

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 13th October 2023

This week's Gospel

"Let us ask the Lord for the grace always to accept the invitation to His feast, which is free." Pope Francis



This week's Gospel Value has been:

Justice

Next week's Gospel value will be:

Courage

Mrs. Rawlinson's messages

On Tuesday we celebrated World Mental Health Day with the children wearing something yellow, a coffee morning for parents and a special assembly led by Jayne (our link mental health nurse) and organised by Mrs. Bishop (our Pastoral Lead). Such occasions are great ways to raise awareness of important issues such as mental health and as a school we fully support such matters that can have massive impacts on the lives of our children and young people. I would like to make clear that with mental health being such a significant issue in today's world, that it is constantly being talked about in school and positive mental health is promoted regularly through RE, PSHE, RSHE, PE and assemblies. If you have any questions regarding this you can contact me on lyn.rawlinson@sthelens.org.uk and I will be happy to chat with you.

We continue to mark Black History Month as well with a focus on 'Celebrating our Sisters' - looking at the lives of black women and the impact they have had on the modern world. This will link to our Gospel Value of the week which will be 'courage'.

Next Wednesday, as part of our Black History Month, we have special visitors in school leading African dance workshops with our children, which has been funded by our PTFA. Please watch out for photographs and updates through our Twitter (X) and Facebook platforms.

Important meeting at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

There is an important meeting to be held on Wednesday, 18th October at 7.00pm at church.
All are invited.

It is to discuss the future of the church and whether it will remain open or not.

Your attendance would be greatly appreciated and if you have something to say about the future of the church, this will be your chance to speak out and be heard.

I will be there as will many of our governors. I hope to see as many parents as possible.

Thank you for your support.

St. Thomas of Canterbury's Harvest Celebrations

Brighten up for CAFOD

On Wednesday, 25th October the children are to come to school wearing bright colours for a monetary donation towards CAFOD.

We will also be accepting donations of non perishable food during the last week of the half term. Donations of food and toiletries are to be brought to school from Monday, 23rd October until Wednesday, 25th October.

The donations will then be collected from school on Thursday, 26th October and taken to the St. Helens foodbank.

Through these actions we are helping both our global and local neighbours—part of our Live Simply promises.

Our Harvest celebration this year will be held in church on **Thursday, 26th October at 9:20am.** Please note the time has changed from the original 11am start, all are welcome.

If any parents are available to walk to church with the children please meet at the school office at 9am.

Reminder: Parents Evening

Parents evening is to be held on Wednesday, 25th October starting at 1.30pm.

Please make sure to make an appointment to speak with your child(ren)'s teacher. Appointments are now available to book through School Spider.

These meetings are to discuss how your child has settled in to their new year group and how we can best work together to support your child.

Miss Hitchen and Mrs. Rawlinson will be available to speak to if needed.

Reminder: Half term and INSET days

Friday, 27th October is an INSET day for staff and school will be closed to children.

Half term week is Monday, 30th October to Friday, 3rd November.

Monday, 6th November is also an INSET day and school will be closed to children.

Children return to school on Tuesday, 7th November.

World Diabetes Day

Tuesday, 14th November is World Diabetes Day and this year it also marks 100 years since the recognition of the discovery of insulin.

During this week, we will be talking to the children about diabetes and what impact it can have on daily life of a diabetic. Thank you to Esther in Year 5 for helping raise awareness.

PTFA News

PTFA Lottery - Thank you to all families who have signed up for this years lottery. Numbers will be allocated and given out in the next few weeks, ready for the first draw.

Xmas4schools - Children have been completing Christmas designs in class. Most children will have brought their designs home by the end of this week. All you need to do is complete the reverse of the design and return to school by Wednesday the 18th October. You will then receive a link in a couple of weeks to place your order if you so wish. Orders will be delivered to school towards the end of November.

Christmas Fayre Raffle Prizes - If any parents own a business or have contacts and could help us source raffle prizes for the Christmas Fayre e.g. Vouchers, tickets, products, we would be very grateful. Please let the office or PTFA know if you can help with this. Thank you.

Disco's - Disco's will take place after school on Thursday, 26th October for Reception - Year 6 children. Letters about this will be sent home at the beginning of next week.

Easyfundraising - Easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity shopping site. It's a free way to raise money for a charity when you shop online. Easyfundraising works with over 6000 retailers who will give you a donation for shopping with them, with no extra cost to your shop. If you haven't already signed up, go to easyfundraising.org.uk for more information. Make sure you select St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School, St Helens from the list of charities. This is an easy way to raise money for the school and every penny counts!

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!

After School Club - 24th November 2023

There will be no after school club on Friday, 24th November due to the Christmas Fayre taking place.

Levy Contribution 2022/23

We have a shortfall in our Levy contributions from parents of £410 from the last academic year. If you have received a levy reminder text, please can you settle before the end of this half-term. 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 - One way to spot scam emails is to check the email address itself. If you receive an email from
a company it will usually have the company name after the @ symbol. A lot of the time they are random
letters and numbers if they are scams.

-Max M

Parent tip - You can usually check the email address an email has been sent from by double clicking on the
name if using a laptop or tapping the name on a tablet.

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, 13th October 2023 the whole school attendance is 97.86%

Reception = 99.58%

Year 1 = 94.40%

Year 2 = 97.08%

Year 3 = 100.0%

Year 4 = 99.58%

Year 5 = 97.50%

Year 6 = 96.77%

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

October

- 18th - African Music Workshops (whole school)
- 18th - Meeting in Church (7pm)
- 20th - Y2 World of Glass Visit
- 24th - New intake meeting for prospective parents 3.30pm
- 25th - Brighten 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