



# Monksdown Mail

## Where Children Come First

Friday 3rd December



Our school's  
child protection  
officers are  
Mrs Price, Mrs  
Stewart and Miss Makin.

### It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

School was transformed into a Festive Wonderland this week thanks to our fantastic staff and Art Lead Ms Spalvieri. The look on the children's faces when they arrived in school on 1st December made the hard work so worth while. The displays and decorations have helped spread the joy and magic of the festive season around school. What a wonderful start to Advent.



During RE Week, the children have been busy doing lots of fun-filled Christmas activities and learning all about the meaning of Christmas. Across the school, children have learned and retold parts of the Nativity story, made Christingles, role-played different scenes from the Nativity and even made a variety of Christmas decorations such as Christmas peace crosses to be displayed around school. The children's work has been fantastic!



### Our Stars!

- ★ NAM: **Cody Browne**
- ★ NPM: **Rhys Birch**
- ★ R.1: **Danny Ledden**
- ★ R.2: **Annie Reid**
- ★ R.3: **Alisa Zhu**
- ★ 1.1: **Jacob Smith**
- ★ 1.2: **Leah Hall**
- ★ 1.3: **Ivy-May Patterson**
- ★ 2.1: **Jaxon Macauley**
- ★ 2.2: **Lucas Campbell and**
- ★ 2.3: **Dylan Brearley**
- ★ 3.1: **Mason O'Donnell**
- ★ 3.2: **Grace Babalola**
- ★ 3.3: **Jessica Humpreys**
- ★ 4.1: **Jacob Huynh**
- ★ 4.2: **Rueban Freeman**
- ★ 4.3: **Max Madine**
- ★ 5.1: **Ophelia Clarke**
- ★ 5.2: **Amelia Gardner**
- ★ 5.3 **Rosa O'Connell and**
- ★ 6.1: **Roxy Kemp**
- ★ 6.2: **Connor Cowan**

### Dates to Remember

Year 2 Trip  
Maritime Museum

Tuesday 7th December

Children Break Up 2pm

21st December

Children Return to School

Wednesday 5th January

Dear Parents and Carers

There is lots of information for families in this week's newsletter so please do check carefully and let us know if you have any questions.

I am sure you will be concerned about the increase in transmissions of COVID due to the Omicron variant. We are being extra vigilant in school to make sure that children and staff are using extra hygiene measures and have appropriate ventilation in classrooms and work areas.

Due to the situation, we have had to cancel some events over the next few weeks and I very much appreciate your support and understanding in helping to keep us all safe.

This new variant does spread quickly and those who are unvaccinated are most at risk of becoming seriously unwell. You can call 119 or go to nhs.uk/coronavirus to find your nearest vaccination centre.

If you or someone in your family has symptoms of COVID please call and let us know and get your child tested as soon as possible.

**Visitors in school**—all visitors to school are being asked to take a lateral flow test before coming onto the site and they must wear a mask at all times in the building. We are not able to have groups of parents in the building . If you do have an appointment to come into school to meet with staff, please make sure you use hand sanitiser when you arrive at the office and wear a face covering .

**School Trips**—school trips that have been planned to take place outside and where children do not need to travel on public transport will go ahead. Unfortunately all other trips this half term will be postponed until January when we hope they can be rearranged.

**Concerts and End of Term events**—following additional advise from Liverpool Authority we have made the decision to record all performances and a link will be sent home for all families to watch online at home. Apologies if this has caused disappointment .

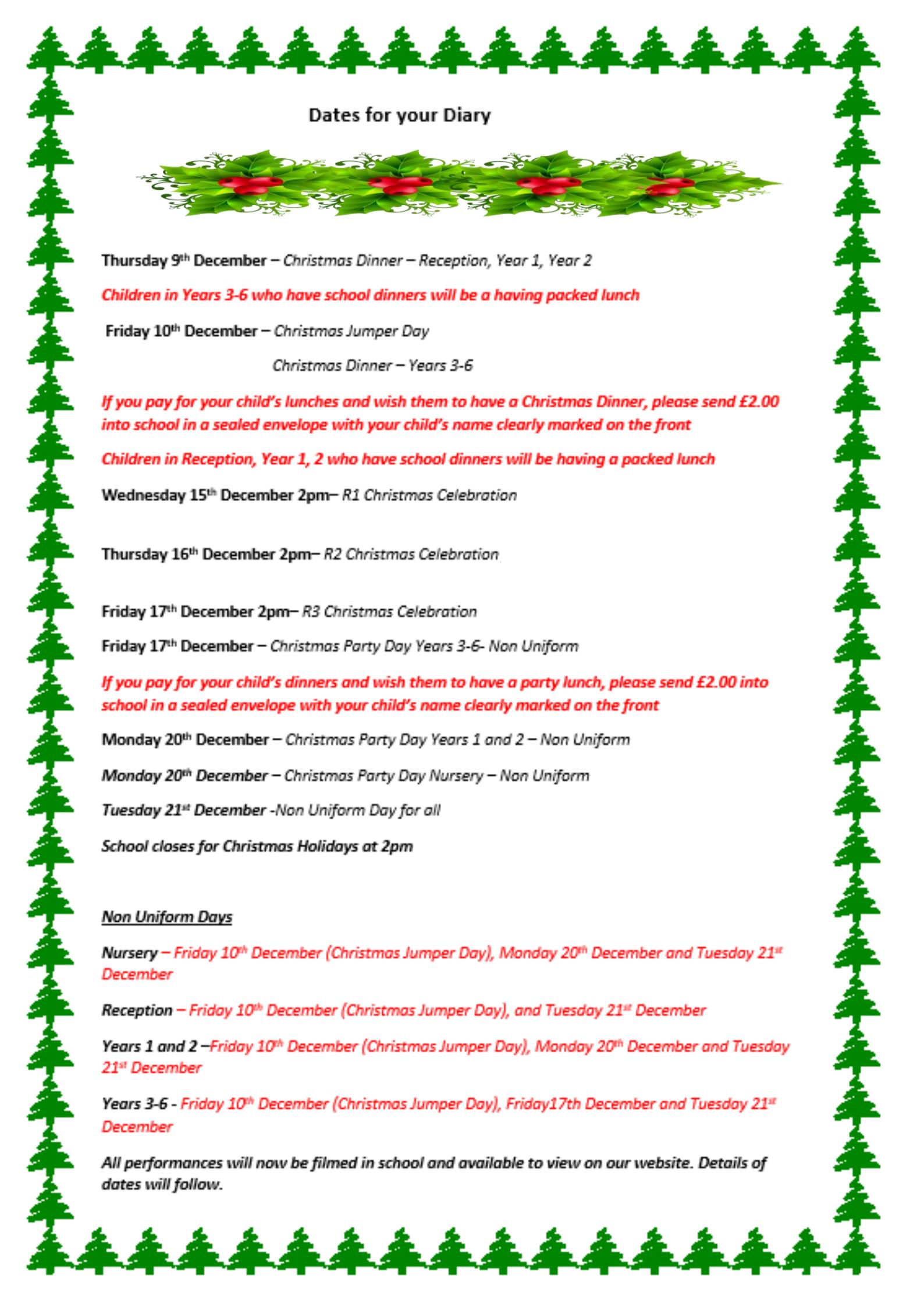
**After School Clubs**—these will continue as planned until Friday 17th December for children who have already signed up. We will be letting you know about our programme of clubs for next term very shortly .

I very much appreciate that this is not quite the end of term that we had all hoped for this year. But it is most important that we stay safe and well and all work together to do what we can to reduce the risks of transmission. I hope you all stay safe and well.

With my warmest wishes

Mrs Price





## Dates for your Diary



Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner – Reception, Year 1, Year 2

***Children in Years 3-6 who have school dinners will be having packed lunch***

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day

*Christmas Dinner – Years 3-6*

***If you pay for your child's lunches and wish them to have a Christmas Dinner, please send £2.00 into school in a sealed envelope with your child's name clearly marked on the front***

***Children in Reception, Year 1, 2 who have school dinners will be having a packed lunch***

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2pm– R1 Christmas Celebration

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2pm– R2 Christmas Celebration

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2pm– R3 Christmas Celebration

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party Day Years 3-6- Non Uniform

***If you pay for your child's dinners and wish them to have a party lunch, please send £2.00 into school in a sealed envelope with your child's name clearly marked on the front***

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party Day Years 1 and 2 – Non Uniform

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party Day Nursery – Non Uniform

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December -Non Uniform Day for all

School closes for Christmas Holidays at 2pm

### Non Uniform Days

Nursery – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Jumper Day), Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Reception – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Jumper Day), and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Years 1 and 2 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Jumper Day), Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Years 3-6 - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Jumper Day), Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

All performances will now be filmed in school and available to view on our website. Details of dates will follow.

# ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING



'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

## Christmas Jumper Day

Please join us on **Friday 10th December** when we will be wearing something festive to school. There is no need to buy a new jumper. Why not get creative and decorate an old one or just wear some accessories such as hairbands, tinsel e.t.c.

Children do not have to wear school uniform on this day.



## VIP Table

It was the turn of children from class 5.2 to sit on our very special table in the dining hall today.



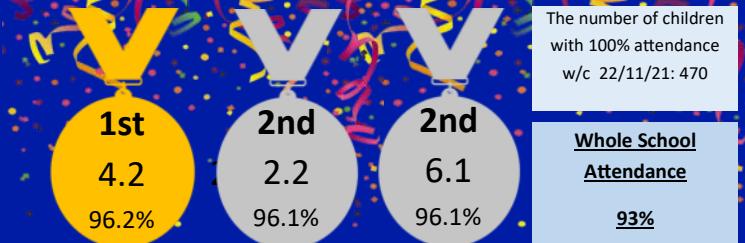
Well done children for your beautiful table manners this week.



Here are our top achievers:

- 1st - Kendra Pinto
- 2nd - Artin Kananian
- 3rd - Fortune Azubuike
- 4th - Hana Tariq
- 5th - Aniela Suverjanu
- 6th - Reece He
- 7th - Leon Xu
- 8th - Jason He
- 9th - Eliam Pollaa
- 10th - Eric Li

## Awesome Attendance!



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT 18

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

## WHERE IS IT FOUND?

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

### GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.



### STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.



### ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

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## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child that they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

### CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.



### BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

### GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.



### STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.



### Meet Our Expert

Caryn Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



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**#WakeUpWednesday**

[http://www.education.gov.za/documents/schoolprogrammes/departmental.aspx?PageID=102&SectionID=103&PageType=1](http://www.education.gov.za/documents/schoolprogrammes/departmental.aspx?PageID=102&SectionID=103&PageType=1&PageID=102&SectionID=103&PageType=1)  
<http://www.education.gov.za/documents/schoolprogrammes/departmental.aspx?PageID=102&SectionID=103&PageType=1>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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## Where can you get help?



**The Anthony Walker Foundation**  
Supports victims of racial and religious hate crime  
0151 237 3974  
[anthonywalkerfoundation.com](http://anthonywalkerfoundation.com)



**Daisy Inclusive UK**  
Supports victims of disability hate crime  
0151 261 0309  
[daisyük.co.uk](http://daisyük.co.uk)



**Liverpool Citizens Advice Bureau**  
Supports victims of sexuality and gender identity hate crime.  
0344 848 7700  
[citizensadvice;liverpool.org.uk](http://citizensadvice;liverpool.org.uk)



## What is a hate crime?

A hate crime is when someone harms you or your property because of who you are.

This could be because of:

- a disability
- your race
- your religion
- your sexuality
- your gender identity

People also suffer for other reasons, such as their age, their gender or their lifestyle.

Hate crime may be when someone:

- bullies or frightens you
- damages your property
- takes your property
- calls you names
- hurts you



## What can you do?

There are lots of ways you can report hate crime against yourself or someone else

Tell the police

- Telephone the police on 101 anytime
- 999 in an emergency

You can trust them to listen to you and help

Tell a staff member at a third party reporting centre

- You can find a safe space in your community to report an issue at: [merseysidepcc.info/userfiles/16.8.19.pdf](http://merseysidepcc.info/userfiles/16.8.19.pdf) or look for the red hand logo



Tell Stop Hate UK

0800 138 1625

(Text Relay): 18001 0800 138 1625

Text: 07717 989 025

Email: [talk@stophateuk.org](mailto:talk@stophateuk.org)

Web chat: [stophateuk.org/talk](http://stophateuk.org/talk)

Online form: [stophateuk.org/tell](http://stophateuk.org/tell)

You can also tell someone you trust who can help, like a support worker or housing officer.

Liverpool City Council

# OUR Liverpool

## Choose love & hope... NOT FEAR & HATE.

#ourliverpool #lovenothate #loveliverpool