

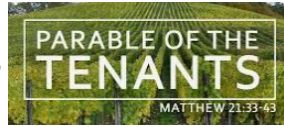
St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 6th October 2023

This week's Gospel

"He will rent the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruit at harvest time."

Matthew 21: 33-43



This week's Gospel Value has been:

Faithfulness

Next week's Gospel value will be:

Justice

Mrs. Rawlinson's messages

It was around this time last year when we were blessed with the great news that St. Thomas of Canterbury church would reopen with Fr. Michael as our Parish Priest. As a school we were absolutely delighted with this announcement as having church open again was so beneficial for our children, their families and catholic life of the school. Being able to attend church on the many occasions as we have in the year has had such a positive impact for our children in terms of their religious understanding: faith, reverence and prayer life; I am sure Fr. Michael will agree with this also.

However, the opening was for a 12 month trial period with a final decision being made at the end of the 12 months. We are fast approaching the end of this trial period and the future of the church is still unknown.

There will be a meeting about the future of the church on

Wednesday, 18th October at 7.00pm at the church.

All our families are invited.

Please attend if at all possible—by just being there it will send a message to the 'powers that be' that it means a lot to our school and parish community. If you have any comments or questions about this you can email me on lyn.rawlinson@sthelens.org.uk

Thank you.

Black History Month

October is Black History Month. Our Gospel value for next week is justice. In our Collective Worships and assemblies for the rest of this month, we will be learning about Black History, linked to the theme of '*Saluting our Sisters*' - highlighting the role Black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change and building communities in the UK.

We will learn of how, in the past, Black people did not always have their voices heard and how they were not always treated fairly, linking it with our Gospel value of justice.

We look forward to learning more about the important contributions Black people have made to society and increase our children's understanding of Black history.

St. Thomas of Canterbury's Harvest Celebrations

Today we had a very special visitor in school to talk of the important work CAFOD does for our global neighbours.

The children listened so well to the important messages about how people in many other countries do not have the basic resources necessary to sustain life (food, clean water, medicine, homes, schools etc).

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

We will also 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 Thursday, 26th October at 11.00am. All are welcome.

Mental Health Awareness Day

Tuesday, 10th October is Mental Health Awareness Day. To help us raise awareness of the importance of mental health, Jayne Aspinall, a Senior Mental Health Nurse, will be in school to lead an assembly about mental health and how we can help ourselves stay mentally fit just as we stay physically fit.

To help promote this event, Jayne has asked that the children wear something yellow with their uniforms (e.g: socks/tee shirt/ ribbons etc) on this day.

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.



Growing Together in God's Love

PTFA News

PTFA Lottery - Final call: if you would still like to enter the PTFA lottery, could we have all entries in school by Monday, 9th October please.

Cash and cheque payments of £24

These should be returned to the school office in a clearly labelled envelope with your child's name and class. Cheque's should be made payable to St Thomas of Canterbury PTFA.

If paying £24 by bank transfer

The account details are as follows:

Account Name: St Thomas of Canterbury PTFA

Sort Code: 20-74-45

Account Number: 33106810

Reference: Your name

Then please send a slip into the school office on Monday, with your name, your child's name and class and Bank reference.

Xmas4schools - Children will be completing Christmas card designs in class over the next few weeks. They will bring their design home and if you wish to order cards or gifts, please complete the order form on the reverse of the design and return to school by 18th October.

Christmas Fayre Raffle Prizes - We will be organising our annual Christmas raffle with the draw taking place at the Christmas Fayre on 24th November. If any parents are able to help us source prizes we would be very grateful. Please contact a member of the PTFA team or the school office if you can help. Thank you for your continued support.

St Thomas of Canterbury Parents Night Out

> Boc Boc ❤️🍷👤🍷

> Christmas night out 🍷

> Saturday 2nd December

> 6.30pm-11.00pm

> 1st drink included (fizz, mimosa, beer, wine red/white) Chili, Rice,

> Chips and Nachos with dips Disco and raffle to raise money for our

> PTFA on the evening ❤️🍷

> £25 per person

> All welcome! 🍷🍷🍷🍷

>

> Please speak to your designated parents in each year group to

> purchase tickets. This has been shared to all year group what's apps

>

> 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

On-line Safety Tip

This week's tip is:

Child tip - ".When browsing the internet, make sure that you can see the padlock symbol in the address bar before the website that you have typed."

- Macey V

Parent tip - This padlock symbol is an indication that the website you are visiting is secure. Think carefully about proceeding on websites that do not have this symbol before them.

Attendance at school

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

Attendance and punctuality 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

Attendance

For week ending Friday, 6th October 2023 the whole school attendance is 97.20%

Reception = 95.56%

Year 1 = 96.55%

Year 2 = 95.56%

Year 3 = 96.30%

Year 4 = 100%

Year 5 = 97.41%

Year 6 = 98.92%

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

October

- 9th - Rec and Y6 height and weight
- 10th - World Mental Health Day (wear something yellow) - Time to Talk Parents Coffee Morning (9am)
- 12th - Flu immunisations (whole school)
- 13th - Year 4 to Ecclestone Library
- 18th - African Music Workshops (whole school)
- 20th - Y2 World of Glass Visit
- 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
- 15th - Book Fair (from 3.30pm)
- 16th - Y6 Visit to Ecclestone Library
- 16th - Book Fair (from 3.30pm)
- 17th - Book Fair (from 3.30pm)
- 20th - Wonder Arts Poetry Workshops (KS1 & KS2)
- 20th - Y6 Bikeability training week
- 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