

# St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 12th January 2024

**Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I shall be there with them."**



## Mrs. Rawlinson's message

*Happy new year - Wishing all our families a happy, healthy and successful 2024.*

*This year has been declared a special Year of Prayer by Pope Francis, so to help our children grow and develop in their prayer life, we will be using the 'Five Finger Prayer' in whole school collective worship.*



*We will also be uploading the 'Wednesday Word' on to our school website each week. This is a great resource to help families spend time together in prayer at home. You will find this under the Religious Education tab on the website.*

*The work on our prayer garden is also coming along nicely. We are now just waiting for the fencing and a 'grotto' for our statue of Mary to be installed. I will keep you updated on progress.*

This week has seen the start of our new style delivery of the foundation subjects; where each subject will be taught in blocks of time rather than spaced out over half terms. This week and next, our focus is on history. The children have been totally immersed in their history topics and have been learning new vocabulary, knowledge, skills key concepts and facts related to their class topic.

Next Friday, there will be a whole school celebration of learning in the Friday's celebration assembly. I look forward to hearing about all the wonderful things the children have learnt over the two weeks.

Next Friday, there will be an assembly for the children about 'Fairtrade'. We have a visitor coming in to speak with the children about Fairtrade, ready to launch our Fairtrade week the following week (w.b. 22nd January).

## Growing Together in God's Love

### Allergy reminder

This is your half termly reminder that we are a nut free school. Please be very mindful of what snacks and food you are sending into school as we have a number of children with severe allergies. Thank you.

### Fairtrade Week

A member of the Fairtrade/CAFOD will be in school on Friday, 19th January to talk to the children about



Fairtrade and to launch our Fairtrade week which will be commencing on Monday, 22nd January.

This is an important part of our Live Simply action plan.

### Primary applications

The deadline for primary applications is drawing near so if you, or if you know of anyone needing a place in Reception for September 2024, please ensure applications are in submitted by 15th January 2024.

### Parents Forum for Spring Term

The next parents forum meeting will be held on Monday, 11th March at 5pm.

To discuss:

- New style curriculum and impact.
- Reading at home
- AOB

ALL ARE INVITED. PLEASE DO COME ALONG.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to the newly married Mr. & Mrs. Dunning (Miss Kelly) who got married during the Christmas break.



We wish you both a lifetime of love and happiness.

### On-line Safety Tip

This week's tip is:

"Make sure to cover your webcam on your device when not using it as some viruses can gain access to this.

Lyubomir S

**Parent tip::** The best way to support your child online is to talk to them about what they do.

### Free School Meal Eligibility

A reminder that we now have access to an on-line Free School Meal eligibility check. If you are in receipt of certain benefits your child may be eligible to a free school meal but you must apply.

The checker is easy to use and completely confidential, simply click on the link below which takes you through to a short questionnaire and you will receive a decision immediately. The school will then be informed of the outcome.

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

Benefits are:-

A free school meal for your child.

Savings for you - worth over £350 a year.

Extra money for the school through Pupil Premium - worth £1385 a year.

Remember just registering your child for Free School Meals means that school receives the extra money even if you don't take up the free meal. No-one will know that you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

# Growing Together in God's Love

## Important Dates for your Diary

### January

18th - Reception hearing screening

22nd - Fairtrade Week

### February

2nd - Y5 attending Crucial Crew

5th - Y5 Bikeability Training - different group each day throughout this week

5th - Y4 Trip to Deva Discovery Centre Chester

7th - Young Voices Concert

9th - end of Spring term 1 (break for February half-term)

19th - Staff Inset Day

20th - School Re-opens (doors open from 8.40am)

23rd - Year 5 start swimming sessions (runs for 5 weeks)

26th - KS1 Fencing starts after school until 4.15pm (running for 5 weeks)

### March

1st - Y1/Y2 Trip to World Museum Liverpool

4th - Whole school photographs (Academy Photography)

7th - Y3 Trip to World Museum Liverpool

20th - Y4 First Forgiveness ( 5pm)

21st - PTFA Easter Bingo

25th - Y6 Residential (The Conway Centre) leave at 10am

27th - Y6 return from Residential

28th - end of Spring term (school closes for Easter at 1.30pm)

## 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 12th January 2024 the whole school attendance is 96.68%

Reception = 87%

Year 1 = 99.5%

Year 2 = 96.9%

Year 3 = 98.3%

Year 4 = 100%

Year 5 = 100%

Year 6 = 95%

Mental Health Support Team

# WELLBEING WEBINARS

**Mersey Care**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Your MHST is running a series of webinars one Friday a month on a number of topics relating to mental health and wellbeing.

## TOPICS AND DATES

- Worry Management - 19 January
- Parenting for Anxiety - 23 February
- Low Mood - 22 March
- Neurodiversity - 26 April
- Parent Skills for Behaviour - 17 May
- LGBTQ+ - 21 June
- Emotional Regulation - 19 July



### WHEN

4pm to 4:45pm



### WHERE

Zoom

(link will be emailed)



To register please email which  
webinar you want to attend to  
**[events@merseycare.nhs.uk](mailto:events@merseycare.nhs.uk)**

Webinars will be recorded.  
No chat function will be available  
for safety purposes.