

Monday 16th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: End of term Christmas letter and preparations for the new year

As we approach the festive season and the end of another productive term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the achievements and progress our students have made this year. It has been an extraordinary term, filled with learning, growth, and memorable experiences for everyone in our school community.

First and foremost, I would like to commend our students for their hard work and dedication. They have demonstrated resilience, curiosity, and creativity in their studies, making remarkable strides in their academic pursuits. Whether excelling in classwork, participating in collaborative projects, or improving in challenging subjects, their efforts have not gone unnoticed. In addition, I would like to thank our staff for their dedication and commitment to the academic and pastoral progress of each individual student.

Regarding academic achievements, I would like to pass on my congratulations to the ten Sixth Form students who secured BioGrad scholarships during Year 13 with the University of Liverpool. This achievement will support their next steps at degree level in biomedical science. Additionally, we have candidates applying for Oxbridge places, with interviews taking place over the next few weeks.

Starting in January 2025, we will welcome our next cohort of Year 7 and Year 8 Scholars to participate in a project assignment with a PhD tutor as part of The Brilliant Club Scholars Programme. Other highlights include students collaborating with legal teams, exploring the world of international peace, attending theatre trips, participating in the Year 7 Advent Service at the Metropolitan Cathedral, competing in the Merseyside Police Cyber Challenge, and engaging in the national mentoring programme with Girls Out Loud. Additional achievements include young poet awards, ongoing work with The White Ribbon organisation, the Flowers roadshow performance to tackle violence against women and girls, and an opportunity to meet with Baroness Lister of Burtersett, a member of the House of Lords.

We also celebrate the accomplishments of staff involved in the SEND Advocate project to support inclusivity, as well as the phenomenal Christmas production of *Grease the Musical*! This term, many of our students also embraced opportunities to develop personally and socially. Through teamwork, perseverance, and a commitment to kindness, they have fostered a supportive and respectful school environment, living out the Notre Dame values that we all hold dear.

As parents and guardians, your support and encouragement have played a vital role in these accomplishments. Whether it was ensuring they were prepared for school, cheering them on from the sidelines, or guiding them through challenges, your partnership with us has been invaluable. At the end of this year, we will say farewell to Miss Lucass, teacher of Business Studies, Mrs Monks, teacher of Science and Year 10 Progress Leader, and Miss Collins, temporary Psychology teacher. May I take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work and support. As a school community, we wish them the very best of luck for the future. In January 2025, we will welcome Mr Atkinson, experienced teacher of Psychology and Criminology, to the Social Studies Team.

We also appreciate that Christmas can be a very difficult time for parents and children. Our aim is to provide valuable information and resources to help parents and caregivers navigate through any challenges they may face. The Liverpool Parenting newsletter includes a wide range of topics and services that can assist individuals in times of need. Some of the key highlights of this edition include access to a Family Hub and Children Centres, Domestic Abuse support, Education Wonderhub Activities, Foodbanks, Mental Health, Money Management and Financial Help. Our weekly newsletter includes key contact details for families in times of crisis. If you require any support over the Christmas period which is urgent, please contact safeguarding@stjulies.org.uk.

All students will return to school from 8:30am on Tuesday 7th January 2025. Key events throughout the new term can be accessed via the school website or MCAS (My Child At School App). Jan 2025 to Feb half-term – key dates:

		INSET Day 3
06/01/2025	Monday	
		Notre Dame theme of: Joy
07/01/2025	Tuesday	Students return to school at 8:30am
		Weekly Mass – 8:10am in the
10/01/2025	Friday	Chapel
		Year 7 and 8 Scholars'
13/01/2025	Monday	Programme begins
		Notre Dame theme of: Joy
13/01/2025	Monday	Year 13 Mocks begin
		Notre Dame theme of: Joy
		Year 7-13 STEPS CEIAG am reg
20/01/2025	Monday	session 8
		Junior 1804 School Council
20/01/2025	Monday	meetings
		Year 11 Parents' Evening – 3.45-
		6.45pm (school finishes 3pm)
22/04/2025	T I I	Year 11 MOCK Grades published
23/01/2025	Thursday	to parents and students
		Year 8 Humanutopia – this focuses
20/01/25	Thursday	on peer pressure, social media and
30/01/25	Thursday	healthy relationships
		Notre Dame theme of: Joy Start of Year 11 Interviews for
03/02/2025	Monday	Sixth Form
03/02/2023	Monuay	Notre Dame theme of: Joy
10/02/2025	Monday	Notre Dame theme of: Joy National Apprenticeship Week
10/02/2023	wonday	20 th Anniversary of Sr Dorothy
12/02/2025	Wednesday	Stang death
12/02/2023	meanesady	Year 10 and Sixth Form Data Point 2
		– posted home to parents
		Students finish for February half-
14/02/2025	Friday	term at 3.15pm

Thank you for your continued support, and I wish you and your families a joyful and peaceful Christmas. May the New Year bring health, happiness, and continued success for all. Yours sincerely,

Mrs Kate McCourt Headteacher

St. Julie's Catholic High School Weekly Veusletter

Week Beginning 6th January 2025

Forthcoming Dates for your Diary

6th January INSET Day 3 Students do not attend

7th January All students return to school.

23rd January Year 11 Parents' Evening



St. Julie's Celebrates Advent!

This week students have celebrated Advent in services with their Year Groups in our Chapel. In a departure from previous years, students celebrated in services led by members of their own year groups. Students enjoyed a live music performance from Year 13 student Cai, who was also a key member of our Sixth Form team who filmed and edited our Christmas video! Thank you to all of the students who respectfully engaged so well in the many services that place throughout the day, and to Mrs Rainey for her hard work in co-ordinating everybody.



Students Tuck Into Christmas Dinner!

On Wednesday this week our catering team worked incredibly hard to create a traditional Christmas roast dinner for students to enjoy! Students were able to celebrate in style with a turkey roast dinner and all the usual trimmings along with Christmas crackers and hats!

Primary Students Write in With Thanks!

We were delighted to receive some lovely letters from Students at Woolton Primary School who told us how much they enjoyed seeing the Christmas production of 'Grease'! The beautifully written letter to our staff read as follows: "Dear St Julie's Staff,

ST. JULIE'S STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE ON TIME HAAVE HIGHER READING ABILITY

You can click any of the hyperlinked names below to send an email.

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Why not visit our Websites?

St. Julie's Main Website Chaplaincy Website Chaplaincy Instagram: stjuliesl25 Wellbeing Website Careers Website Woolton Primary's Year Six have recently visited your production of Grease. On behalf of all of the pupils and staff here we would like to share that it was fantastic and clever.

The dancing and singing was beautifully taught, you should be very proud. The music was perfect and timed excellently. You have made an amazing production that people will talk about for years to come. The props and stage design was impeccable and must have been hard to make so beautifully and well.

The jackets of the 'T' Birds were designed just like the movie in our opinion. Keep up the good work and we hope you invite us again next year and for many years to come. Yours sincerely, Wootton Yoar Six Pupils and Staff'

Woolton Year Six Pupils and Staff'

And the lovely letter to our cast said:

"Dear Actors,

I really enjoyed the play. It had loads of songs and the only was to predict what you were going to watch is to have watched Grease the film version.

I liked how all the character worked well together and they didn't have stage fright. My favourite part is the songs and my favourite character was Danny Zuko. There was little to no things I disliked because I think it went perfectly.

This play was absolutely brilliant and I hope it went well for the other performances. I hope everything went well and everyone liked it. Yours sincerely, James"

We're thrilled that everyone enjoyed the show so much and we loved reading the letters. Hopefully some of the Year 6 students from Woolton Primary can return the favour next year by being part of our Christmas production themselves!



Merit Cup Assemblies!

Throughout the week we have been celebrating the excellent conduct and attendance of our students in the end of term Merit Cup Assembly! Each day a different year group has been tallying up the points for merits, attendance and punctuality, celebrating both individual successes and achievements made as a form group. The assemblies see students receiving applause, acclaim and lots and lots of confectionery! Congratulations to all of our students for their excellent achievements since September. Our form winners in each year group will be taking part in our cup winners' breakfast banquet on the last day of term.



England Call Up for Y13 Student

Congratulations to Libby in Year 13 who has been selected to represent England in the Futsal U19 team! Libby's selection can be attributed to her skill, dedication and passion for the sport, and we hope this international cap will be the first of many!





Annual Sixth Form Fancy Dress!

On Thursday our Sixth Form centre saw a vibrant change of dress from the usual black uniforms as students enjoyed the annual fancy dress competition! Participation was excellent this year and the costume parade delighted students in lower school!



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Mental Health support over Christmas holiday

While school is closed don't worry you can still get help

CAMHS Crisis Line 0151-293-3577



SLDAS-01514942222

safeguarding@stjulies.org.uk

happy and safe Christmas and New Year



Childline 0800-1111 PAPYRUS 08000684141





Dancers Lead Spectacular Surprise with Christmas Flashmob!

To mark the end of a long but hugely successful team a troupe of our dancers surprised their classmates with an unannounced breaktime flashmob, breaking out into a carefully choreographed dance routine to Mariah Carey's 'Oh Santa!' Well done to the dancers for a great performance and for keeping the secret so well!



Spanish Reward Breakfast!

Last Thursday, over 30 pupils in Year 9 attended a Spanish reward breakfast. This was held to celebrate the consistent effort that these students have shown with classwork and homework. They were all served "churros con chocolate" a typical Spanish breakfast, and then Señora Muñoz led a few games of Spanish bingo, where lots of prizes were won! Congratulations to all those who qualified for the breakfast, and we hope to have a bigger breakfast with more successful students in the New Year!

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Stars Shine for Local Community Christmas Cards

Students working in our Stars room have been working to support a local initiative distributing Christmas cards to older members of our community. Age Concern Liverpool & Sefton along with New Mersey Shopping Park have launched the 'Merry Mailbox' initiative which aims to gather heartfelt Christmas cards to be distributed to older members of the community who may be feeling isolated over the festive period.



A Sweet Collection from Year 8 Student!

Lilly Jai in Year 8 has been working hard collecting selection boxes for Fans Supporting Food Banks. The organisation was set up to help provide food to communities across our city and over the years has grown nationwide. They rely on donations from lots of organisations, and they have the support from Liverpool & Everton FC, where volunteers do match day collections of food provided by the generosity of fans attending the football games. The food is then distributed to members of the public every day through their food pantries. We have seen how much this charity helps families within our city and the difference it makes. Well done to Lilly Jai for her hard work!



St Julie's Micah Foodbank Donation

Volunteers from Micah foodbank have gratefully received our donation for the foodbank this year, much of which has been collected by our Sixth Form students. This year's collection saw a twist as it co-incided with Sixth Form fancy dress day, and so our donations were handed over by three Hello Kitties and two Scooby Doos! Thank you to everyone who has supported the food bank this Christmas with a donation.



Year 8 Footballers Teach Tactics

Scarlett, Jessie and Maisie in Year 8 have been sharing their footballing expertise in a structured lesson with their class. The players prepared some great teaching resources with diagrammatic illustrations and rounded off with a quiz. Well done on delivering a great lesson!

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Merit Cup Winners Celebrate with Breakfast Banguet

Throughout this week students have been celebrating success in Merit Cup Assemblies, and once again our form group winners have joined together in the dining room to enjoy a winners' breakfast banquet. Our catering team worked hard to prepare a huge breakfast with options for everybody. Congratulations to our winners!



Congratulations to Raffle Winners

Congratulations to Charlotte in Year 11 and Leah in Year 8 who were the lucky winners of our Liverpool shirts. All students who were in school today were entered into a prize draw for the prizes which were generously donated by the LFC Foundation.



English Schools' Cup Exit for U15 Team

On Friday our U15 football team faced Hartford CoE High School in their latest round of the English Schools' Cup. Unfortunately, St Julie's lost the game 5-1 but kept their heads held high throughout. Even though the bruising score line did not reflect it, the game was a good battle with Hartford just getting a few good runs in behind. The students have shown great resilience and are determined to come back into the competition next year more fiercely competitive than ever. Well done to Katie, Faye, Yasmin, Amelia, Lois, Annabelle, Paige, Savannah, Mia, Hollie and Grace.

SEND Parent Support Drop In



Knowsley Health Visitors/School Health Team, along with Home-Start Knowsley run an on-going SEND Drop-in service, as listed below. This is for any parents/carers of Knowsley children/young people (aged 0-25 years) who have potential or confirmed additional needs. Just pop in for a coffee and a chat and we can advise and link you in with the local support/make appropriate referrals that your child might benefit from at this time. No appointment necessary.

George Howard Centre, Lickers Lane, Whiston, L35 3SR Every 1st Thursday of the month 9.30am-12noon

Thursday 6th February Thursday 6th March Thursday 3rd April

Northwood Family Hub at The Pride, 2 Simonswood Lane, Northwood, L33 5YP Every 2nd Thursday of the month 9.30am-12noon

Thursday 9th January Thursday 13th February Thursday 13th March

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Hilltop Children's Centre, Bedford Close, Huyton, L36 1XH Every 3rd Wednesday of the month 9.30am-12noon Wednesday 15th January Wednesday 19th February Wednesday 19th March Wednesday 16th April

New Hutte Children & Family Hub, Litchfield Road, Halewood, L26 1TT Every 4th Wednesday of the month 9.30am-12noon Wednesday 22nd January Wednesday 26th February Wednesday 26th March Wednesday 23rd April

For any further information please call Knowsley School Health and Health Visiting Team: 0151 514 2666 or Knowsley Homestart: 0151 480 3910



Winter HAF Programme

The Winter HAF programme starts on the 23rd December and there are lots of great activities happening over the school holidays. Children and young people, from reception to age 16, who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, will be able to access hundreds of activities throughout the Christmas holidays including specific provision available for children with SEND or additional needs, at no cost. There's a great range of activities across the city including breakfast with Father Christmas, Christmas crafts, Christmas parties, ultraviolet dodgeball, cooking, mindfulness, yoga, football, drumming, creative writing, cycling, gymnastics, theatre tech, podcasting, drama, trips out and ice skating! A meal is included for every child attending. Liverpool City Council have introduced a central booking system to make it easier for you to find and

book the activities. You can find out where your nearest scheme is by clicking on this link <u>https://eequ.org/liverpoolhaf</u> which will take you to the Liverpool HAF page and the easy to fill in booking system. You can search by age, provider or date. There is a handy booking help video here - <u>How to</u> make a booking.

> If you are struggling with the cost of living then please click:

https://www.liverpool.gov.uk/ cost-of-living/

 If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Click on the link to find out how to register

https://www.healthystart.nhs. uk

Liverpool City Council is working with Mersey Play Action Council, the local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to deliver the Winter HAF programme. This programme is funded by the Department for Education.

The Family Information and SEND Directory also provides a wealth of useful information and support for families - <u>FISD</u>.

100%	0 days	0 lessons missed
99%	1 day	6 lessons missed
98%	3 days	18 lessons missed
97%	1 week	30 lessons missed
96%	1.5 weeks	45 lessons missed
94%	2 weeks	60 lessons missed
93%	2.5 weeks	75 lessons missed
92%	3 weeks	90 lessons missed
90%	3.5 weeks	105 lessons missed

The Importance of Attendance

In a world where we face a constant barrage of performance statistics it can be easy to think that a figure that's over 90% must be pretty

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St. Julie's Main Website Chaplaincy Website Chaplaincy Instagram: stjuliesl25 Wellbeing Website Careers Website good. With attendance that's really not the case, as you can see in the table above. A student with 94% attendance has missed two full weeks of schools – that's 60 lessons! Remember, school attendance matters.



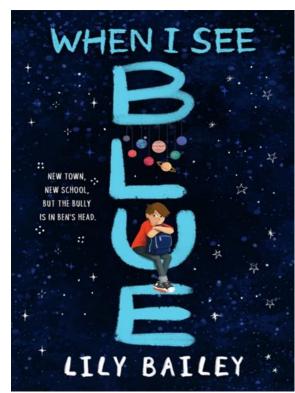
SEND Homework Club

We've introduced a homework club specifically for our students with SEND needs. Students in KS3 are welcome on Mondays from 3:15-4:00pm and students in KS4 are welcome on Wednesdays at the same time. The club is based in the Stars room and students are welcome to just turn up on the appropriate day!



Register As An Alumnus

Are you a former pupil at St. Julie's? Would you like to join our register of alumni? We're always happy to hear from former students, and we'd love to hear about your progress and life experiences that might be helpful in guiding and inspiring our current students. Even if you'd just like to keep in touch and receive our newsletter, you can <u>fill in the</u> registration form here.



Recommended Read for December

If you're stuck for reading inspiration why not take a look at our recommended read? This month we're suggesting 'When I See Blue' by Lily Bailey.

There are 4 things you should know about Ben:

- 1. He's 12 years old
- 2. He's the new kid at school
- 3. His special number is 4
- 4. He has a bully in his brain

Sometimes Ben's brain makes him count to 4 to prevent bad things happening. Sometimes it makes him tap or blink in 4s. Mostly it makes the smallest things feel impossible. And with a new school, a moody big brother, an absent dad and a mum battling her own demons, Ben feels more out of control than ever. But then he meets April, and with his new friend, Ben might finally figure out how to stand up to the bully in his brain, once and for all.

Dangerous parking

Please can all parents be reminded not to park on double yellow lines, zig zag markings or drop their daughter off on the pelican crossing. We are very concerned

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Education Welfare Helpline

New for September 2023 is an Education Welfare Helpline. This is available to all parents with attendance queries and is available 9am - 5pm weekdays. You can contact the service on **0151 233 3916**.

SENISS Helpline: 07591837693

If your child has special educational needs and you are wanting to know more on how to support their learning at home then please ring for professional advice, support or practical strategies. Monday: 1pm – 4pm, Wednesday: 9am – 4pm, Friday: 9am – 12pm Alternatively, you can email your concern to seniss@liverpool.gov.uk Educational Psychology Service Helpline: 0151 233 5978 If you are concerned about your child's emotional wellbeing or managing their behaviour then please ring for professional advice, support or practical strategies. Monday to Friday: 9am – 4.30pm Alternatively, you can email your concern to

epsadmin@liverpool.gov.uk

ASD Training Team:

07522800193/07515501854 Advice and strategies for families of children and young people with autism or social communication needs.

Monday to Friday: 9am – 12pm Alternatively, you can email your concern to

ASDtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk Children's Occupational Therapy Service

Please contact the Children's https://learnliveuk.com/network-railsecondary-school-safetytalk/Occupational Therapist who is supporting the child for advice or alternatively for general enquiries please email chot@liverpool.gov.uk

Liverpool Sensory Service

Please contact the Sensory Specialist Teacher who is supporting the child for advice or alternatively for general enquiries please email

sensoryservice@liverpool.gov.uk

Hub Of Hope

The Hub of Hope is the UK's leading mental health support database. It is provided by national mental health charity, Chasing the Stigma, and brings local, national, peer, community, charity, private and NHS mental health support and services together in one place for the first time.

Parent Chat Live

Action for Children Parent Chat is a free and confidential live chat with a qualified parenting coach in the UK. Staff are there to talk about family life, caring for children or managing your wellbeing as a parent. The chat service is a safe space for a parent to share their concerns. There will be someone to listen, take time to understand a parent's situation, and work with the parent to find possible solutions. If appropriate, they may suggest ideas for where to get extra support.

Liverpool Citizens Support Scheme

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An emergency or crisis might be a fire or flood, or you have had to move due to violence or fear of violence, or you are leaving care or prison and need support to stay in the community. There are <u>more</u> <u>details available here</u>.

Domestic Abuse:

There is clear evidence that nationally and locally the frequency of incidences of domestic abuse increased during and following the pandemic. If you or someone you know is suffering from domestic abuse then the following resources will be of use:

- Merseyside Police provide a range of <u>local and national</u> <u>helplines</u>, including a vital resource for adults<u>'#lt's</u> abuse'.
- The <u>Bright Sky app</u> is an excellent resource for victims of domestic abuse.
- The <u>Hideout</u> resources provide support for children who have witnessed or suffered from domestic abuse

Members of the Safeguarding Team are in school every day during lockdown and can be contacted in the usual way, with the <u>safeguarding@stjulies.org.uk</u> email address being the best way to make contact out of hours.

RASA (Rape and Sexual Abuse) Merseyside is a specialist service providing support to anyone who has been impacted by any form of sexual violence at any time in their lives. You can call us on 0151 558 1801, email

referrals@rasamerseyside.org or visit our website www.rasamerseyside.org

Mental Well-being Support

Children and young people, parents and carers in crisis can call the **Alder Hey CAMHS crisis care line** 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 0151 293 3577 or freephone 0808 196 3550 They should only present to Accident Emergency Department if they need medical treatment or are struggling to keep themselves safe in the immediate moment.

Anxiety UK – Charity providing support if you have been diagnosed with anxiety Phone: 03444 775 774 (Mon to Fri 9.30am-5.30pm)

CALM – Campaign against living Miserably, for Men ages 15-35 Phone: 0800 58 58 58 (daily 5pmmidnight)

Mental Health Foundation – support for mental health concerns https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/

MIND – Meeting mental health needs Phone: 0300 123 3393 (Mon-Fri, 9.00am-6.00pm)

No Panic – support line for panic attacks and OCD Phone: 0844967 4848 (daily 10.00am-10.00pm)

Give Us A Shout Immediate support by text for people of all ages. https://giveusashout.org/ Text 'SHOUT' to 85258

PAPYRUS – Suicide prevention team Phone:0800 068 4141 (Mon – Fri, 10.00am – 5.00pm, 7.00pm -10.00pm, weekends, 2.00pm-5.00pm) Rethink Mental Illness – supporting mental health all ages. Phone:0300 5000 927 (Mon -Fri, 9.30am-4.00pm) Samaritans – supporting those experiencing feelings of despair Phone: 116 123 (free 24 hour helpline)

Kooth Guidance for Adults

Kooth is a free, online self-referral counselling service for young people that has had some really

You can click any of the hyperlinked names below to send an email.

Progress Leaders

Year 7: <u>Mrs J Navarro</u> Year 8: <u>Miss C Corrigan</u> Year 9: <u>Miss V Homer</u> Year 10: <u>Mr M Mottram</u> Year 11: <u>Miss E Murphy</u> Sixth Form<u>: Mrs R Lyons</u>

Curriculum Leaders

English: <u>Mrs D Walker</u> Maths: <u>Miss M Naylor</u> Science: <u>Mr J Magor</u> RE: <u>Mrs H Dunleavey</u> MFL: <u>Ms J Davey</u> Humanities: <u>Miss J Rimmer</u> Performing Arts (including PE): <u>Miss A Douglas</u> Art and Technology: <u>Mrs A</u> <u>Bell</u> Social Sciences and Computing: <u>Mrs K Byrne</u>

SENDCo: <u>Miss S Jackson</u> Safeguarding: <u>Safeguarding</u> <u>Team</u>

Why not visit our Websites?

St. Julie's Main Website Chaplaincy Website Chaplaincy Instagram: stjuliesl25 Wellbeing Website Careers Website positive feedback. The guide for adults, <u>available here</u>, gives more information about the kinds of services that young people can access and explains about how the system works.

Microsoft Office 365

Licencing

All students at St. Julie's are licenced to install the Microsoft Office 365 suite on up to five computers or mobile devices at home at no cost. Students can visit <u>https://www.office.com</u> and sign in using their school email address and password and then look for the 'Install and more' option.

Resources for Parents in

Knowsley

Addvanced Solutions: 0151 486

1788 Listening Ear: St Nicholas Centre, 70 Church Road, Halewood, L26 6LB 0151 488 6648

Children in care (under 18?) Polaris Knowsley.EHWB@coreassets.com 07967 381 035

Knowsley CAMHS 0151 351 8610

<u>Kooth</u>

Mental Health Support Teams

Zuntold

Domestic Abuse <u>Merseyside Domestic Violence</u> <u>Service</u>_0780 272 2703 mdvs.org

Ruby Project ruby@pss.org.uk

Family support Family First

Knowsley Family Info

PSS Prisoner Family Service

Lee Cooper Foundation

Healthy Knowsley