



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 13th December 2024

Reception Walk to Post Office

There was lots of excitement on Wednesday when Reception class went to post their letters to Father Christmas. The children could hardly contain their delight as they made their way to the post office. Despite all the excitement, their behaviour was exceptional, and they demonstrated great enthusiasm while being respectful and well-behaved throughout the trip. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the parent volunteers who joined us, helping to make this experience both memorable and safe. Your support is greatly appreciated, and it truly made the day extra special for the children.

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

We were feeling very festive after our wonderful Christmas dinner, complete with songs and Christmas crackers that brought even more holiday cheer. A huge thank you goes to our fantastic catering staff who worked so hard to make this a truly special and occasion. Your efforts helped create such a memorable experience for everyone. We would also like to extend a special thanks to Mrs. Elliott for kindly providing the Christmas crackers, adding that extra touch of magic to our celebration.

Enterprise Week and Fair

What an incredible end to the week with our annual Enterprise Fair! The children have worked hard all week preparing their stalls, and it was wonderful to see their creativity and dedication in action. A big thank you to everyone who supported us, and it was lovely to see even more stalls from the community, showcasing their homemade talents as well. All proceeds will be counted, and we will let the classes know who made the most profit on their stall next week. We truly appreciate all the support!

Breakfast with Santa

Reception to Year 3 will have the exciting opportunity to enjoy 'Breakfast with Santa' next week! This event will take place before the start of the school day at 8:00am and will cost £5.00. The sessions are scheduled as follows:

- Reception & Year 1 on Monday, **16th December 2024**
- Year 2 & Year 3 on Tuesday, **17th December 2024.**

If you would like your child to attend this magical event, please ensure you give consent and make payment via Arbor. We look forward to sharing this special moment with the children!

Please note, Breakfast club will still be on as normal for children not attending Breakfast with Santa.

Panto

Next week we are excited to be visiting the Brindley Theatre to attend a performance of *Aladdin* at the Brindley Theatre in December, followed by a Christmas Party at school.

- Reception, Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 will attend on **17th December 2024.**
- Year 4, Year 5, and Year 6 will attend on **18th December 2024.**

Children are invited to wear their party clothes to school, but they must also wear sensible shoes and a school cardigan or jumper over their outfit for the Panto to ensure they are easily visible. Children are welcome to bring a small bag of sweets to enjoy during the performance; however, we kindly ask that you avoid sending in family-sized bags of sweets. Large quantities can lead to potential sickness, which we want to avoid in the theatre. Keeping snacks to a small, manageable portion ensures a more pleasant experience for everyone. Please also be reminded no nut snacks, as we are a nut free school. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. The cost of the Panto and Party will be £16, which includes travel, theatre tickets, and the party lunch. Please log in to Arbor to make payment and give consent for your child to attend.

Children's Activity Pack

We're delighted to let you know that the latest Children's activity pack is now available to download free, from the Trans Pennine Trail website.



Once again, the pack contains lots of exciting holiday activities that will keep young minds entertained during the Christmas break.

The pack will encourage them to embark on a Winter Treasure Hunt, solve a word scramble, and test their knowledge with a fun quiz. They will also be able to craft a hanging star decoration and make wildlife-friendly magic reindeer food to spread a little holiday magic. And they will be able to delight family and friends with a selection of Christmas cracker jokes guaranteed to bring a smile to the face.

The pack is aimed at primary school children with help as necessary from their parents or carers, and older children may enjoy some of the activities too.

The activity pack can be used 'on the go' by downloading it to a mobile or can be printed at home. They are also happy to send out printed copies to people who don't have a printer or are unable to access the PDF. All you need to do is email info@transpenninetrail.org.uk and they will post it out.

Download it from the Children's page at: <https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/welcome-to-our-childrens-page/>

We hope your children enjoy the activities. Feedback about the pack and suggestions for activities to include in the next pack they will be producing for February half term, can be sent by email to info@transpenninetrail.org.uk.

Help for Households

We understand that this time of year can be both expensive and busy for many families, and we want to remind you that we are a registered foodbank referral agent. If you find yourself in need of support, please don't hesitate to reach out to either Miss Slingsby or Miss Brimble at school. Rest assured, the process is entirely discreet, and we are here to help in any way we can. Your well-being is important to us, and we are committed to providing the support you need during this season.

End of Term

Please be reminded school closes at **3:15pm on Friday 20th December** and there will be no afterschool Wraparound Care or Sports Club on this day.

Looking Ahead:

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

- 16th December – Breakfast with Santa (EYFS and Y1)
- 17th December – Breakfast with Santa (Y2 and Y3)
- 17th December – KS1 Panto and Party
- 18th December – KS2 Panto and Party
- 20th December – **End of Term school finishes at 3:15pm no afterschool wraparound care or sports club**
- 6th January – **School Opens**
- 13th January – Reception Insight Session (Parents)
- 14th January – Y6 Parent Insight Session (Parents)
- 15th January – Y3 Family Worship – Wide Awake to the World
- 15th January – Y4 Parent Insight Session (Parents)
- 16th January – Y1 Parent Insight Session – Maths (Parents)
- 20th January – Y2 Parent Insight Session – Maths (Parents)
- 21st January – Y3 Parent Insight Session – Maths (Parents)
- 23rd January – Whole School Eucharist
- 27th January – Y5 Parent Insight – Maths (Parents)
- 28th January – Staff training, Choir and Afterschool Wraparound Care cancelled
- 29th January – Y2 Family Worship – Friendship (Y2 Parents)
- 7th February – Dress to Express Day
- 13th February – Spring Disco
- 14th February – End of Term
- 24th February – School Reopens
- 18th March – Y4 Clonter Opera Trip
- 21st March – Red Nose Day
- 27th March – Crosby Beach Y4
- 3rd April – Easter Service Y4
- 3rd April – Easter Bingo (Children only)
- 4th April – End of Term
- 22nd April – School Reopens

Living Our Values

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Thankfulness

"We appreciate everything we have; family, friends our home and school"



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 2: Every child has the right to protection against discrimination.

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!

Ready



**We are ready to learn,
ready to listen and ready
to embrace
opportunities.**

**We respect our friends,
our teachers, our visitors
and all members of our
community.**

Respectful



**We know how we can
keep ourselves safe and
make sure we do all we
can to keep our school
family safe.**

Safe



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

- Phoebe Y4 for always being so polite & friendly and taking the time to say Hello – Mrs Worrall
- Hailey Y5 for always making me smile with her cheerful, positive attitude every morning – Mrs Worrall
- All of Y5 for being amazing and inclusive in PE! Miss T
- Eleanor (Rec) for saying hello on Wednesday morning – Miss Bates
- All of choir for being super singers on Tuesday – Miss Sutton
- Caitlyn Y2 for blowing me away with her amazing maths work! – Miss Bonnett
- Ruby & Isabelle for sharing their super maths work with me and showing lots of resilience – Mrs Worrall
- Ashvik Y1 for settling into Y1 life greatly this week – Miss Ashton & Mrs Bonnett

Headteacher's Award Winners:

Rec – Norah for being an excellent role model on our post box walk

Y1 – Frankie for beautiful handwriting in every lesson

Y2 – Caitlyn for superb mathematics showing working out!

Y3 – Aren for having a fantastic week in school

Y4 – Alice for having lovely confidence and communication this week!

Y5 – Leo for a superb attitude and improvement in handwriting

Y6 – Molly for always being an amazing, respectful & Hardworking role model!

Lunchtime

Superstars

Rec – Oakley

Y1 – Billy

Y2 – Freddie

Y3 – Freya

Y4 – Alexa

Y5 – James

Y6 – Kaycie

Attendance Counts!

#momentmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95.7%

Whole school attendance – this week:

95.4%

Class attendance winner:

98.3% - Y2

Class Attendance:

Rec – 92.8%

Y1 – 95.2%

Y2 – 98.3%

Y3 – 97.1%

Y4 – 97.0%

Y5 – 93.9%

Y6 – 93.6%

Outdoor Christmas Tree Display

St Michael with St Thomas Church

Ditchfield Road, Widnes.

**FREE
Family Event**

Friday 13th Dec- 6.00-8.00pm

**Grotto - Father Christmas, Hot food drinks - all FREE
Roasted Marshmallows, Cake, Tombola, Craft Stalls etc.**

Outdoor Carol singing & 'Snow' time at 7.00pm!

Join Us for Coffee



Are you a Special Guardian, Family Carer or Adopter to a previously looked after young person? Perhaps you are a kinship carer?

Would you like to meet other people in a similar care role for an informal coffee and a chat?

Then come for a catch up to meet other carers and give your views on what educational support you would appreciate and which professionals you would like to be invited to future coffee mornings.

Join us on Monday 16th September 11am-12pm

Monday 14th October 11am-12pm

Monday 18th November 11am-12pm

Monday 16th December 11am-12pm

Halton Lodge Children's Centre, Runcorn, WA7 5LU

Please drop an email to david.bradshaw@halton.gov.uk or text 07917 133429 - to confirm your attendance.

David Bradshaw from Halton Virtual School will be present to explain his role and how to access support, advice and guidance where necessary. Although predominantly a session based on education, these one-hour meetings are informal, free and intended to allow people to air various questions and views on the SGO, adoption and child arrangement order process as well as discussing issues that pertain to kinship care.

Attendees are free to access one or every session should they wish.

Please note: This session is not intended for foster carers.