

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 29th September 2023

This week's Gospel

The Parable of the Two Sons:

"Which of the two did his Father's will?"

Matthew 21: 28-32

This week's Gospel Value has been:

understanding

Next week's Gospel value will be:

Faithfulness

Mrs. Rawlinson's messages

What a lovely celebration of school life we had today in church, as we gathered together for mass with Fr. Michael to mark the start of our new school year. The children were amazing: behaviour, reading, singing and prayers all fantastic. Such a proud head teacher moment. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped walk the children to and from church—your help and your time is much appreciated. Thank you, Fr. Michael.

****The children in Reception class will join mass at church once they have visited the church, met with Fr. Michael and had chance to explore and understand a bit more.****

I would also like to say a massive thank you to all our children and families for making such a difference in attendance and punctuality. We are definitely on an upward trend in both which is amazing. This means the children are receiving what they are lawfully entitled to and making a settled, organised, ready to learn start to each school day. Keep it up!

New intake for September 2024

If you have a child due to start school in September 2024 and are considering St. Thomas of Canterbury as one of your choices, then please come along to our new admission meetings. These will give you all the information you need to help you make your choices and give you a flavour of what school life is like here at St. Thomas of Canterbury. Prospective parents are warmly welcome to visit school on:

- Tuesday, 24th October at 3.30pm and
- Wednesday, 15th November at 2.00pm

If you know of anyone with a child due to start school please pass these dates on to them.

Secondary School Applications (message from school admissions)

The on-line portal for parents applying for a secondary school place in September 2024 is now available. Letters will be going out to parents informing them how they can apply on line.

If a parent has already submitted a paper application, they can still apply on-line, as this will mean they will receive an offer email on 1st March.

Contact Tracy Potter in School Admissions on 01744 671030 with any queries.

St. Thomas of Canterbury's Harvest Celebrations

Yes, it's that time of year again!

We love celebrating the Harvest as a whole school, thanking God for all that we have and praying for those who don't have as much.

Harvest time gives us opportunity to show our compassion for people who are less fortunate, both in our local community and globally.

For our global neighbours:

On Wednesday, 25th October we will be 'Brightening up for CAFOD' as part of our Harvest celebrations where children can come to school wearing the brightest colours they can for a monetary donation towards CAFOD.

For our local community:

We will be accepting donations of food during the last week of the half term which will be given to our local food bank in St. Helens.

Our Harvest celebration this year will be held in church on the last Thursday, 26th October at 11.00am. All are welcome.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. Mrs Houghton.

Coffee Morning—10th October 2023

Tuesday 10th October is World Mental Health Day. The theme this year is Tea & Talk. We would like to invite you all to a coffee morning from 9am on that day.

It will give us an opportunity to come together and raise awareness.

At St Thomas of Canterbury we are lucky to have access to an Educational Mental Health Practitioner – Jayne Aspinall. Jayne will be at our coffee morning to answer any questions you may have and to give a better understanding of the support she offers to our school community.

Later that morning, Jayne will be doing an assembly on mental health for the children.

This is intended to give them a better understanding of our mental health, how it can affect us and strategies we can use.

We look forward to seeing you at our coffee morning.



PTFA News

PTFA Lottery - This weekend is your last chance to sign up to our lottery that will run throughout the school year. It helps to raise much needed funds for school with cash prizes for the winners. Please return slips and payment (see letter) by Monday, 2nd October.

PTFA Meeting - The PTFA will be meeting at the Wicket Bar, Ruskin on Wednesday, 4th October at 8pm. We will be discussing and planning upcoming events for the term. All are welcome.

Xmas4schools As in previous years, children will be completing their Christmas card designs on the template in school. Over the next week or two they will bring home their completed designs, with an order form on the reverse for parents/carers to complete and return to school if placing an order. Packs of Christmas cards and gift items featuring their design will then be delivered to school towards the end of November.

Reception, Y1 & Y2 Children on Packed Lunch

Census Day, Thursday 5th October 2023

For Census Day on Thursday, 5th October children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who are on packed lunch will have the opportunity to try a hot dinner.

The choices are: pizza & chips or fish & chips.

As children in these classes are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, there will be no charge for the meal.

If you would like your child to partake, they should come to school without their packed lunch on Thursday. They will then be given the choice in class of which option they prefer to have in at lunchtime.

Thank you

Nursery Admissions for 2024

We still have 30 hour and 15 hour funded places available in our Nursery for September 2024 for children who turn three before

31st August 2024.

If you would like any further information regarding nursery places, funding entitlements or to pick up application forms, please contact the school office on telephone number

01744 621380

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

October

- 6th - Year 4 to Ecclestone Library
- 9th - Rec and Y6 height and weight
- 10th - World Mental Health Day—Time to Talk Parents Coffee Morning (9am)
- 12th - Flu immunisations (whole school)
- 13th - Year 4 to Ecclestone Library
- 18th - African Music Workshops (whole school)
- 24th - New intake meeting for prospective parents 3.30pm
- 25th - Brighton up for CAFOD day/food donations
- 25th - parents afternoon/evening (1.30—6pm)
- 26th - Harvest Mass (11am Church)
- 26th - end of autumn 1
- 26th - Halloween disco (PTFA)
- 27th - INSET

November

- 6th - INSET
- 7th - children return
- 9th - Y5/Y6 Cineworld trip
- 10th - Reception/Y1/Y2/Y3/Y4 Cineworld trip
- 10th - Year 6 start swimming lessons (6 sessions finish 15th December)
- 13th - Anti bullying/kindness week
- 13th- Parent Forum Meeting (4.30pm)
- 15th - New intake meeting for prospective parents 2pm
- 16th - Y6 Visit to Ecclestone Library
- 20th - Wonder Arts Poetry Workshops (KS1 & KS2)
- 24th - Christmas fayre

December

- 1st - Advent Mass (11am)
- 4th and/or 5th EYFS Christmas play
- 11th - KS1 Christmas play
- 11th - Altru Drama performance of Pinocchio (1.30pm)
- 12th - Rock Steady Performance (2.30pm)
- 19th - KS2 Carol Service (tbc)
- 22nd - end of autumn term

Growing Together in God's Love

On-line Safety Tip

This week's tip is:

Child tip - "The best way to make your password secure is to choose three random secret words that mean nothing to you, 3 numbers and a punctuation."

-Evelyn S

Parent tip - Are you aware of YouTube restricted mode?

Attendance

For week ending Friday, 29th September 2023 the whole school attendance is 98.62%

Reception = 99.26%

Year 1 = 98.08%

Year 2 = 98.89%

Year 3 = 98.15%

Year 4 = 98.15%

Year 5 = 99.63%

Year 6 = 98.21%

Kiln Lane Crossing Petition

We have been asked to pass on the message below to our parents:

I am parent of children attending Bleak Hill Primary School, and I have started a petition regarding the need for an installation of a crossing on Kiln Lane.

The safety of our children is paramount and as I'm sure you are aware there is no safe crossing point on Kiln Lane and it is a major hazard to both pedestrians and drivers.

We have 240 signatures and rising at the moment, but obviously I'm just wanting as much momentum behind it as possible and for it to reach everybody concerned!

The link to the petition below.

<https://chnng.it/h9x8v6kyW9>