

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 9th February 2024



This week's Gospel

"The leprosy left him at once and he was cured."

Mark 1: 40-45

Mrs. Rawlinson's message



A massive well done to our performing arts group who attended and performed at the Young Voices concert on Wednesday. What an amazing experience it was. Everybody had a fantastic time - even the adults who sang and danced just as much as the children did! The children were amazing and I am so proud of you all. The children's behaviour throughout was exceptional and their singing and dancing full of energy and excitement. Thank you to the adults who gave their time to be with the children throughout the afternoon and into the evening and thanks to Miss Hitchen for her hard work in teaching the children the new songs and dance routines over the last few months.

Young Voices is most definitely a highlight in the school calendar!

It has been a busy half term since returning after Christmas and I wish the children and their families a safe and happy half term holiday. I would also like to thank all the staff at school for their hard work, support and kindness shown as we have had to navigate through a variety of challenges this half term.

Strength comes from team work and team work makes the dream work!

I wish them all a happy and restful half term break.

Nursery Admissions for September 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

Staff update

Please keep Mrs Ganson and her family in your prayers as she continues to be absent following a bereavement.

Year 4 will continue to be taught in the main by Miss. Hitchen (with Mrs Rawlinson, Mrs Bishop and Mr. Burke covering when needed) to ensure continuity and high standards of teaching and learning are maintained in Year 4.

Staff INSET day

Reminder: Monday, 19th February is an INSET day and school will be closed to children on that day.

School reopens for children on Tuesday, 20th February.

During the INSET day, staff will be preparing even more exciting things to come in the next half term so watch this space.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, 14th February (next week) is Ash Wednesday and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Usually we would be attending a whole school Mass at church to celebrate the start of Lent and to receive our ashes.

When we return after the half term we will be starting our Lenten journey towards Easter. By attending mass on Ash Wednesday would be a lovely start to Lent for the children.



For Lent 2024, St Thomas of Canterbury is once again working with CAFOD and hoping to raise money to help hardworking people get the tools and training they have asked for to put food on their tables.

Our challenge is to walk 200km in 40 days during Lent beginning on Wednesday 14th February and to get family and friends to sponsor. This is 5km a day but it doesn't have to be 5km all in one go instead it can be spread out over the day such as the walk to and from school or if you do a 15-minute cycle this is equivalent to a 5km walk. A 35-minute exercise class is also equivalent to a 5km walk. Your effort and participation are appreciated regardless of whether you achieve the 5km a day target or not so please get walking every little bit counts!

We will be doing our part in school by taking the children on a planned walk.

Nursery and Reception	Walk around the school grounds and field. (laps of the school field) Wednesday 28 th February 1.30 pm
Year One and Year Two	As above but a greater distance. Monday 26 th February 1.30 pm
Year Three and Year Four	A walk around the cemetery Wednesday 28 th February 9.00 am
Year Five and Year Six.	A walk to and around Victoria Park. Thursday 22 nd February 9.00am

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

February

- 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
- 8th - Reception Mother's Day Assembly (2.30pm)
- 11th - Parents Forum Meeting (5pm)
- 13th - Parents Afternoon (1.30pm - 6pm)
- 15th - Stations of the Cross (11am)
- 20th - Y4 First Forgiveness (5pm)
- 21st - PTFA Easter Bingo (4pm)
- 25th - Y6 Residential (The Conway Centre) leave at 10am
- 26th - Rock Steady Performance (2pm)
- 27th - Y6 return from Residential
- 28th - end of Spring term (school closes for Easter at 1.30pm)

April

- 10th - School Re-opens for Summer term (doors open from 8.40am)

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 9th February 2024 the whole school attendance is 96.58%

Reception = 99.26%

Year 1 = 99.23%

Year 2 = 94.64%

Year 3 = 95.19%

Year 4 = 96.67%

Year 5 = 95.93%

Year 6 = 95.19%

St Helens StoryFest

10th - 17th February

A **Wondrous** Storytelling Festival for Families

Tickets **£3.10** or **£10** for a group of 4. Book online at **wonderarts.co.uk**

Kid Carpet:

**The Noisy
Garden Centre**



St Helens Library

Saturday 10th February
10.30am & 2.30pm

Daryl & Co:

Boxed In



Chester Lane Library

Monday 12th February
2.30pm

Angel Exit Theatre:

**Book Club for
Super Spies**



Haydock & Moss Bank Libraries

Tuesday 13th February
10.30am & 2.30pm

Hands Down Circus:

Tape That



Thatto Heath Library

Wednesday 14th February
10.30am & 2.30pm

Hurly Burly:

You are the Sun



Chester Lane Library

Thursday 15th February
10.30am & 2.30pm

Oliver Sykes:

Fishing for Rainbows



Eccleston Library

Friday 16th February
10.30am

Crows Nest Theatre:

Is that a Yeti Hetty?

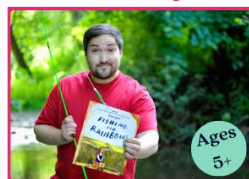


Eccleston Library

Friday 16th February
11.45am, 12.30pm, 1.15pm & 2.00pm

Oliver Sykes:

**Creative Writing
Workshop**



Eccleston Library

Friday 16th February
2.30pm

Of the Jackal:

SPLAT!



Newton Le Willows Library

Saturday 17th February
10.30am & 2.30pm