



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 13th September 2024

Who do you say I am?

This week's Gospel

"Jesus loves us without limits. Each encounter with Jesus fills us with joy, with that deep joy which only God can give."

Based on Mark 8:27-35

A message from Mrs Rawlinson

There is a popular poem used in many schools as their 'school creed' which states,

"Many hands build a house, so many hearts make a school,"

and I am blessed to be surrounded by so many people making this school the wonderful place it is.

There is already so much going on in school and we have only been back for 2 weeks!

We have after school clubs, sports competitions, cinema trips, visitors (Barnardos and Dogs Trust), judo, phonics workshops, Sacramental preparation and so much more already planned for the forthcoming weeks. This is thanks to the hard working staff who make it all possible.

I'd like to say a massive thank you to all the staff in school for their hard work, compassion and dedication in providing the very best opportunities for our young people. I truly am blessed to be working with such dedicated, caring and compassionate people.

Preparation for Sacraments

The children in Year 4 are invited to join us on their journey of Sacramental preparation, in order to receive the Sacraments of Forgiveness and Holy Eucharist (First Confession and First Holy Communion).

The first workshop is completed during the school day and the children will go to church to identify important parts of the church and the symbolism of each.

The first workshop for parents and children together will be on Monday, 14th October at 5.00pm in the school hall.

The full list of dates for the year has been sent home with your child.

Mass to celebrate a new school year

The whole school will be going to mass next Friday, 20th September at 11.00am to celebrate a new school year.

Everyone is invited to join us in church for this special occasion.

If you can, could you please help walk the children to and from church please?

The more people helping the better.

If you can help, please come to school for 10.30am so we can safely walk together as a school. Thank you.

Meet the teacher

Parents/carers are invited to our annual 'meet the teacher' evening on the 18th September.

The evening will begin in the school hall where Mrs. Rawlinson will introduce the evening and give a talk before parents go off to visit classrooms with their child's class teachers.

Each talk in the classrooms will be repeated for parents to visit more than one class.

Meet the teacher evening gives parents an opportunity to hear about the curriculum and look at teaching and learning resources and see your child's new classroom.

Teachers will explain what you need to know and their expectations regarding homework, reading, PE, RSHE, extra curricular activities and how you as parents can help support your child through this next academic year, working in partnership with the school.

The evening will begin at 3.30 in the hall.

Talk one in classrooms 4.00pm—4.10pm

Talk two in classrooms 4.20—4.30pm.

We look forward to welcoming everybody.

PLEASE NOTE: this is for Years 1—6 only as EYFS had 'meet the teacher' meetings before the summer holiday and are having a separate phonics workshop - see below.

PLEASE NOTE: The teachers will not have the opportunity during 'meet the teacher' to discuss individual children and it does not replace parents evening.

If you do wish to speak on a more personal level, please arrange a separate appointment with either me or your class teacher. Thank you.

Parents evening

Following feedback from parents, staff have agreed to split parents evening into 2 separate days.

Parents evening for the autumn term will be:

- ♦ Wednesday, 23rd October at 1.30 - 4pm
- ♦ Thursday, 24th October at 4.00 - 6.00pm

The purpose of these meetings is to discuss how your child has settled into their new class and any specific targets they have.

EYFS phonics workshop

Parents and carers of children in nursery and reception classes are invited to a phonics workshop on 25th September in the school hall at 3.30pm.

EYFS staff will be explaining exactly how we teach reading in school.

They will give demonstrations and show the online resources that can be accessed at home. They will also explain the procedures for reading and reading at home.

Reading is the key to future success and has high priority in the school. We hope you can join us.

Extra-curricular school clubs

The teacher led after school clubs will commence next week and will run for 5 or 6 weeks, taking us up to October half term. Each club is from the end of school day until 4.00pm.

Letters have been sent home: to sign up for the club on offer please make sure to return the permission slip with payment by Monday morning.

The staff after school clubs on offer this term are:

Ukulele (STRUM) with Mr. Brown - Mondays. Key Stage 2

(spaces and ukeleles available)

Running with Mr. Hale - Mondays. Key Stage 2.

Debate Club with Mr. McCue - Tuesdays. Key Stage 2

Young Voices with Mrs. Cain, Mrs Houghton and Mrs Rawlinson - Thursdays. Years 4, 5 & 6.

Singing with Mrs Barry and Ms Farrell - Thursdays. Years 1, 2 and 3

PLEASE NOTE: there is a charge of £1 per week per child for each club.

Judo Education

Y2-Y6 Judo club starts on Wednesday, 18th September from 7.50am to 8.45am running for 6 weeks - there are still places available, please send back permission slip with payment by Monday morning.

Beckets 'Out of Hours 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.

A reminder that on the day bookings for the Out of Hours Club are for emergencies only.

Any arrears should be cleared prior to using the club.

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

If you have been asked to complete an Out of Hours registration form please return to school asap

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

Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

Asda does the rest, all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most.

The supermarket has joined forces with Joe Wicks to support the initiative – look out for the TV advert, radio ads and social media coverage

Flu Vaccination

A message from the Flu Immunisation Team was sent by email last week providing information regarding this years vaccination programme and containing a link to consent to your child receiving the vaccine in school on 21st October 2024. A copy of the message is below, please ensure you complete the on-line consent by the end of today if not already done so.

Dear Parent/Carer.

Welcome back to a new school term we hope you had a lovely summer break.

Your Childs flu immunisation is due this term.

It is important that all parents/carers read and respond to this message to avoid receiving further telephone calls, texts, and letters from our service.

Please visit this link <https://econsent.merseycare.nhs.uk/> and complete your Childs flu form with a yes or no by the 13/09/24, you can select the nasal spray for the best protection or the alternative injectable flu, if required via this link.

Any forms completed late may result in your child not receiving their flu immunisation at the first school session.

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will help to protect them as well as more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu this year.

If you require any further support, please contact the school immunisation team on 01744 415 645 who will be happy to help.

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 September 2024 the whole school attendance is 98.94%

- Reception = 99.63%
- Year 1 = 98.52%
- Year 2 = 100%
- Year 3 = 97.62%
- Year 4 = 99.28%
- Year 5 = 100%
- Year 6 = 97.41%

World Mental Health Day

On Thursday 10th October it is world mental health day.

We are planning activities for the children throughout the day together with Adam from Healthy Active Lifestyles, including Yoga and promoting a healthy lifestyle.

This year the theme is to wear a green ribbon, so we are inviting the children to wear something green with their uniform.

There will be an assembly for the children with Jayne Aspinall who is our school mental health practitioner at the end of the day.

We will also be inviting parents and grandparents to a coffee morning on the day. Further details will follow.



Morning Snack

Children in Reception and KS1 receive a free piece of fruit each day.

Any morning snacks sent into school should be fruit

Please remember we are a NUT FREE SCHOOL.

Please do not send any food that contains nuts of any sort into school for snack or lunch.

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

September

- 18th – Meet the teacher (3.30pm) Y1 to Y6
- 20th - Mass for new school year (11am in Church)
- 25th - EYFS phonics workshop in hall (3.30pm)

October

- 7th - RSHE & Journey in Love Workshop in hall (3.30pm)
- 10th - World Mental Health Day - wear something green
- 14th - Sacramental Workshop 2 for Year 4 (5-6pm in school hall)
- 15th - Reception & Year 6 height & weight screening
- 18th - Halloween party : 3.20-4pm Reception & KS1/4.00-5pm KS2
- 21st - Flu Vaccination Programme (whole school)
- 23rd - Parents afternoon (1.30-4.00pm)
- 24th - Harvest service in Church (11am)
- 24th - Parents evening (4-6pm)
- 24th - End of first half-term

November

- 4th - Return to school
- 11th - Remembrance Mass in Church (10.45am)
- 15th - 1st non-uniform day (in return for donations TBC for Christmas Fair)
- 22nd – 2nd non-uniform day (in return for donations TBC for Christmas Fair)
- 26th - Y3/Y4/Y5 Cineworld trip - film Migration
- 27th - Reception/Y1/Y2 Cineworld trip- film Trolls
- 28th - Y6 Cineworld trip - film Kung Fu Panda 4
- 29th - PTFA Christmas Fair (3.30pm start)

December

- 6th - Altru Drama performance for whole school
- 10th - Rock Steady Concert (2.30pm)
- 11th - Enrolment Mass in Church for Y4 families
- 20th - End of autumn term