



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 4th July 2025

Staffing Changes for 2025-26

Next Monday is our transition day, where the children have the excitement of moving up to their new class to 'try out' a day in their new year group and spend time with their new teachers. Attached to the newsletter this week you will find a list of the class structures and which adults will be working with which classes. This has also been shared with the children today.

As often happens at this time of year, there are some changes in staff as people move on to promotions and new challenges.

Miss Sutton is leaving us at the end of the year as she is starting a whole new adventure when as she moves to Norway with her partner! Although we will miss her, we are very excited for her to experience such an amazing opportunity.

Miss Hogan has been given the role of English lead in one of our Trust schools and will also be leaving us at the end of the year to take on the new challenges of that role. We will miss her singing and artistic talents across school, but we are very pleased that we will all still be working with her within our Trust school networks so I am sure you will see her around.

Lastly, Miss Chippendale is also moving within the Trust, and is taking up the role as Assistant Head at Willow Tree Primary School, working to support me as we begin the journey there to move the school from Requires Improvement as we did many years ago at St Michael with St Thomas! Miss Chippendale will be returning to SMwST from her maternity leave before the summer so we will be able to give her a proper goodbye then.

With these goodbyes come the excitement of welcoming new people, and we are really looking forward to having two new members of staff starting with us:

Mr Albrecht is joining the team as an Assistant Head and the Y6 teacher from September. Mr Albrecht is a very experienced teacher who has worked in another of our Trust schools for a number of years and cannot wait to get started with us.

We are also welcoming Miss McMullen who will be joining the team too.

In addition to this, Mrs Fisher has been appointed as Assistant Head, and Miss Fisher, who has done a fantastic job of the SENCO role during Miss Chippendale's maternity leave, has been appointed this role permanently.

The children will have the opportunity to meet the new staff on Monday and parents will be able to meet them properly at the Meet The Teacher sessions in September.

Kind Regards

Michelle Slingsby

Headteacher

St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School



Fun Day – Wednesday 16th July

Plans are already underway for our annual Fun Day, and we are hoping this will be the best one yet! As usual we will be holding non-uniform days for prizes, please see below, and we appreciate your support as always with this. We will also be having a cake stall and will be accepting home-baked goods on the day if any of our families would like to donate cakes or biscuits to sell (full recipes will need to be provided for allergy information) - please let us know in advance of the Fun Day if you are planning to send in cakes and bakes so we can plan for adequate space for the stall.

If you or your family members have businesses that can help with raffle prizes, please contact the office. We thank you in advance for all your support in making our events a success!

- **Friday 11th July – Non-Uniform day bottles for the tombola**

Fun Day Volunteers

We are reaching out for volunteers who can help us with our fun day, setting up stalls and games in the morning and to run stalls in the afternoon – lots of tea and coffee provided!

Uniform Swap Shop



We invite all parents to join us during Fun Day to browse and collect "like new" and gently used school uniform items that are in great condition. It's a great way to save on costs for the new school year while helping reduce waste by giving these items a second life instead of sending them to landfill. We also gratefully accept donations of school uniforms in like new or used condition—your contributions help other families and support a more sustainable school community. Don't forget, our uniform Swap Shop is open all year round, so you can top up on any items whenever needed!

Clothing Collection

Thank you to all the families who generously donated to our clothes collection for Sammy's Project. We were absolutely blown away by the incredible number of bags that arrived in school. The clothes have now been collected and weighed, and we look forward to sharing with you just how much your amazing donations have raised for our school. We would also like to thank our Y6 volunteers who so kindly gave up their time and did a fantastic job giving out stickers. Don't worry if you forgot to bring your clothing bag into school, we can accept bags up until Tuesday for a second collection when the final bags will be collected and weighed.

Rock and River Trip

Year 3 and 4 had the most fantastic time at Rock and River on Thursday. The day was packed with action and activities, ranging from the water to the sky. On the lake, we took part in canoeing, kayaking, paddle-boarding and even a swim at the end to cool off! Secured in harnesses, we scaled the climbing wall, tackled the low ropes course and had lots of fun on the zip line and took a leap of faith on the air-mattress jump. Staff at the centre commented on the enthusiasm of our children to get stuck into every activity and it has been wonderful today to hear about how much both classes enjoyed their day

Halton Healthy Schools Parent News

Our newsletter for parents this term includes:

- Details of the Halton Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) for Summer 2025
- Active Halton's Summer Sports Camp
- Details of our Fit 4 Life Summer Camp for 7 - 11 year olds

OCA Uniform

Unfortunately, we were given incorrect information from OCA regarding their uniform for September 2025 and we have been asked to share the following with you.

I am writing to clarify the situation on our free school uniform; we are pleased to offer a free uniform bundle to all **new Year 7 pupils**. This bundle will include:

- A school tie
- A blazer
- A PE top
- A pair of PE shorts

We hope this will provide practical support and help ensure every child starts the new academic year feeling confident and part of our school. Please note that all other uniform items are non-branded and can be purchased from supermarkets or other local retailers.

Looking Ahead:

Here are some important dates for your diaries to help you plan for the next few weeks:

- 7th July – Transition Day
- 7th July – Y6 P&P and OCA Transition Day
- 8th July – Y6 P&P and OCA Transition Day
- 8th July – Imagine That! Y1 and Y2
- 10th July – Ready for Reception Drop In
- 10th July – Y5 Greek Day
- 11th July – Non-Uniform Day Bottles for Tombola
- 16th July – Fun Day
- 17th July – Ready for Reception Drop In
- 21st July – Reception Celebration Assembly (Parents Invited)
- 22nd July – Y6 Leavers Assembly (Parents Invited)
- 22nd July – School closes 3:15pm
- 1st Sept – Inset Day
- 2nd Sept – Inset Day
- 3rd Sept – School Opens

Please note, these dates are subject to change – please ensure you check them each week for any amendments or additions.

Quotes from Miss Slingsby's #Positivegossip Book this week:

- Leighton (Y3) for telling Mrs Worrall all about his car washing efforts raising money for charity 😊 How Kind!
- Archie Moss (Y6) for working so hard in all tasks, even when not feeling well – brilliant perseverance! Mrs Worrall
- Lizzie (Y6) for spending her playtime tidying the sports shed – without even being asked to do it! – Miss Wilson
- Arthur (Y5) for being a good sport on the playground – Miss Wilson
- Eva (Y2) for being so polite every time I walk past – Miss Ashton
- All of Reception, Y1 and Y2 for being ready, respectful, and safe during our lesson visits this week 😊 – Mrs Fisher
- Evelyn (Y3) for always stopping to chat in the corridors – Mrs Fisher
- Hattie (Y1) for always making me smile with her thoughtfulness and friendliness – Mrs Fisher
- Evelyn (Y3) for sharing her impressive knowledge of tsunamis!
- Year 3 and Year 4 for having the best positive attitudes on our Rock and River trip! From Miss Sutton and Miss Bates
- Hazel (Y1) for beautiful manners and wishing the staff to have a good lunch – Mrs Hughes
- Charlotte (Y1) – fantastic helper during afterschool club – Mrs Hughes
- 💜

Living Our Values

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Hope

"We believe anything is possible"



St Michael with St Thomas Church

Come and join the Sunday services at our beautiful church! See times below.

Don't forget Children's Church on the first Sunday of every month.



Holy Communion Service



Every Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for 1 hour

Let's Talk About Rights!

This week our Article of the week for you to discuss at home is: *Article 43-54: Adults and Governments must work together to make sure children can enjoy their rights.*

What does this mean?

- How do children access this right?
- How can duty bearers help to ensure children have this right?

Article of the WEEK



Ready, Respectful, Safe!



Headteacher Award Winners

Rec – Ellie-Mae for showing resilience returning with her broken arm 💜

Y1 – Issac for trying really hard with his writing this week

Y2 – Izzy for excellent progress in reading!

Y3 – All of Year 3 for facing their fears at Rock and River

Y4 – Alice for having a fantastic attitude on our Rock and River trip

Y5 – John for a super attitude all week showing determination and team spirit

Y6 – Sophie-Mae for brilliant effort and participation in all lessons 😊

Lunchtime Superstars

Rec – Elliott

Y1 – Emmie

Y2 – Heidi

Y3 – Roman

Y4 – Lyla

Y5 – Arthur

Y6 – Harry

Attendance Counts!

#momentmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95.1%

Whole school attendance – this week:

91.5%

Class attendance winner:

98.2% - Y3

Class Attendance:

Rec – 80.2%

Y1 – 88.3%

Y2 – 87.4%

Y3 – 98.2%

Y4 – 98.1%

Y5 – 93.5%

Y6 – 93.1%



Important reminder regarding reporting absences.

Please be reminded that you need to notify school before 9am with the reason for absence for this to be recorded appropriately.

Please note 'Feeling unwell', 'poorly' or 'under the weather' is not sufficient, more detail is required such as 'has been sick' or 'has a temperature' is required.

There are lots of ways to notify school of absence. You can call the school number and leave a message on the absence line, you can send a message via Arbor or you can email the school office.

Thank you for your continued support



Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

"Faith can move mountains," Matthew 17:20

St Michael with St Thomas Church of England Primary School
Headteacher: Miss M Slingsby
Spinney Avenue, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 8LD
Tel: 0151 424 4234

09-06-25

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well.

As you are aware, the school day now begins with registration at **8:45am**. This means that any child not in class by 8.45am is marked as late. Since the introduction of this new start time, we have seen a noticeable increase in late arrivals, despite opening the doors at 8.35am to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to be in school on time. We understand that adjusting to new routines can take time, which is why we have allowed a period of flexibility over the summer term for families to make the necessary changes. However, as punctuality is crucial to a successful start to the school day and to minimise disruption to learning, we need to ensure that from the start of next term this routine is in place.

From September, all children arriving after 8:45am will need to be signed in by a parent or carer at the main entrance.

Late arrivals can be very disruptive—not only for the child who is arriving late, but also for the rest of the class. All of our lessons start at 8.45am, meaning that key learning is taking place from that time. Children who arrive after lessons have begun often miss important instructions and can feel unsettled or embarrassed walking into an already-started classroom. Additionally, the interruption can disturb the focus and flow of the class, affecting the learning of others.

We encourage all parents to regularly monitor their child's attendance and punctuality through the Arbor system, where you can view the number of late marks and absences recorded. If you need any support with improving attendance, punctuality, or accessing Arbor, please don't hesitate to contact the school—we are here to help.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Kind Regards,

Miss M Slingsby
Headteacher



Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School

Class Structure 2025 - 26

| | Teachers | Support Staff |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Reception | Mrs Fisher | Mrs Hughes/Miss Tunsted |
| Year 1 | Miss Fisher | Miss Lavery |
| Year 2 | Miss Bates | Miss Wilson |
| Year 3 | Miss Ashton | Miss Manders |
| Year 4 | Miss McMullen | Mrs Bonnett |
| Year 5 | Mrs Worrall | Miss Lucas |
| Year 6 | Mr Albrecht | Miss Case |
| Family Support Worker | Miss Brimble | |
| Breakfast/After School Club | Miss Hurst, Mrs Jones, Mrs Hughes | |

Meet the Teacher Sessions – 3.20pm

- Mon 8th Sept- Y5&Y6 Meet the Teacher
- Tues 9th Sept - Y3&Y4 Meet the Teacher
- Thurs 4th Sept - Y1&Y2 Meet the Teacher

Reception meetings will be communicated to parents with the transition packs.

St Michael with St Thomas

Friday 4th July at 7.00pm
in the Hough Green Social Club

QUIZ NIGHT

Great
PRIZES

TOP PRIZE: A QUALITY FOOD HAMPER!
PLUS 6 OTHER CHANCES TO WIN
A BRILLIANT GOODIE BAG!
ENTRY: ONLY £2.50 PER PERSON

KIDS CHURCH

Let's have some Fossil fun!

Sunday 6th July, 11.00am

St Michael with St Thomas Church
Free Breakfast - from 10.30am.
Free Crafts, Story, Songs & Games.

We will
be fossil
hunting,
doing lots
of
skeleton
crafts &
decorating
biscuits!

