



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 19th April 2024



This week's Gospel

"I am the good shepherd."

John 10: 11-18

Mrs. Rawlinson's message

We started this week with an assembly about the importance of reading, whether that be reading to yourself, reading aloud to someone or being read to. Studies show that children who read for at least 20 minutes each day have a better vocabulary and are more successful in school (and in life). The feedback received from parental questionnaires given at parents evening showed that homework is an area for further development. (This is in response to the question: *My child receives appropriate homework for their age* - 63% strongly agree and 33% agree, 3% disagree and 1% strongly disagree).

So, whilst staff in school are considering how to improve our homework offer, we kindly ask parents to ensure the children are reading at home. In my opinion, it is THE most important homework for primary aged children in terms of vocabulary acquisition, imagination, knowledge and enjoyment. As ever, thank you for your support.

As I have been writing this first paragraph, I have been notified by one of our grandparents (thank you, Mrs Wilcock!) that our school has made it (once again) to the Times top 500 primary schools in the country! This is an amazing achievement and I am incredibly proud. This is due to the hard work and commitment of all involved with our school and the strong relationships we have with our families. The strong relationships we have with our families really does help to make St. Thomas of Canterbury such a special place to be. So thank you and well done everyone.

In other news...

Our prayer garden is now receiving its finishing touches and will be officially opened in the near future. I will keep you updated.

This week (and last) our foundation focus has been science. The children have obviously learnt so much and have enjoyed their learning, investigations and observation making. Well done everyone.

Finally, thank you to De La Salle children for their wonderful Shakespeare performance this afternoon for our Y5 & 6 children. You were incredible!

REMINDER: From September 2024, our times of the school day will be slightly changing and will be as follows:

Gates open: 8:40am

Registers: 8:50am (meaning children need to be in class by 8.50am)

End of day for Reception, KS1 and KS2: 3:20pm (nursery remains unchanged).

Next week our foundation focus will be:
Design & Technology and Languages

Les enfants apprendront...(the children will be learning...)

	Design and Technology
EYFS	Creating habitats for chicks
Year 1	Seasons weaving
Year 2	Designing and making Tudor houses
Year 3	Making a fruit salad
Year 4	Designing and making a sea turtle
Year 5	Making chocolate (linked to Mayans)
Year 6	Designing and making an electronic board game

As language angels we will be continuing to focus on the French language. Across the school we will be learning:

- Reception: Animals and learning the nursery rhyme of 'The Little Chick linking to our design and technology project.
- Year 1: Introducing numbers and days of the week
- Year 2: Linking to homes and families
- Year 3: Talking about animals, shapes and fruits
- Year 4: Greetings and colours
- Year 5: Talking about how you introduce yourself to others and talking about feelings. Sharing different activities we engage in.
- Year 6: Linking to DT we will learn a variety of colours and introduce conversational skills making us more secure in new language.



A great way to help your child know more and understand more about their new topics is to encourage the children to talk about them at home. When children can articulate what they have learnt at school it helps embed new learning into long term memory.

Also, you might learn a thing or two too!

Beckets 'Out of Hours Club'

A reminder that on the day bookings for the Out of Hours Club are for emergencies only. We are finding that many parents are ringing regularly on the day to book children into after school club. Sessions should be booked and paid for in advance via the school money app so that we can manage numbers. If an occasion arises where you need to book on the day, money should be put onto your account to cover the session as well as the late booking fee prior to contacting school to make the booking.

The charges are below:

Breakfast Club from 7.50am - £5.00

After School Club from 3.10/315pm up to 4.30pm - £6.25

After School Club up until 5.30pm - £8.00

Late Booking Fee (on the day bookings) - £2.50

Please do not drive through the school gates to drop off or pick up children.

The car park is for staff only, parents must use the parent car park before the school.

On-line Safety Tip

This week's tip is:

Child tip: " Always check with your parent before downloading an app or game."

-Alfie T

-Parent tip: It is always useful to have regular conversations with your children about their online activity.

Attendance

For week ending Friday 19th April 2024 the whole school attendance is 97.77%

Reception = 95.19%

Year 1 = 99.26%

Year 2 = 99.23%

Year 3 = 97.41%

Year 4 = 98.15%

Year 5 = 99.63%

Year 6 = 95.56%

Mental Health Support Team

WELLBEING WEBINARS



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

- 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

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

Growing Together in God's Love

Important dates for this term

April

- 22nd - 26th April Allergy awareness week
- 22nd - Nursery/Reception Living Eggs (chicks) delivered

May

- 1st - Y3 visit to Liverpool Museum (re-arranged from 7th March)
- 1st - Reception Vision Screening
- 3rd - Y1/Y2 visit to Liverpool Museum (re-arranged from 1st March)
- 6th - May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
- 9th - Service of the Word (not Mass) for Assension Thursday (11am)
- 10th - PTFA Family Quiz Night at Ruskin
- 13th - **Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 assessment week (SATs week)**
- 20th - Y4 Sacramental Workshop (5pm)
- 22nd - Y5 Trip to Tatton Park
- 24th - May Procession (11am)
- 24th - End of Summer term

June

- 10th - school reopens
- 12th - Reading Workshop for parents (3.30pm)
- 14th - EYFS Father's Day Assembly (2.30pm)
- 14th - Y4 swimming lessons commence each Friday until 19th July
- 18th - Academy photography for Y6 leavers photographs (groups & individuals)
- 22nd - Year 4 First Holy Communion
- 28th - Mass for Feast of St Peter and St Paul (11am)
- 28th - Summer fair (PTFA) starts at 3.30pm

July

- 1st - Parents forum (**note the later time of 6pm**)
- 1st - De La Salle transition week for Y6 children
- 18th - Leavers Mass (6pm)
- 23rd - End of summer term.**