



# St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 9th May 2025



## This week's Gospel

*"The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I  
know them and they follow me."*

John 10:27-30

## A message from Mrs Rawlinson

Congratulations to the children in Year 4 who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday. The weather was perfect for the occasion as the sun was out but not too hot.

It was a beautiful service made even more special by the children themselves. Their readings were clear and singing was beautiful. Their behaviour was impeccable throughout and they acted with such reverence. The children looked beautiful with their dresses and suits and bright, beaming smiles.

Thank you to all families who helped make it such a wonderful, celebratory Mass and as always, many thanks to Fr. Michael for all his help and support.

Fr. Michael announced last week that he will be moving to a new parish at the end of this academic year. This news has come as a complete shock to us all. I know I speak for everyone when I say that he will be deeply missed by the entire parish/school of St. Thomas of Canterbury.

His kindness, dedication, and spiritual guidance have touched the lives of many, creating a strong and supportive community that will feel his absence deeply.

We are grateful for the time he has spent with us as he literally has been a God send, arriving just when we needed him most and was pivotal in keeping our beloved church open.

In the meantime, we will keep him busy with our forthcoming May Procession and then leavers' Mass at the end of the year.

## Foundation governor vacancy/vacancies

We currently have one vacancy for a foundation governor, and when Fr. Michael leaves there will be another vacancy on our governing body.

Therefore, we are currently looking for dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers to serve as foundation governors.

Foundation governors play a vital role in supporting the school's vision, ensuring its Catholic ethos and mission are upheld, and helping to guide its strategic direction.

If you are interested in making a meaningful contribution to the life of the school and have a passion for education and community service, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with the school office for more information or to express your interest.

**Our school needs you!**

**Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 assessments**

The children in Year 6 will be completing their end of key stage assessments next week (Monday—Thursday).

During the week the children will be completing a Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation test, Reading test, an arithmetic test and maths papers 1 & 2. I know the children will do their very best and we wish them the very best of luck.

If your child is in Year 6, please make sure they have a good night's sleep each night so they are able to perform to the best of their ability. We also recommend they bring in water to keep them hydrated.

**SATS BREAKFAST**

Children in Year 6 can come into the school for 8.30am each day of the tests, where they will be offered a SATS breakfast (toast, cereal, fruit juice) to give them extra energy and a calm start to the day.

**PATHS information session for Parents**

There will be an information session for parents regarding the programme we have introduced this year for the children, called PATHS. PATHS stands for Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies and is a highly regarded programme designed to give children knowledge, skills and understanding about emotions, problem solving and self control.

The children are already engaged in the programme and the impact it is having is tangible in school. The programme will work with more impact if parents are aware and involved too. The information session is to raise awareness so parents can support children's emotional and social well-being at home too.

Lisa and Gemma from Barnardo's will be presenting the session.

The session is in the school hall on Tuesday, 13th May at 2.00pm. It will be finished by home time so usual home time arrangements are not affected.

I hope to see as many parents there as possible.

**Fundraising for a bench for Pope Francis**

Maisie and Emily from Year 4 decided it would be a great idea to have a bench installed outside of church dedicated to Pope Francis.

Fr. Michael supports this project and our Mini Vinnies are now actively involved too. They have been tasked with creating some fundraising ideas to help fund this incredible project for our community.

A group of Year 5 girls have already started making bracelets to sell at home time next Friday. They plan on having a table set up at home time at the school gate, so parents can buy from them as they are picking up at the end of the day. All money raised will go towards the bench.

Please watch this space for further information!

**Primary School Admissions for September 2025**

We do have a few spaces available in our Reception Class for the September 2025 intake.  
If you know of any families who would be interested or would like any further information  
regarding these places,  
please contact the school office on telephone number  
01744 621380

**Nursery Admissions for 2025**

We still have 30 hour and 15 hour funded places available in our Nursery for  
September 2025  
for children who turn three before  
**31st August 2025.**

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

**PTFA summer fayre**

**This year the summer fayre will be held on Friday, 27th June**

In preparation, there will be non-uniform days held on

**Friday, 13th June and Friday, 20th June**

Information regarding the types of donations requested on the non-uniform days will follow in the next  
couple of weeks.

Thank you.

**Sports day**

The date set for sports day this year is

**Wednesday, 2nd July**

Lets hope for good weather!

**Nursery and Reception Classes will start at 9.10am.**

**Children from Year 1 & Year 2 will start their sports day events at 10.30am.**

**Children from Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 will start their sports day events at 1pm.**

We look forward to seeing as many parents and grandparents, who are able to attend, to cheer on  
the children!

**After School Club**

The after school club will be open on the date of the Summer Fayre, Friday 27th June.  
However, children booked into the club will be unable to attend the Summer Fayre until picked up by a  
parent or carer.

Thank you.

## Growing Together in God's Love

### **Important Dates for your Diary**

#### **May**

- 12th - Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 assessment week (SATs week)
- 12th - Reception vision screening
- 13th - PATHS parent information session (2pm in school hall)
- 14th - Year 3 visit to Liverpool World Museum
- 22nd - Year 6 personal awareness session with Judo Education during school time
- 23rd - May Procession (11am)
- 23rd - end of half-term (school closes for Whit holiday)

#### **June**

- 9th - School re-opens (8.40am)
- 11th - Y5/Y6 visit to Edgehill
- 11th - Reception New Intake Meeting (2.15pm)
- 13th - First non-uniform day for summer fayre donations
- 13th - Y4 start swimming sessions (each Friday until 18th July)
- 13th - EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Father's Day Assembly (2.30pm)
- 16th - Parents Forum (4.45pm)
- 17th - Year 6 Leavers photographs (Academy photography)
- 19th - School Nurse Health Drop In Session (8.30-9.30am)
- 20th - Second non-uniform day for summer fayre donations
- 20th - Year 5 & 6 attending performance of a Winters Tale at De La Salle (pm)
- 24th - Road safety awareness workshops (whole school)
- 24th - Nursery September new intake meeting (3.30pm)
- 27th - PTFA summer fayre (starts 3.30pm)

#### **July**

- 2nd - School Sports Day
- 7th - Year 6 De La Salle Transition week (all week)
- 15th - Rock Steady Summer Concert (2.15pm school hall)
- 18th - End of school year mass (church 11am)
- 21st - Nursery end of year celebration assembly (9.30-10.30am)
- 22nd - End of Summer term (school closes at 1.30pm)

#### **Attendance**

**For week ending Friday, 9th May 2025 the whole school attendance is 96.39%**

Reception = 96.25%

Year 1 = 92.92%

Year 2 = 97.08%

Year 3 = 94.83%

Year 4 = 97.98%

Year 5 = 97.98%

Year 6 = 97.50%

# Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins

Come along to one of our drop in sessions in St Helens.

Our team will answer questions you have about the neurodevelopment pathway process.

You don't need to be using our service, you can drop in if you have any questions to ask about this.

We look forward to meeting you.

**Second Tuesday of the month at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub 1pm to 4pm\*.**

**Third Tuesday of the month at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.**

**Fourth Tuesday of the month at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.**

*\*Please note, on Tuesday 8 July the session will be held at Sutton Family Hub 1pm to 4pm only.*

**13 May** at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**10 June** at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**8 July** at Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**20 May** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**17 June** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**15 July** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**27 May** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**24 June** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**22 July** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

Sutton Family Hub, Ellamsbridge Road, Sutton, St Helens, WA9 3PY

Parr Children's Centre, Ashton's Green Drive, Parr, St Helens, WA9 2AP

Central Link Family Hub, Westfield Street, (off Peter Street), St Helens, WA10 1QF

Newton Family Hub, Patterson Street, Newton-le-Willows, St Helens, WA12 9PZ

