

# St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 24th March 2023

## *Thought for the week*

### *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

"What we say and how we say it ought to express God's compassion and tenderness for all".

Pope Francis



### **A message from Mrs. Rawlinson**

Along with this newsletter, we have also sent out the Religious Education Inspection Report. I hope you take the time to read the report as we are very proud and delighted to inform you that we have been graded as '**outstanding**' in the three main inspection areas of:

- ⇒ Catholic Life and Mission
- ⇒ Religious Education
- ⇒ Collective Worship.

The staff and governors are thrilled to receive such a wonderful report from the inspectors of the Archdiocese, which accurately reflects the Catholic ethos and mission of St. Thomas of Canterbury. For me personally, it proves that we are all one big school family where each and every person is loved and cherished for being the person they are called to be.

Now the report can be shared publicly, it can also be found on our school website (under the 'key information' tab) and paper copies are available on request.

Moving forward from this outstanding report, we will endeavour to build upon the already fantastic offer of religious education and collective worship at school and continue to find ways of involving our entire school family in worship, celebrations and in actively being part of your child's learning journey.

The inspection framework for RE has recently been changed and to get outstanding under the new national framework is a lot more difficult compared with previous inspections.

I would like to say a massive **thank you** to all the staff and governors at school for their continued hard work and dedication; a massive thank you to our **parents and families** for your continued support. Most of all, **thank you to our wonderful children!**

I am so proud of each and every one of you (as always) - you are fantastic.

The parents, family members and parishioners who joined us for our Easter Service on Thursday at church will verify just how amazing our children are. They were **exemplary** in church with their readings, excellent behaviour and above all, their absolutely incredible singing. They had many people moved to tears with their beautiful voices. It was such a lovely service - thank you children.

Special thanks and well done to **Miss Hitchen** who takes full credit for the beautiful singing.

What a fantastic place St Thomas of Canterbury is !

### *Mini Vinnies at Dementia Café*

Some of our Mini Vinnies went to The Gerard today (Friday) to sing for the visitors attending the Dementia Café. They performed a rendition of our Easter songs that were performed in church and were once again absolutely fantastic.

We look forward to our next visit to the Dementia Café in the summer term.

### **Parents Evening**

Thank you to all the parents who attended parents evening this week.

Thank you for completing the questionnaire so thoroughly too. Your feedback matters and the comments made will be acted upon in due course. Topics such as homework, communication and extra-curricular clubs have been raised as areas for further improvement.

There will be a parents forum meeting on Wednesday, 26th April at 5pm (Following the maths information evening). This is at the slightly later time than usual to help accommodate parents who work (one of the suggestions raised via the questionnaire).

During the forum meeting we can discuss how to reduce the number of communication tools used by school as this has been raised a number of times by a number of parents.

(The Year 3 parents evening will be rescheduled for after the Easter holidays)

### *Maths information evening for parents*

*On Wednesday, 26th April there will be a maths information evening for parents and families. The teachers will be doubling (excuse the pun!) to work together so parents with more than one child can visit two talks in the same evening:*

*Nursery and Reception (EYFS)*

*Year 1 and Year 2 (KS1)*

*Year 3 and Year 4 (Lower KS2)*

*Year 5 and Year 6 (upper KS2)*

## Growing Together in God's Love

### **PTFA events**

#### **Easter Bingo**

The 'Easter Bingo' has now sold out, tickets will be sent home with your child on Monday.

The event will take place in the school hall on Thursday, 30th March.

Doors will open at 5.30pm for a 6pm start.

Thank you to all the parents who sent in Easter themed and chocolate donations today.

#### **Family Quiz Night**

The PTFA are planning a relaxed and fun family quiz night at Bishop Rd Police club, on Friday 28th April at 6pm for 6:30pm start.

More details will follow on how to buy tickets for your team entry but in the meantime if anyone has any prizes they would be willing to donate—think new but unwanted gifts/bottles/etc.-for our raffle, they would be gratefully received.

These can be dropped off at the school office from next week.

Thank you.

#### **Year 6 Residential Trip**

Monday is the day Year 6 children have been looking forward to...the day they set off on their residential trip to The Conway Centre on Anglesey.

Whilst there, the children (and staff) will be kayaking, paddle boarding, climbing and mastering the high ropes. We wish them a very happy and exciting time away and look forward to hearing about their adventures when they return on Wednesday.

#### **School Photographs**

The deadline for parents to return orders to school or to order on-line is Monday, 27th March 2023.

We will be unable to accept any orders after this date.

#### **Easter Holiday**

We are finishing for the Easter holidays on Friday, 31st March at 1.30pm. School will reopen at on , Wednesday 12th April.

### **Online Safety**

Mr Mc Cue has arranged for Police Community Support Officers and Cyber Protect Officers to visit school to talk to parents about online safety.

They will be discussing the importance of this and giving helpful advice on how we and our children can stay safe online as well as answering any questions that parents may have. If you would like to attend,

the talk will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> April at 4:00pm in the hall.



Well done to our stars of the week.

This week's award is for:

Always having high expectations of  
their own learning

Nursery: Grace Terry

Reception: Henry Pountain

Year 1: James Burrows

Year 2: Austin Bain

Year 3: Ellen Tucker

Year 4: Verity Rickards

Year 5: Nancy Booth

Year 6: Zachary Shields

## Growing Together in God's Love

### **Important Dates for your Diary**

#### **March**

- 27th - Y6 residential to Conway Centre (return 29th March)
- 30th - PTFA Easter Bingo in school hall (doors open at 5.30pm for a 6pm start)
- 31st - Y4 attending 11am Mass in Church
- 31st - End of Spring term (finish at 1.30pm)

#### **April**

- 12th - children return to school
- 17th - Y5 start Swimming (each Monday for 4 weeks)
- 17th - Sacramental workshop 5
- 18th - Online Safety talk for Parents (4pm)
- 26th - Maths parents information evening
- 26th - Parents Forum Meeting (5pm)
- 28th - PTFA Family Quiz Night

#### **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
- 25th - Reception Class Vision Checks (0-19 team)
- 26th - May procession Church 11am
- 26th - Close for Whit Half-term (2 weeks)

#### **June**

- 12th - children return to school
- 12th - Year 4 Multiplication tables check
- 12th - Y4 start swimming (each Monday 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
- 21st - End of Summer term (finish at 1.30pm)