post and for the many, many hours she dedicates to it. Mrs Morrissey has once again been the Primary Chair of Governors representative on the Diocese Education Advisory Board and as such serves all Catholic primary schools in the Diocese with faith and wisdom.

Thank you to Mrs O'Hara our Vice Chair and all our other governors who have supported us throughout the year, serving on the various committees and meeting with staff to shape the School Development Plan. They have visited school to take part in activities, hear children read and they have accompanied us on school trips. Mrs O'Hara has led and supported our Mini Vinnies and her wealth of experience in education is a constant source of support for myself and the staff.

STAFF

I would like to thank our School Business Manager Mrs Bennett for always having my back. I could not do without her and her knowledge of school operations is second to none. She is also our Clerk to Governors and manages our school budget with expertise and an eye for detail. For half of this year, she has run the school office on her own which is a mark of her dedication to St Wilfrid's and her professionalism.

Our Deputy, Mrs Harkness, has been a constant support for me and the staff and a champion of our children. Working together with the staff on the curriculum and on teaching approaches, her insight and expertise are invaluable. Thank you.

Our SENCO Ms Davies for her expertise, experience and drive to ensure that all our children can access all areas of our curriculum and have the support they need to thrive. I am also so grateful that Ms Davies supported me and the staff for two terms as Acting Deputy this year alongside her other roles, a huge undertaking. Thank you.

Mrs Jackson, our Family Liaison Officer together with our ELSAs (Emotional Literacy Support Advisors) have worked in school with individual children and groups this year. Their support for children is key. Mrs Jackson's connection to our children and their families who may need an extra bit of support has made a huge difference to so many.

Our teachers and support staff have been nothing short of wonderful. I thank them for their dedication. The good progress made by all our children is testament to the staff in school for all their hard work. All our staff have supported our vulnerable children and those with additional needs and have done so with an understanding and dedication that I am constantly inspired by.

Mr Bennett and Mr and Mrs Apanasionak have been nothing short of wonderful in looking after our school and site. We are continuing with a programme of decoration and renewal, ensuring that the learning environments around school are bright and welcoming.

Thank you to the Parish team of Fr Paul and Sr Phyllis who have celebrated many Masses with us this year. We appreciate your visits to school and the care and spiritual guidance you give to us and our children.

Thank you to our EBNOC team led by Donna Burstons and her Deputy Kat Eccles for their hard work this year. The provision they offer with the wide variety of opportunities is so important for our families.

Thank you to our MDA's, Mrs Ackerley and Miss Thompson who also work in EBNOC and Mrs Jayawardena. Thank you to our kitchen team who look after our children so well. Our team of cleaners led by Shirley have kept us tidy and clean and always go that extra mile.

Special thanks to Mrs Ackerley for running our Thursday morning 'Toddler Group' with such creativity and enthusiasm. Another successful year.

I have said a lot about our wonderful PTFA this year and I would like to thank them again for all of the opportunities they give to our children. Our small but hopefully growing team of parents have organised discos, surprise rooms, SATs party, the Summer and Christmas Fairs and the End of Year Party for our Year 6. In addition, they have funded lots of resources and events such as the Year 6 Leavers' Book for our Year 6 children to treasure.

GOODBYE & THANK YOU – For some of our Year 6 families this is their last year associated with St Wilfrid's. For some, the association has been long with several children having attended our school. We wish them well and thank them for their support over the years. Goodbye and good luck to the following families:

***Adeleye, Buckhurst, Bulut, Comorasu, Elcoat, Esclamado, George,
Gleave, Harradine, Hayward, Knight, Li, Ocado, Oldham-Whitehead,
Sasinska, Sommerville, Whiston, Wilkinson and Zeng.***

Have a wonderful weekend and a lovely summer break when it arrives. See you all on Monday morning.

Take care. God Bless.

Justine McEniff Headteacher

A Blessing for Leavers

Lord of friendship, walk with our leavers

As you walked with the uncertain disciples on the road,

Give them the comfort of your presence,

Help them to grow in understanding of your ways

And to know that you are with them

Even when they might not recognise you.

Remind them from time to time

Of the values they have learned

At St Wilfrid's, the memories of their years here,

The friendships formed, the lessons learned, the laughter,

The fears, the struggles, the triumphs,

The knowledge gained.

Bless them as they seek to discover

The kind of person you want them to be,

The path in life you wish them to take,

The plans you have for them, for their welfare and not for harm,

The contribution they can make to the world

To make it more just, more kind, more compassionate

Just for them being in it.

Bless them as they leave us

With the confidence and energy of youth

To face a world which needs their integrity, their joy, their hope.

And in the words of the ancient blessing

May the road rise up to meet them.

May the sun shine warm upon their faces,

And, until we meet again,

May you hold them in the palm of your hand.

Adapted from a Raymond Friel blessing.