



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 28th February 2025



This week's Gospel

"A good person does good things out of the good stored up their heart. Your words show what is in your heart."

Luke 6: 39-45

A message from Mrs Rawlinson

Welcome back to a new half term and it is great to see the days are now getting longer and that the daffodils are blooming! Spring is definitely in the air!

During this half term our focus is very much on Lent and preparing ourselves for Easter.

It is Ash Wednesday next week (5th March) and Fr. Michael will be distributing ashes at the following times:

- whole school Mass for Ash Wednesday at 11.00am (families warmly invited to join us)
- Mass with ashes at 6.00pm at St Thomas of Canterbury church
- Mass with ashes at 9.20am at St. Julie's church

If you can help us to safely walk the children to and from church on Wednesday morning, your help will be very much appreciated. Volunteers are asked to arrive at school for 10.30am to escort the children to church and then help to bring them back after Mass has ended. Thank you in advance.

Young Voices

What a day and night we had at the Young Voices concert on Monday! It was such a fantastic experience for the children to be part of the 7,500 strong children's choir who performed at the new Co-op Arena in Manchester. I know the staff and parents (and me!) had a great time too! The children were amazing. Their energy and enthusiasm throughout the day was phenomenal. They sang and danced all day and all night - they were an absolute credit to themselves and their families. Well done to our Young Voices choir of 2025!

I am already looking forward to next year's concert.

Sad News

It is with great sadness that I have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Catherine Gorman, an inspirational and dedicated teacher who touched the lives of so many in our school community, both staff and pupils.

St. Thomas of Canterbury school and parish played such an important part in Mrs. Gorman's life, as a pupil herself and later as a teacher, working in the infant and junior departments. Mrs. Gorman was such a caring and loving person. Everything she did was for the benefit of others. She freely gave so much time, love and attention to all who knew her and we were blessed by having her in our lives.

Her great generosity of spirit and life-long commitment to the school will always be remembered and appreciated.

May she rest in peace.

Parents Evening Meetings

Evening 1: Wednesday, 5th March from 3.30pm
- 5.00pm.

Teachers will personally invite parents to evening 1.

Evening 2: Wednesday 12th March from 1.30pm
- 6pm.

Evening 2 appointments will be bookable through School Spider later next week.

Parents who attend evening 1 do not need to book for evening 2.

Friday Masses at Church

Apologies for the changes in dates for class masses at church. These have been due to funerals taking place at church, meaning we have had to reschedule.

Class teachers will send a dojo message to parents once new dates have been set.

Thanks for your understanding.

Year 4 First Forgiveness

Year 4 children will be making their Sacrament of Forgiveness (Holy Confession) on

Wednesday, 19th March at 6pm at church.

Parents must accompany children. Relatives and

extended families are more than welcome to join

us.

World book day 2025

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on

Friday, 7th March.

This year, we are inviting children to take part in a fun and creative challenge

"Dress as a Word!"

Instead of dressing as a book character, we encourage children to choose a word and create a costume that represents it. For example, they could dress as "sparkly," "brave," "stormy," or "stripy"!

This is a fantastic way to build vocabulary and make learning even more engaging. We can't wait to see the imaginative outfits and celebrate the joy of words together.

See next page for more information from Mrs Cain.

Thank you for your support!

School Photographs – Monday, 3rd March 2025

Academy, the school photographers will be in school on Monday, 3rd March.

They will be taking all the children's individual photographs, as well as sibling photographs during school time.

However, if you would like a photograph of your child with a sibling who does not attend our school or nursery then please come to the school hall at the earlier time of 8.30 a.m.

NB: all children should come to school in their school uniform.

If your child has PE on Monday they will be required to change into their PE kit/tracksuit, so should bring this with them to school.

Thank you.

Growing Together in God's Love



On Friday 7th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. Altru Drama will visit each class to deliver drama workshops based on the theme "Brilliant Books" to help children to learn about books and to tell their own stories.

Our week in school will be filled with lots of exciting, celebratory ways to promote reading for pleasure. Please visit the World Book Day website to use their wonderful resources with your child and to decide how to spend your voucher. The Book Stop in St Helens will stock these books and it is a lovely way to spend an hour looking round or enjoying a hot chocolate!

www.worldbookday.com

www.thebookstop.org

Our dressing-up theme on Friday 7th March will be 'Dress as a Word' and it will culminate in a 'Vocabulary Parade' so that the children can show off their costumes.

Here are a few examples:



x-ray

ambivalent

blizzard

We hope that your children will enjoy the day - please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Attendance and punctuality at school

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, 28th February 2025 the whole school attendance is 98.17%

- Reception =96.67%
- Year 1 = 100%
- Year 2 = 99.05%
- Year 3 = 100%
- Year 4 = 98.62%
- Year 5 = 97.24%
- Year 6 = 95.71%

School 25th Anniversary

Our beautiful school building will be 25 years old this March.

No doubt, many of you or your families will have been associated with the school over that period of time.

To mark this lovely milestone, we would like to create a small display which recognises how we have changed/grown over the years.

If you have any documentation or information which could be of interest please let us know.

We would particularly like any photos especially those of year groups.

Many thanks



Jewellery

We have noticed that some children have been coming to school wearing earrings.

A polite reminder that jewellery of any kind should not be worn in school for health and safety reasons.

Please make sure that all jewellery is removed before attending school.

Thank you.

School Meals

The new School Grid system is working well with the majority of parents pre-ordering and paying for their children's meals.

Please remember to pre-order on a weekly, monthly or daily basis, whichever suits you best.

However, on the day orders need to be on the system by 8.55am.

If you have dinner arrears prior to the implementation of School Grid, these should be cleared on your School Money account.

Please do not add credit to dinner money however on your School Money account .

Thank you.

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

March

- 3rd - Whole school photographs (Academy Photography)
- 4th - Y5 visit to Eccleston Library (1.30pm)
- 5th - Ash Wednesday Mass in Church (11am)
- 5th - Parents Evening 1 (3.30-5.00pm invited parents only)
- 6th - "World Book Day" - Year 3 visiting Eccleston Library
- 7th - Altru Drama "Brilliant Books" workshops (all classes throughout the day)
- 12th - Parents Evening 2 (1.30-6pm)
- 19th - Y4 First Confession in Church (6pm)
- 25th - Rock Steady Easter Concert (2.15pm in school hall)
- 26th - Year 4 Chester Roman Trip
- 26th - Nursery April intake parents meeting (3.30pm)
- 28th - EYFS Mothers Day assembly (Reception & Nursery)

April

- 2nd - Y6 Residential (The Conway Centre) leave at 10am
- 4th - Y6 return from Residential
- 7th - Y4 Sacramental Workshop 4 - (5pm School Hall)
- 10th - Talent Show (organized by Mini Vinnies)
- 11th - Stations of the Cross Mass in Church (11am)
- 11th - end of Spring term (school closes for Easter at 1.30pm)