

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 27th January 2023



Thought for the week

Forget how *stressed* you are.
Focus on how *blessed* you are.

Inspired by the Beatitudes—Gospel of MATTHEW

A message from Mrs. Rawlinson

Where did January go? It has been a busy and eventful start to 2023 at school and, once again, a few (un)expected twists and turns on the journey. The teachers' strike has been at the forefront of people's minds, not just the staff at school but headteachers across the borough. Each school in St. Helens will be in a different position depending on how many teachers they have striking. If you have any questions regarding the strike, please contact me on lyn.rawlinson@sthelens.org.uk.

Despite all this, the staff at school continue to work hard and are busy planning lots of fun and exciting times ahead, including

- World Book Day
- Class trips
- Young Voices (still going ahead)
- Special assemblies
- Collective Worship for families
- Lenten activities

Also, I will be marshalling at the Junior Parkrun on Sunday at Victoria Park and it would be so lovely to see St. Thomas of Canterbury children there. It's a free, timed weekly 2km run where the children collect/total their miles for rewards. Be there for a 9.00am start!

Strike action by teaching unions

On Wednesday, 1st February, the teaching union NEU will be on strike, the first of 4 planned strike days in England.

Year 2 and Year 4 will be closed on this day.

As a school, we will be planning each strike day as it comes because a lot can happen between dates.

The remaining strike dates include:

- 28th February
- 15 & 16 March.

We will endeavour to keep you updated as much as possible.

First Holy Communion

Our Year 4 children continue on their Sacramental journey and their next workshop is Monday, 6th February in the school hall at 5.00pm.

The date for their First Holy Communion is
Saturday, 1st July at 12.00pm.



Year 6 meeting for parents

There will be an important meeting for the parents of our Year 6 children on Monday, 30th January at 4.30pm.

Information will be shared about the End of Key Stage Tests (SATs) and the forthcoming Conway Centre residential trip.

If you have any questions, please bring them with you. Thank you.

CAFOD's Big Lent Walk

This Lent, CAFOD are promoting their latest fundraiser entitled 'Big Lent Walk' and our Mini Vinnies have already spoken about how to raise money for this.

It has been decided that at some point during Lent, each class will go for a 'walk' to help raise money for CAFOD:

Year 5 & 6 will walk to and around Victoria Park

Year 3 & 4 will walk around the cemetery

EYFS and Key Stage 1 will walk around our entire school grounds.

More information will be given by each class teacher.

There will be other Lenten activities planned as well, so make sure to stay up to date via this newsletter!

PTFA coffee afternoon

Everyone is invited to a coffee afternoon being held by the PTFA on Friday, 10th February at 2pm in the school hall.

Our PTFA really help our children enrich their learning experiences throughout their entire journey at St. Thomas of Canterbury and their contributions to school life are very much needed and appreciated.

The PTFA is open to EVERYBODY (including grandparents) so come along, have a cuppa and a chat and find out more about how the PTFA works for our children. Thank you.

Young Voices

For the first time in St. Thomas of Canterbury history, children will be attending the Young Voices concert at the Manchester Arena. This will be a memorable experience for all the children and for the parents who are attending too as part of the audience.

Letters have been sent home with the arrangements for the day.

It promises to be a really enjoyable day and night for all involved. We are excited to share our experience with you. Watch for videos and pictures on our social media channels.!

The 'reading shack' on KS2 playground needs to be dismantled and removed. If anyone would like to have the shack (e.g. on an allotment) please contact Mr. Martin about removal. Thanks

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

January

30th - Crucial crew (year 5)

30th - Year 6 Parents SATs meeting 4.30pm

February

1st - Young Voices (Performing Arts group)

3rd - Y5 Collective Worship

6th - Mental health week

6th - Sacramental workshop 3

7th - Y5 trip to Tatton Park

10th - PTFA Coffee Afternoon

10th - End of Half term

20th - children return to school (this was originally an INSET day)

21st - Y4 trip to Deva Discovery Centre Chester

22nd - Ash Wednesday Mass Church 11am

March

3rd - World Book Day

6th - Whole School Photographs

9th - Y3 trip to Liverpool World Museum

10th - Y3 Collective Worship

15th - Y4/Y6 visit to Liverpool Catholic Cathedral

17th - Y2 Collective Worship

21st - Rock Steady concert

22nd - Parents afternoon/evening

27th - Y4 Collective Worship

27th - Y6 residential to Conway Centre (return 29th March)

31st - End of Spring term

April

12th - children return to school

17th - Sacramental workshop 4

18th - Y5 start Swimming (each Tuesday for 6 weeks)

May

1st - Bank Holiday

8th - Bank Holiday

9th - Start of Year 6 End of Key Stage tests (SATs)

12th - Y4 Collective Worship

18th - Ascension Day Mass in Church 11am

26th - May procession Church 11am

June

5th - Year 4 Multiplication tables check (2 week window)

12th - children return to school

13th - Y4 start swimming (each Tuesday for 5 weeks)

20th - Y6 Leavers Photographs

23rd - EYFS Collective Worship

29th - St Peter & St Paul Holy Day of Obligation Church 11am

July

1st - Y4 First Holy Communion - Church 12noon

11th - Y6 Leavers Mass Church 11am



Well done to our stars of the week.

**This week's award is for:
Always contributing thoughtfully to our
Come and See lessons.**

Reception: Darlia Stott

Year 1: Edward Badley

Year 2: Dougie Springford

Year 3: Rose Terry

Year 4: Ruby-Jayne Fenney

Year 5: Niamh Beesley

Year 6: Leo Scully

Year 1 Class Collective Worship

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Year 1's collective worship today.
The children enjoyed sharing some of the things we have been working on in our Come
and See topic "Special People".

We've been thinking about the people who are special to us and how we can show God's
love to the people around us to be more like Jesus who is a special person to us all.

We would like to apologise to parents for the late notice in the change of dates for
this Collective Worship.