

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 9th December 2022



Thought for the week

3rd Sunday of Advent: Rejoice

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my saviour."

A message from Mr Hale

A massive thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Fayre in school last Friday. It was lovely to have a school fun of festive activities, games and celebration. A big thank you to the PTFA, parents and school staff who ran the event and put on this special occasion for our school community. Also to those families who provided raffle prizes, without the support we couldn't raise the amazing funds We managed to raise in excess of £1700 which is amazing.

Well done to our Year 4 class who had a wonderful evening at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church completing their first confessions in a Service of Reconciliation. It was a beautiful service as the children continue on their journey towards their First Holy Communion.

It is a very busy time in school at the moment with different events happening before and after school so please check the diary dates to keep updated as there are a few new dates added this week.

It was wonderful to welcome so many of you into school as we held our Reception and Nursery Nativities this week. I was blown away by all their amazing performances at such a young age.

Nativity Performances

KS1 Nativity

A letter with information about the KS1

Nativity arrangements together with tickets was sent home earlier this week

KS2 Carol Service

A reminder that on Thursday, 15th December our KS2 children will perform their Carol Service at St Thomas of Canterbury Church at 9:30a.m and then again 4.00p.m.

Year 6 Class Collective Worship

Year 6 led a beautiful Collective Worship for the whole school, families and friends this afternoon as we lit the third candle on our Advent wreath.

The children explained the importance of the third candle and how it represents rejoice

The children shared ways to spread rejoice and love at the end of the worship so they can see how we can share joy during this special time of year.

Year 2 Class Collective Worship

Our Year 2 children will be holding their Class Collective Worship on Friday, 16th December at 9:00am in the school hall and parents/grandparents of our Year 2 children are warmly invited to celebrate with us.

Adults are to come in through the main office area.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Growing Together in God's Love

Christmas coffee afternoon

Our Performing Arts group would like to invite parents and families to a very special coffee afternoon on Friday, 16th December at 2.15pm.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served whilst the children sing Christmas songs and Carols for you.

It promises to be a very special afternoon and put you in the Christmas spirit.

Come along and enjoy a chat, a brew and the children's performance.

Christmas Party Day

On 19th & 20th December we will be holding our Christmas party days during school. We are inviting the children to come into school in their party outfits for that day. The PTFA will kindly provide drinks and snacks for this event.

19th December will be Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

20th December will be Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6

Breakfast With Santa

The children are invited to join Breakfast with Santa in school on Tuesday, 20th December.

There is no need to send the slip into school, that was attached to the letter in error.

Once we receive your payment via school money this books your child's place.

Please note the cut off date for booking is

Wednesday, 14th December 2022.

Charlottes Web

We are excited to welcome Altru Drama group into school on the morning of Wednesday 21st December. They are touring a brand new version of Charlotte's Web to schools as part of their mission to offer high quality, engaging performances during the festive season.

We know that many children may not have seen a theatre performance yet and we want to give them an engaging, exciting and memorable experience this year. We are excited to welcome them into school.

PE and School Sports

We have had a busy term of PE and sports competitions this first term of the year. We have had a large range of pupils attend competitions throughout the borough and have had huge success competing competitively and with our participation in a range of activities. In this first term of the year we have entered 17 competitions which we are really proud of. Next term sees a wider range of sports and sports clubs available as well as more opportunities for our infants.

We have been lucky to welcome St Helens RLFC Community, Lancashire County Cricket, PeCo and Skill Wise into school so far this year. Saints Community coaches have been working with pupils and staff on Monday afternoons to support delivering high quality lessons to our children. We have enjoyed working with Lancashire County Cricket Coaches who have been delivering KS2 sessions in their Chance to Shine project. PECo continue to work with school in their morning clubs as well as now working with pupils at lunchtimes on Wednesdays to support active, fun playtimes. Finally, SkillWise have been working with our Reception pupils on Monday mornings delivering their First Touch programme which covers fundamental movements and skills as well as improving gross motor skills, fine motor skills, following 2 point instructions, taking turns, problem solving, social interaction and teamwork.

We look forward to the warmer and drier weather in Spring as we continue to deliver our PE and school sports provision.

Important Dates for your Diary

December

- 13th - Rock Steady concert (2.15pm)
- 13th - Year 5 & 6 at De La Salle's production of Days Like These
- 13th - Flu immunisation catch up
- 14th - KS1 Nativity (9.30am repeated at 3.45pm) in school hall
- 15th - KS2 Carol Service (9.30am repeated at 4.00pm) at St Thomas of Canterbury Church
- 16th - Year 2 class Collective Worship (9.00am)
- 16th - Performing Arts coffee afternoon (from 2.15pm)
- 19th - Nursery/Reception/Y1/Y2 Christmas Party afternoon
- 20th - Breakfast with Santa (8am)
- 20th - KS2 (Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6) Christmas Party afternoon
- 21st - Production of Charlotte's Web for whole school
- 21st - End of Autumn term (1.15pm finish)

January

- 30th - Crucial crew (year 6)

February

- 1st - Young Voices (Performing Arts group)
- 6th - Mental health week
- 6th - Sacramental workshop 3
- 10th - End of Half term
- 20th - children return to school (this was originally an INSET day)

Attendance at school

Good attendance at school is not just valuable — it is essential.

Attendance at school is not just for the academic progress your child will make, but is also important for developing personal qualities too, such as:

- ♦ Friendships
- ♦ Social skills
- ♦ Team and school values
- ♦ Cultural awareness
- ♦ Life skills etc



Our attendance figures are slowly recovering from the pandemic but are still not where they should be. Please help us to make every day count and aim for excellent attendance all year. Thanks.

Celebration page



**Stars
of the
week!**

Well done to our stars of the
week.

This week's award is for taking
an active role in our Collective
Worships

Reception: Jacob Swift

Year 1: Robin Beneke

Year 2: Albie Scully

Year3: Ruairi Cross

Year 4: Zachary Southward-Raby

Year 5: Georgia Burdett

Year 6: Isaac Swinton