

School finishes for Christmas break on Friday 13th December at 12 noon.
School reopens for children on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Please click on the links below for further news and useful information

Website Home Page Avalon School Home Page

Latest News & Stories Latest News

Weekly Newsletters

Parents' Area Letters to Parents/Carers - Letter & Documents

Term Dates 2024/25 2025/26 - Term Dates

Calendar Dates

Before & After School Fun Activities

Calendar Dates

PTA News & Event



J	CELEBI	RATING ACHIE	EVEMENTS	
	1412 T		N. S.	
	St Andrew	St David	St George	St Patrick
		House Points	3	
	276	240	308	230
	Total Hous	se Points for the	Year To-Date	
	2060	1775	2348	2278
		Merit Badges	S	
Reception Year 1 Year 2	TJ	НВ	JM	
Year 3				IC
Year 4 Year 5		FC		FL
Year 6		TD	ZB	

Reception AR Year 1 TR Year 2 HN Year 3 EJ Year 4 OS Year 5 SS Year 6 HW

Headteachers Awards



Year 4 SA EMCK

NP

Year 5 AC

RP

Year 6 CR

Mathletics Pupil of the Week



Infants JAR Lower Juniors (Y3-Y4) LGR

Upper Juniors (Y5-Y6) CS

Reading Star!



Reception MW
Year 1 VRF
Year 2 IP
Year 3 LGR
Year 4 EMCK
Year 5 CP
Year 6 NS

Golden Table						
Rec	WK	Y1	OQ	Y2	DK	
Y3	EJ	Y4	NP	Y5	EH	
		Y6	LS			

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS

Extra-Curricular Clubs



EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS HAVE NOW FINISHED FOR THE REST OF THIS TERM.

Details of the Extra-curricular clubs on offer for the Spring term 2025 will be shared with parents in due course.

After School Care is available at the usual rates.

Safeguarding



Dear Parents/Carers,

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils, we kindly remind you that parents and carers should only enter the school buildings when **With a member of staff**

You have shared a valid Enhanced DBS check with the school

This is a vital part of our safeguarding procedures and helps us maintain a secure environment for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

PTA - Christmas Jumper & Other Christmas Clothing



Avalon PTA have set up a clothing rail in the Nursery Foyer with Christmas Jumpers and/or other Christmas clothing items for sale. We would suggest a donation of £2.00 or more per item! If you would like to purchase any of the donated items, an honesty box will be available in the Foyer (cash is the preferred payment option) however you can also make a payment via bank transfer. Please see bank details below:

A/C Name: Avalon PTA A/C N°: 00100455 SC: 60-23-17 Ref: Christmas

Thank you for all your support

PTA Christmas Raffle Tickets



A reminder to retain raffle tickets and return ticket stubs, payment and any unsold tickets by **Monday 2**nd **December 2024**. Please try and sell as many tickets as possible. All funds raised directly benefit all children at Avalon School.

Cash or cheques payable to "Avalon School Parent Teacher Association".

Please see below some of the fabulous prizes you could win this year!

- Hamper donated by Obsidian Networks (Avalon School's IT Consultants)
- John Lewis & Waitrose Gift Voucher donated by Apex Connected (Avalon School's Photocopier Supplier)
- Shopping Gift Voucher donated by Johnsons 1871 Hygiene & Clean (Avalon School's Cleaning Contractor)
- Bottle of Gin donated by EnviroSport (Avalon School's Astro Maintenance Contractor)
- Bottles & Chocolates donated by IPC (Avalon's School Environmental Maintenance Contractor)
- Everton Football Club merchandise donated by Mr Callaway and Everton Football Club
- Gift Voucher donated by Hickory's Smokehouse Restaurant
- Gift Vouchers donated by Bubbles' World of Play

HELP NEEDED PTA Christmas Fair Raffle Prizes PRIZE DONATIONS



The PTA need your help with donations of raffle prizes, these can be bottles of wine, prosecco, spirits, boxes of chocolates or sweets, toiletry sets, stationery sets, selection boxes, vouchers etc.

If you are able to donate a prize, please bring it to the School Office from Monday 2nd December.

If you are donating alcohol this must be brought to the School Office by an adult on Friday 6th December only.

Thank you for your support!

Bags of Sweets for the Lucky Dip Stall



Can you help the PTA? One of the stalls at this year's Children's Christmas Fair is a sweetie lucky dip stall. Please could you help by donating bags of sweets big or small. Any donations can be brought to the school office.

Many thanks for your help and support.

PTA Children's Christmas Fair Friday 6th December 2024



The PTA will again be putting on a Children's **ONLY** Christmas Fair on Friday 6th December 2024 which will be run during school time with the children ready for their normal pick-up times at the end of the school day.

At this year's fair, the PTA are delighted to announce that amongst the many other exciting stalls and games there will be a face painting stall available for the children to get in the festive spirit with Christmas themed designs. Should you not wish your child to have their face painted we would be most grateful if you could inform the school office no later than 9am on Friday 6th December 2024.

The children may bring a maximum of £10 to spend at the fair.

The children should wear their normal school uniform (including Year 6 – no PE) and wear a Christmas jumper on top if they wish.

All children from Nursery to Year 6 will be visiting Santa's grotto in the morning.

For more information, please click on the link below:

PTA Children's Christmas Fair Letter

Reverse Advent Calendar



Earlier in the term the Year 6 children visited St George's Church in Liverpool as part of the RE curriculum. During their visit they found out that the church runs a Food Pantry for the local community.

The Local Pantry is a network of membership food shops across the UK, who help communities provide affordable food and bring people together in a preventative approach to food poverty.

The Year 6 children would like to support St George's Food Pantry especially as we approach the Christmas period which can be a difficult time for many. With this in mind, we are running a Reverse Advent Calendar over the next few weeks and would be grateful for any donations of food items from the list below:

Tins of beans	Tins of spaghetti
Tins of marrow fat peas	Tins of potatoes
Any tinned fish	Tinned meat such as chilli, mince
_	etc
Packs of noodles	Pot noodles
Tins of custard	Tins of rice pudding

Jars of jam	Packets of biscuits	
Breakfast cereals including porridge oats and Ready Brek		

Donations should be brought to the collection point outside the school office. As always, we thank you for your support.

Christmas Bauble Decoration Competition Deadline for Entries – Monday 2nd December 2024



The children have taken home a Christmas Baubles to decorate our school Christmas Tree. We will again be running a competition for each child to decorate a Christmas bauble to be placed on the tree in the School Office Foyer. The winning decoration from each class will be announced at the PTA Christmas Fair and winners will each receive a prize.

To enter the competition:

- 1. Decorate the bauble provided
- 2. Attach the label provided, to the bauble, clearly marked with the child's name and class
- 3. Return the decorated bauble, label and a £2 donation in the envelope provided, to the School Office to complete your entry
- 4. Competition winners will be announced at the PTA Christmas Fair.

All competition entries must be returned to school with a £2 donation by Monday 2nd December to be entered into the competition.

Reception Class Visit to Caldy Manor Care Home Tuesday 3rd December 2024



The residents of Caldy Manor Care Home have invited our Reception Class children to visit them during the afternoon of Tuesday 3rd December to take part in lots of fun activities including; crafts, stories and singing. The children will then enjoy some juice and biscuits too.

The children will be travelling to Caldy Manor in their minibus. We would therefore be grateful if parents could provide a suitable car seat for the journey on the morning of the visit.

School uniform must be worn, including blazers but not school hats.

For more information, and to access the consent form, please click on the link below:

Reception Visit to Caldy Manor Care Home Letter

Year 5 & Year 6 Carol Singing at Hickory's Smokehouse West Kirby



As part of Hickory's Christmas Celebrations this year, the school has been invited to send a group of children from Year 5 and Year 6 to help them get in the festive spirit by singing Christmas Carols and Songs on the afternoon of Tuesday 3rd December 2024 in the restaurant to entertain their customers and staff.

Family and friends are welcome to along to support the children during the performance.

Nursery & Pre-School Nativity Wednesday 4th December 2024 at 2pm



We would like to invite you to the Nursery and Pre-School nativity on Wednesday 4th December at 2pm in the school hall. Refreshments will be available.

If your child does not normally attend sessions on a Wednesday, we would be most grateful if you could bring them to school at 1.30pm ready for the start of the nativity at 2pm.

Thank you for your support and we do hope that you will be able to join us.

Infant (Reception to Year 2) Christmas Concert Thursday 5th December 2024



We would like to invite you to the Infant Christmas Concert on Thursday 5th December at 2pm in the school hall. Refreshments will be available.

Thank you for your support and we do hope that you will be able to join us at the concert.

PTA Children's Christmas Fair Friday 6th December 2024



The PTA will again be putting on a Children's **ONLY** Christmas Fair on Friday 6th December 2024 which will be run during school time with the children ready for their normal pick-up times at the end of the school day.

At this year's fair, the PTA are delighted to announce that amongst the many other exciting stalls and games there will be a face painting stall available for the children to get in the festive spirit with Christmas themed designs. Should you not wish your child to have their face painted we would be most grateful if you could inform the school office no later than 9am on Friday 6th December 2024.

The children may bring a maximum of £10 to spend at the fair.

The children should wear their normal school uniform (including Year 6 – no PE) and wear a Christmas jumper on top if they wish.

All children from Nursery to Year 6 will be visiting Santa's grotto in the morning.

To help make this event successful the PTA need your help with donations of raffle prizes, these can be bottles of wine, prosecco, spirits, boxes of chocolates or sweets, toiletry sets, stationery sets, selection boxes, vouchers etc.

The PTA also need donations of small packets of wrapped sweets such has mini packs of Haribo sweets or the like for the sweet tombola stall.

If you are able to donate a prize or sweets, please bring it to the School Office from Monday 2nd December. If you are donating alcohol this must be brought to the School Office by an adult on Friday 6th December only.

Reception Walk to the Post Office Friday 6th December 2024



The children in Reception Class will shortly be busy writing letters to Father Christmas. Weather permitted the children will be walking to the post box on Friday 6th December in the morning, to send their letters off to the North Pole. If you have any objections and would rather your child did not take part in this activity, please inform Mrs Daniel or the School Office by 9am on Friday 6th December. A first aider will also be accompanying the children on the visit.

Lunch Menu



Lunch menu for the week commencing 2nd December 2024



Click on the following link for our Lunch Menus

Favourite Meal of the Week		
Main	Chicken Korma & Rice	
Pudding	Chocolate Crunch	

Lunch Menu

Week Commencing 9th December 2024



Lunch menu for the week commencing 9th December 2024



Click on the following link for our Lunch Menu

Year 3 to Year 6 Storyhouse Theatre Trip Tuesday 10th December 2024



We have booked for all the children in Year 3 to Year 6 to see a stage production of Sleepy Beauty at the Storyhouse Theatre, Chester. The cost of the trip will be £19.00 which includes the coach and theatre ticket. School will provide the children with a drink and a snack. The coach will leave school at 9.15am and will return to school in time for lunch. There will be no need for any spending money and children must wear the full school winter uniform including blazers but not school hats.

To enable your child to attend the trip, we would be grateful if you could complete and return the attached consent form below and make the necessary arrangements to pay the £19.00 no later than **Monday 2**nd **December 2024.**

For more information, please click on the link below:

Year 3 to Year 6 Storyhouse Theatre Trip Letter

Nursery, Pre-School & Infant Christmas Parties Tuesday 10th December 2024



The children in Nursery, Pre-School, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having their Christmas parties on Tuesday 10th December in the afternoon. The children will be enjoying to some festive treats made by our fabulous Catering Team and a visit from Santa himself.

Children should come to school in their party clothes (i.e., a non-uniform day). Please ensure that the children have a suitable winter coat for breaktimes.

For Nursery and Pre-School children who don't normally attend on a Tuesday, they would be very welcome to join in the fun and we would ask that you bring them to Nursery/Pre-School at 1.30pm and collected at 3.15pm.

Christmas Jumper & Whole School Christmas Lunch Day Wednesday 11th December 2024



We have decided to hold a Christmas Jumper Day again this year to coincide with our Christmas Lunch Day to make the event feel that extra bit more festive. The whole school will be enjoying our Christmas lunch with all the trimmings on Wednesday 11th December.

We would therefore kindly ask for a small donation of £1.00 to the PTA for each child, to be brought in on the day, if they would like to wear a Christmas jumper and their own clothes (i.e., a non-uniform day). For ease of handling money, we would be most grateful if donations could be brought into school in a named envelope.

We thank you for your support.

Christmas Celebration Rehearsal Thursday 12th December 2024

Rehearsal



The children in Reception to Year 6 will be walking to St Bridget's Church on the morning of Thursday 12th December for a rehearsal in readiness for a Christmas Celebration on Friday. Please ensure that your child(ren) has an extra layer of clothing under their normal uniform, as the church can be quite cold.

Christmas Celebration Service at St Bridget's Church Friday 13th December 2024 at 10am



We warmly invite you to join us for a Christmas Celebration Service on the last morning of term, Friday 13th December at 10am. The service will finish at approximately 11am.

Breakfast Club will be available on Friday 13th December; however, After School Care will not be available due to the School finishing at 12 noon.

Staff will escort children in Reception to Year 6 to church and they should arrive at school, at the normal time. Children will need their school blazers and an extra layer of clothing under their normal school uniform as it can be a little cold in church. Children in Nursery and Pre-School will continue with their normal routine at school.

A collection will be made during the Christmas service. We would kindly ask that you send in a small new toy, gift, or sweets, with your child. Gifts should be left unwrapped. The gifts will be placed at the front of church during the service, to support and help underprivileged children have a happier Christmas.

After the service the gifts will be transported to the Charles Thompson Mission in Birkenhead to help them with their charitable work. The Mission will pass the gifts on to where they are most needed. They will match the present to children of the right age and gender and then wrap them before delivery.

If you wish to collect your child(ren) from the church service, please indicate on the slip below. Otherwise, staff will escort the children back to school, for the earlier finishing time of 12 noon. Please note that the After School Club service will not be available on this day.

Please complete the consent form and return it to the school office by **Monday 9th December**, indicating your collection arrangements for this day.

For more information, please click on the link below:

St Bridget's Celebration Service Letter

Year 6 Residential to Petty Pool Monday 12th to Wednesday 14th May 2025



We have reserved places for a Year 6 residential to Petty Pool Outdoor Centre in Cheshire. You may remember that the children visited Petty Pool in Year 5 as part of a day trip but we have been offered the opportunity to have a residential there.

A residential at the centre offers the opportunity to do different activities to the day package. Firstly, unlike some previous Year 6 residentials, we will have sole occupancy of the centre which will allow the children to relax in their surroundings and our school staff will be able to tailor evening timings and events to suit our group. Secondly, there are a number of different activities that will be available which were not possible during our day visit. We are currently putting together the programme of activities for the children and will be able to give more details at the parents' information meeting after Christmas.

The centre offers dormitory accommodation in a variety of room sizes (from 4-6) and during their stay all pupils will have the opportunity to

take part in a huge variety of activities. The visit will also give the children the opportunity of developing their personal and social skills.

All the staff at the centre are suitably qualified to instruct the various activities and all specialist equipment is provided by the centre. At the moment we are finalising some pricing, but it is anticipated that the total cost of the residential will be around £260. This will include the cost of all travel, meals, insurances, accommodation, all activities and the use of the facilities. We would like all children to attend the residential as we believe it forms an important part of their social development and will also develop skills in numerous areas including Outdoor Adventurous Activities, which is part of the P.E. curriculum.

To enable your child to attend the residential trip, we would be grateful if you could complete and return the attached consent form below and make the necessary arrangements to pay the £25.00 holding deposit no later than **Monday 2**nd **December 2024.**

More details will be sent out when available and a meeting regarding this visit will be held after Christmas for parents and children to find out more about the trip.

For more information, please click on the link below:

Year 6 Residential Trip to Petty Pool Letter

School Finish for Christmas

Friday 13th December at 12 noon



School finishes for the Christmas break on Wednesday 13th December at 12 noon. There will be no After School Care available from 12pm.

Breakfast club will be available as usual from 7.45am

Christmas Break

Monday 16th December 2024 to Monday 6th January 2025



School is closed for the Christmas break from Friday 13th December at 12 noon and reopens to children on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

We hope you have a very happy Christmas and peaceful new year.

Spring Term 2025 Tuesday 7th January 2025



The Children return to school on Tuesday 7th January 2025 at the usual time.

Breakfast club will be available from 7.45am.

Parking & Driving Around School



To help keep all members of our school community and our wider community safe please remember <u>not to park on the zig-zag lines</u> outside school when dropping off or picking up children and to aid visibility please avoid parking on the road directly outside school. We would also ask any parents using Warwick Drive to be <u>extra careful and aware of pedestrians</u> using this route to access school.

It would also be much appreciated if parents consider the through traffic along Caldy Road and avoid attempting U-turns in the road. These sorts of manoeuvres in the road can be particularly dangerous for all road users and pedestrians during these busy times of day.

We thank you for your continued support and understanding as we all adapt to different routines.

Scooters and Bicycles



It is lovely to see children coming to school on their bicycles and scooters in the morning. However please could we ask that bicycles and scooters are not left on the school ground during the day for safety reasons.

Many thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

Earrings in School



It has come to our attention that there are a number of children wearing earrings in school. Our uniform policy states that for health and safety reasons no jewellery with the exception of a watch may be worn in school.

Therefore, we would be grateful if you could remind children to remove earrings and any other jewellery before coming to school.

We understand that a number of children have only recently had their ears pierced and although it is not ideal, in this instance could we ask parents/carers to ensure that earrings are covered each morning with plasters.

Once the 6-week healing process is complete the earrings should be removed and not worn during school time.

Start of the Day Arrangements



Before school club is from 7.45am to 8.30am. Children attending before school club should enter the hall via the main school glass entrance doors.

From 8.30am to 8.45am parents may drop children off at the school gate which will be manned by Avalon staff. Alternatively parents and carers who may wish to bring their child onto the school site and drop their child off at the allocated entrance doors.

For Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, this will be at the main glass entrance doors. For all Junior children, Year 3 to Year 6, this will be at the front door of the junior building.

Arriving late to School



Late attendance (after 8.45am). If your child is late coming into school, we then ask that parents ring the intercom for assistance and bring their child directly into the school office for registrations.

End of the Day Arrangements



Children's collection arrangements will be as follows:

Year Group	Collection Time	Collect From
Nursery &	At the end of	Nursery Entrance
Pre-School	session	,
Reception	3.05pm	Nursery Entrance
Year 1	3.05pm	Nursery Entrance
Year 2	3.05pm	Side door by the Hall
Year 3	3.40pm	Junior House Front Door
Year 4	3.40pm	Junior House Front Door
Year 5	3.40pm	Main School Glass Entrance
Year 6	3.40pm	Main School Glass Entrance

PE Days



Below are the days that the children will be having their PE Lessons. Children should come into school dressed in their full PE kit on their designated PE days. Please could we also request that children have their School Blazer or Waterproof Coat with them, particularly as the weather will soon be turning much cooler. Hats and Caps will not be required on designed PE kit days

Year Group	PE Day
Reception	Tuesday
Year 1	Monday
Year 2	Monday
Year 3	Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday
Year 5	Wednesday
Year 6	Friday

IMPORTANT REMINDER Breaktime Snacks



We have a number of children in Avalon School with severe allergies. It is vitally important to ensure the health and safety of all the children that only fruit, cheese and vegetables are brought into school for break time snacks.

Snacks which are high in salt, sugar and fat such as salted popcorn, crisps, fruit winders and other sugary snacks are not appropriate to be brought into school.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Wet Play Bags



As we start a new academic year, if any children need a new wet bag play, please contact the school office via email school.co.uk. New wet play bags are charged at £5.00 each.

All children in Reception and new children throughout the main school will be provided with a wet play bag and instructions as to what can be included.

Avalon School Water Bottles



Should any children need a new Avalon School water bottle, please contact the school office via email schooloffice@avalon-school.co.uk. New water bottles are charged at £2.75 each.

Uniform Supplier

UNIFORMITYSchoolwear

Uniform can be purchased from Uniformity Clothing using the link below:

http://www.uniformityschools.com/

Pre-Loved Uniform



Pre-Loved Uniform If you have any requests for uniform please email on uniformpta@gmail.com Whilst we are now in a position to accept donations, please can you make sure that all items donated are wearable and not threadbare, and clean. Also, we can **only** accept the following Avalon specific uniform:

- Blazers/Black Raincoats
- Caps/Hats/Boaters
- Brown V Neck Jumpers/Cardigans
- Brown PE Sweatshirts/Joggers
- Tunics/Summer Dresses

Please leave with the School Office. Thank you.

Scam Emails Warning

We have been made aware by the Independent Schools Council of recent email scams involving people posing as prospective parents to try to gain access to school details including logo's, email templates etc. This information is then fraudulently used to scam parents into making payments into their accounts. If you do receive an email of this nature or if you are unsure about an email, we would be most grateful if you could contact the school immediately.

Please be assured that our own bank account details have not and will not, for the foreseeable future, change. Avalon School does not send out emails regarding unsolicited discount rates. Any emails you receive containing invoices or statements will be sent from either accounts@avalon-school.co.uk or annevans@avalon-school.co.uk

Term Date 2024-2025



2024-2025

Autumn Term		
Staff Training Days	Monday 2 nd & Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	
Term Starts	Wednesday 4 th September 2024	
Half-Term	Monday 21 st October to Friday 1 st November 2024	
Ends	Friday 13 th December 2024 12 noon finish	
Spring Term		
Staff Training Day	Monday 6 th January 2025	
Term Starts	Tuesday 7 th January 2025	
Half-Term	Monday 17 th February to Friday 21 st February 2025	
Ends	Friday 28 th March 2025 Normal finish time	
	Summer Term	
Staff Training Day	Monday 14 th April 2025	
Term Starts	Tuesday 15 th April 2025	
Easter Bank Holiday	Friday 18 th & Monday 21 st April 2025	
May Day	Monday 5 th May 2025	
Half-Term	Monday 26 th May to Friday 30 th May 2025	
Ends	Friday 11 th July 2025 Normal finish time	

2025-2026

Autumn Term	Autumn Term		
Staff Training Days	Monday 1 st & Tuesday 2 nd September 2025		
Term Starts	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025		
Half-Term	Monday 20 th October to Friday 31 st October 2025		
Ends	Friday 12 th December 2025 12 noon finish		
Spring Term			
Staff Training Day	Monday 5 th January 2026		
Term Starts	Tuesday 6 th January 2026		
Half-Term	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February 2026		
Ends	Friday 27 th March 2026 Normal finish time		
Summer Term			
Staff Training Day	Monday 13 th April 2026		
Term Starts	Tuesday 14 th April 2026		
May Day	Monday 4 th May 2026		
Half-Term	Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May 2026		
Ends	Friday 10 th July 2026 Normal finish time		



Should you have any concerns or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Avalon School, Caldy Road, West Kirby, CH48 2HE Tel: 0151 625 6993

Email: schooloffice@avalon-school,co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs J Callaway <u>icallaway@avalon-school.co.uk</u>



December

Wednesday 4th

Thursday 5th Friday 6th

Monday 2nd Last day to hand in baubles for the Christmas Decoration Competition

Final day to return PTA raffle tickets

Tuesday 3rd Reception Class visit to Caldy Manor Care Home

Year 5 & 6 Carol singing at Hickory's Smoke House West Kirby

Nursery & Pre-School Nativity at 2pm

Infant (Reception to Year 2) Christmas Concert at 2pm

PTA Children's Christmas Fair

Reception walk to the Post Box Tuesday 10th

Year 3 to Year 6 Storyhouse Theatre Trip

Nursery, Pre-School, and Infant Christmas Parties

Wednesday 11th Christmas Jumper & Whole School Christmas Lunch Day Thursday 12th Friday 13th December Christmas Celebration Rehearsal at St Bridget's Church Christmas Celebration Service at St Bridget's Church

12 NOON FINISH NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE AVAILABLE

Monday 16th December to Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 7th January 2025

January

Monday 6th Staff INSET day

Tuesday 7th Children return to school



