



ST ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wellington Road
Nantwich
Cheshire
CW5 7DA
Tel. 01270 260783

3rd November 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We know everyone is feeling the pinch this winter and we want to support those families in our school community who are impacted the most. If you're struggling with your finances, please do get in touch to let us know, as there may be things we can suggest which will help. We want to do everything we can to help you and your child through this difficult winter.

Mrs Ashbrooke, our school business manager, may be able to give you some support or advice. Please contact her for advice, to arrange to come in for a confidential chat or simply to talk.

01270 260783 or office@stannes.cheshire.sch.uk

Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB)

You don't have to be a UK citizen to get support from your local CAB, you just need to be a resident of the local area. The CAB can help you with:

- > Getting benefits or other financial support organised
- > Accessing support for essential costs (food, bills, rent)

Visit the [Citizens Advice's](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/) website or contact your local branch on <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/> to book an appointment

Check you're paying the right amount of tax

Make sure you're on the right tax code. If you aren't you might be due a refund. Use the [Money Saving Expert's](#) free tax code calculator to find out.

Claim any benefits you're entitled to

Use 1 of these benefits calculators to determine whether there are any benefits you could be claiming:

- > [Turn2us](#)
- > [Policy in Practice](#)

➤ [Support for migrant families](#) – use this calculator if you are a migrant family, or if you have no recourse to public funds

You may be able to get benefits paid early if you're already feeling the squeeze - this is known as 'a short-term benefit advance' - you will need to contact the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) office that's dealing with your claim.

Check you've received all the government's cost of living payments

The government's [cost of living payment](#) is available for those receiving certain benefits or tax credits. You don't need to apply for these – if you're eligible the money should go straight into your account.

If you think you're due a payment, but haven't received one – [report a missing payment](#) to the government here.

Be aware of scams! If you receive any emails, texts or phone calls asking you to fill in an application form or asking for your bank details to receive a cost of living payment, **do not talk to them or send a reply**. Get more information on [cost of living scams](#) on the Money Saving Expert's website

Find out what help you can get with your energy bills

Take a look at these resources from [Simple Energy Advice](#), the [British Gas Energy Trust](#) and the [Money Saving Expert](#) website.

Let us know if your child is entitled to free school meals (FSM)

If your child is eligible for free school meals (FSM) you need to get them registered. This will allow them to get a free meal at school, and we'll get extra funding to support your child's learning.

[CLICK HERE](#) to find out if you are eligible for Free School Meals.

Cheshire East

Have a look at Cheshire East's cost of living page for further support and advice.

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/education-employment-and-money/money-matters/Cost-of-living.aspx>

Get free or low-cost food

If you're worried about not having enough food to feed your family, you're not alone. There are a number of places offering support.

- If you have a child under 4, and meet the eligibility criteria, you may be entitled to [healthy start food vouchers](#)
- Nantwich foodbank – school can refer you to the foodbank. Please contact Mrs Ashbooke if you would like support with this.

Further information

- Contact [StepChange](#), if you're struggling with debt
- Contact [Shelter](#) if you're having issues related to housing
- Get free household goods on [Freecycle](#)
- Contact the [Salvation Army](#) for emergency assistance
- See if you're eligible for [grants from Turn2us](#)
- Single parents can get support from [Gingerbread](#)

Yours Sincerely

N. Ferguson
Headteacher