



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Thursday, 24th October 2024



This week's Gospel

"I did not come to be served — I came to serve and to give my life for other people."

Mark 10: 35-45

A message from Mrs Rawlinson

What a busy week it has been!

We have raised £170 for CAFOD by wearing our bright colours today and have also collected an overwhelming amount of food/toiletries for our local foodbank. Thank you everyone for your display of kindness. Once again I am truly humbled by your generosity. Thank you.

The food will be collected by volunteers from St. Helens foodbank; thanks to Mrs. Allaway for arranging collection.

After a few frantic phone calls and eventually getting into Church today our Harvest service this morning was a wonderful celebratory occasion for our school and parish community.

The children sang and read beautifully; it really was uplifting and a lovely way to say thank you to God for all we have.

Thank you to the parents who helped escort the children to and from church, your help and time is appreciated, as always.

We've also had our first Parents Afternoons/Evenings of this academic year, which have been very well attended and hopefully productive in nature.

Finally, I'd like to say thank you to the children and staff for all their hard work and efforts during this half term and I wish everyone a restful half term holiday. I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, 4th November.

Parents forum

The next parents forum meeting for this academic year will be held on Monday, 4th November at 4.45pm.

All are invited, it would be lovely to see as many parents as possible at these meetings.

Young Voices/Y1 & Y2 Choir

The two missed sessions from this half-term will take place when we return on Thursday 7th November and 15th November, pick up at 4pm.

Halloween Discos

We raised just over £620.

Thank you to everyone who supported us with this event and to the parents and staff who gave up their time to help. A special thank you to one of our parents, James Bagdonovicius, who once again offered to be our DJ for free.

Thank you.

Xmas4Schools

Thank you to everyone who returned their order forms. They have been posted off and you should receive a text/email in the next week or two with a link to the order cards and gifts in your child's design.

PTFA Lottery

The draw for September and October has taken place this afternoon in Year 5.

Congratulation's to our Winners:

September

1st Prize £40—No 17 Janet Weldon

2nd Prize £20—No 24 Chris McEgan

October

1st Prize £40—No 59 Rachel Springford

2nd Prize £20—No 37 Danielle Woodward

Out of Hours Club

Reminder: If you have been given a registration form to complete for the Out of Hours Club, please send into school asap.

If you have received a text message regarding arrears, please clear any outstanding balance before returning in November.

Christmas Fayre preparations

Yes I have said it - Christmas!

Our Christmas fayre is to be held on **29th November** (the fourth week back after half term)

So in preparation there will be own clothes days on the following dates:

Friday 15th November in return for donations of new toys and bottles

Friday 22nd November in return for donations of new toys, chocolates, gift sets/luxury items

Reminder for Y6 parents

Your application forms for secondary schools must be submitted by **31st October 2024**

Growing Together in God's Love

Book Fair

To celebrate and encourage a lifelong love of reading at home and school.

Usborne Book Fair will be in school on Wednesday 6th, November at home time.

There will be a wide range of books available suitable from early years right up to year 6/7. Parents can visit the book fair to see the wonderful selection of books that can be purchased for your children.

With the book fair, school is entitled to up to 60% of all sales in free books.

Thank you.

A message from the School Nurse

Dear Parents,

A member of the 0-19 school nursing team are delivering a drop in service at St. Thomas of Canterbury School on:

Thursday, 14th November, from 8.30am

This service offers confidential support and advice for you and your family around:

- Emotional and mental wellbeing
- Physical health
- Dental health
- Bullying and keeping safe
- Relationships, advice and support
- Puberty
- Vaccinations

Please drop if you wish to speak with your school nurse, no appointment is necessary. We look forward to seeing you.

New intake for September 2025

If you have a child due to start school in September 2025 and are considering St. Thomas of Canterbury as one of your choices, then please come along to our new admission meetings. These will give you all the information you need to help you make your choices and give you a flavour of what school life is like here at St. Thomas of Canterbury. Prospective parents are warmly welcome to visit school on:

- Wednesday, 13th November at 2.00pm

If you know of anyone with a child due to start school please pass this date onto them.

Nursery Admissions for 2025

We are now allocating 30 hour and 15 hour funded places in our Nursery for September 2025 for children who turn three before

31st August 2025

We also still have places available from January 2025 for children who turn three before December 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

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 Thursday, 24th October 2024 the whole school attendance is 93.91%

Reception = 95.71%

Year 1 = 91.9%

Year 2 = 95.7%

Year 3 = 91.6%

Year 4 = 94%

Year 5 = 96.3%

Year 6 = 91.9%

REMINDER: From September 2024, our times of the school day are 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).

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

November

- 4th - Return to school
- 4th - Parents Forum meeting
- 6th - Usborne Book Fair from 3pm
- 11th - Remembrance Mass in Church (10.45am)
- 13th - Open afternoon for prospective Reception 2025 intake (2pm)
- 14th - School Nurse Drop In from 8.30am
- 15th - 1st non-uniform day (in return for donations of new toys and bottles for Christmas Fair)
- 22nd - 2nd non-uniform day (in return for donations of new toys, chocolates, gift sets/luxury items 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 Fayre (3.30pm start)

December

- 2nd - Altru Drama performance for whole school
- 2nd - EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Nativity (2.15pm)
- 4th - EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Nativity (9.30am)
- 6th - Advent Mass in Church (11am)
- 10th - Rock Steady Concert (2.30pm)
- 11th - Enrolment Mass in Church for Y4 families (6pm)
- 18th - Breakfast with Santa (8am)
- 20th - End of autumn term (children will finish at 1.30pm)