

# St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 23rd September 2022

## Thought for the Week



“With Christ at the centre of your life, you will never be disappointed.”

Pope Francis

### A message from Fr. Michael Harwood

#### Opening of Saint Thomas of Canterbury.

It was announced at the consultation meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September that Archbishop Malcolm has agreed that the church can open for a period of 12 months.

The timescale for the opening is Advent so there is much to do in a short space of time.

I suggest the way forward is to establish a small parish committee.

If you are a parishioner of Saint Thomas of Canterbury and willing to join this committee, please register your interest with Marilyn by **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September**.

Marilyn is the parish secretary. Her number is 01744 22077 and email is: [stmaryandstthomas@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:stmaryandstthomas@rcaolp.co.uk)

Many thanks,  
Father Michael

### A message from Mrs. Rawlinson

I am sure you will be as delighted as I am to hear that our church can reopen again, albeit for a 12 month period. This is wonderful news for our school and for our school community. It is such a lovely church and has been the centre of community life for such a long time; we need to do what we can to help during the next 12 months. It would be wonderful if as many people as possible do what they can to help, as the old saying goes, 'many hands make light work'.

It is wonderful to know that we can further strengthen our parish links with Fr. Michael, who is our new priest. I have met with him a number of times this week and I look forward to working with him for the benefit of our children and whole school family.

## New intake for 2022/2023

If you have a child due to start school in September 2023 and are considering St. Thomas of Canterbury as one of your choices, then we have new admission meetings coming up, offering a chance to look around our school and speak with the head teacher, Mrs. Rawlinson.

Prospective parents are warmly welcome to visit school on:

Thursday, 13th October at 2.00pm

and

Tuesday, 18th October at 3.30pm.

If you know of anyone with a child due to start school, please pass this information on to them. Many thanks.

### Times table Rockstars

Friday started with a whole school assembly to officially launch our new platform for maths—Times Table Rockstars.

Children and staff were dressed as rock stars and really looked the part! Well done on such a huge effort in your costumes!



The children should have unique login details so they can access this program at home as well as school. Practice makes perfect and the more they try the quicker the speed of recall of times tables facts - all in a fun and engaging way.

If you have any questions regarding the use of TT Rockstars, you can email me on [stcparents@sthelens.org.uk](mailto:stcparents@sthelens.org.uk)

Support from home will be very much appreciated. Thank you.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We look forward to holding our annual MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday, 30th September at 9.00am in the school hall.

We will be accepting donations of cake and biscuits on Thursday (all day) and Friday by 9.00am.

Come along, have a brew and a chat and help raise much needed money for this vital charity.

Our school councillors will be on hand to help.

Thank you.

Parents Forum

The next Parent Forum meeting will be on Monday, 10th October at 5pm in the school hall.

Meetings usually last one hour.

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

**Our agenda items so far are:**

- \* Rainbow Flag award
- \* School improvement plan for 2022 – 2023
- \* Parish Links and the reopening of St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

If you have any agenda items or anything you wish to discuss at the meeting, you can email me on

[stcparents@sthelens.org.uk](mailto:stcparents@sthelens.org.uk)

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to the parents who attended our Meet the Teacher sessions on Wednesday. I hope you found them informative and useful in supporting your child on their educational journey this year.

These meetings will be repeated on Wednesday, 28th September at 3.45pm.

If you have already attended there is no need to return to the same teacher as it will be the same information given out.

Please note, children will be allowed in to the meetings if you have no other child care arrangements; children must not be left unaccompanied on the playground.

Thank you.

## **Important Dates for your Diary**

(more dates will be included as the term progresses)

### **September**

26th - After school clubs start (school staff led) timetable on last page

27th - SVP Mass at the Cathedral for Mini Vinnies (7pm)

28th - Meet the Teacher (3.45pm)

30th - MacMillan Coffee Morning

### **October**

3rd - Start of Black History month

10th - Parents forum at 5pm- 6pm in hall

10th - Sacramental Workshop 6pm—7pm in hall (Year 4)

13th - New intake meeting for prospective parents 2pm

18th - New intake meeting for prospective parents 3.30pm

19th - Parents' evening (face to face)

20th - Harvest celebration

21st - School closed for children (staff INSET)

31st - School closed for children (staff INSET)

### **November**

1st - Flu vaccines

### **December**

7th - EYFS Nativity

9th - Christmas jumper day

14th - KS1 Nativity

15th - KS2 Nativity

### **Class Collective Worships**

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, I am very keen to invite parents, carers and grandparents into school as much as possible to share our celebrations and prayer. Now that we are finally in a position to do this, we will be holding child-led Collective Worships throughout the year. The class presenting the Worship will invite their grown ups to attend (as we have a relatively small hall we can't invite the whole school family) and each class will lead 2 Collective Worships.

The dates for each class are as follows:

EYFS (Reception and Nursery) - 11th November 2022 and 23rd June 2023

Year 1 - 18th November 2022 and 10th February 2023

Year 2 - 16th December 2022 and 17th March 2023

Year 3 - 25th November 2022 and 10th March 2023

Year 4 - 27th March 2023 and 12th May 2023

Year 5 - 2nd December 2022 and 3rd February 2023

Year 6 - 9th December 2022 and 20th January 2023

Mini Vinnies, School Councillors and Eco Club will also be leading assemblies and we will give as much notice as possible so parents can attend these too.



Celebration page



Well done to our stars of the week.

The award this week is for producing amazing writing

Reception: Breccan Dickinson

Year 1: Beatrice Millen

Year 2: Bridget Leighton

Year3: Ellen Tucker

Year 4: Adam Gruszczynski

Year 5: Maggie Reilly

Year 6: Tess Mullen

PTFA

We are continuing our lottery club this year to raise monies for the benefit of our children. As many family members as you like can sign up to take part in the monthly cash draw for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize !

Please return the payment slip attached to the letter by Friday, 30th September ready for the September & October draws.

Thank you,

## Growing Together in God's Love

### Sacramental Preparation for Year 4

2022 - 2023

The children in Year 4 are invited to start their Sacramental journey through a series of workshops leading to their First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion.

The dates for the programme are as follows:

<u>Date and time</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Workshop/activity</u>	<u>Who should attend</u>
During school day	Low House Church	<u>Sacramental Workshop 1</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Come to the water (booklet 1)</li> </ul>	Children only (with teachers)
Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 5.00 – 6.00pm	school hall	<u>Sacramental Workshop 2</u> Called by name (booklet 2)	Parents/carers and children
Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 5.00 – 6.00pm	school hall	<u>Sacramental Workshop 3</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Come back to me (booklet 3)</li> </ul>	Parents/carers and children
<b><i>During school time, children will complete their preparation for First Reconciliation</i></b>			
During Advent Details to be confirmed		First Reconciliation	Parents/carers and children
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb- ruary 2023 5.00 – 6.00pm	school hall	<u>Sacramental Workshop 4</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new way of living (booklet 4)</li> <li>Teach us to pray (booklet 5)</li> </ul>	Parents/carers and children
Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 5.00 – 6.00pm	school hall	<u>Sacramental Workshop 5</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus brings us together (booklet 6)</li> <li>Jesus calls us to follow him (booklet 7)</li> </ul>	Parents/carers and children
<b><i>During school time, children will complete their preparation for First Holy Communion</i></b>			
May 2023 Details to be confirmed		Celebration of Communion	All family

More information about the Sacramental programme will be shared on the evening of Monday, 10th October.

If your child is Catholic, has been baptised and you wish for them to receive their Sacraments of Forgiveness and the Eucharist, then these are the dates you need.

If your child is not Catholic or has not been baptised, they can still take part in the workshops and celebrations but will not receive the Sacraments.

If you have any questions, you can email me on [stcparents@sthelens.org.uk](mailto:stcparents@sthelens.org.uk)

I will set the dates with Fr. Michael for first Forgiveness and First Holy Communion as soon as possible.

**After school clubs**

The after school clubs organised by teaching staff will begin week commencing Monday, 26th September for a total of 6 weeks, finishing on Friday, 11th November.

Name of club	Who for?	Days	Time	Staff member
Reading	Year 6	Monday	3.15-4.00pm	Mrs. Woodward
Choir	Years 3 & 4	Monday	3.15-4.00pm	Mrs. Houghton and Mrs. Ganson
Choir	Key Stage 1 Years 1 & 2	Monday	3.15-4.00pm	Mrs. Cain and Mrs. Barry
Rugby	Years 5 & 6	Tuesday	3.15-4.00pm	Mr. Hale
Guitar	6 children max. (must have own guitar)	Thursday	3.15-4.00pm	Mr. Ellis
Machine sewing	5 children max. (Year 5 & 6 only)	Thursday	3.15-4.00pm	Mrs. Ellis
Performing Arts	Key Stage 2 Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	Thursday	3.15-4.30pm	Miss. Hitchen
Outdoor learning	Year 1	Thursday	3.15-4.00pm	Mrs. Connolly Miss. Farrell
Football	Key Stage 2 Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	Thursday	3.15-4.00pm	Mr. McCue