



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 15th November 2024

Anti-Bullying Week

This week we celebrated Anti-Bullying Week, focusing on the importance of kindness, empathy, and standing together to prevent bullying. On Monday, children and staff took part in "Odd Sock Day," where they wore mismatched socks to symbolize that we are all unique and should embrace our differences. Throughout the week, children were encouraged to talk about what kindness means, how we can support each other, and the positive impact we can have on preventing bullying. It was a wonderful opportunity to promote a culture of inclusivity and respect within our school community.

Children in Need

Today, we came together to support the incredible Children in Need charity, with students and staff dressing in their pyjamas, and spotty clothes to show their solidarity for this worthy cause. It was heart-warming to see the creativity and enthusiasm of everyone who took part! A big thank you to all who contributed to our coin spiral—your generous donations exceeded our expectations and will make a real difference. Together, we have shown that even the smallest acts of kindness can help bring about positive change for children in need across the country. Thank you for your continued support! For those who would like to donate directly online, we have included a link below for your convenience. <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

National Maths Week

This week, we celebrated National Maths Week, where our children enjoyed a range of exciting activities centered around all things numbers! From interactive math games and problem-solving challenges to fun workshops, students had the opportunity to explore the fascinating world of mathematics in creative and engaging ways. It was a fantastic week of learning, collaboration, and discovery, as we highlighted the importance of maths in everyday life and sparked enthusiasm for the subject. A big thank you to all the teachers and children for making this celebration such a success!

Y5 Trip

On Thursday, Year 5 enjoyed a thought-provoking visit to the National Slave Museum as part of our History Week activities. The students participated in a captivating workshop, where they deepened their understanding of the history and impact of slavery, followed by a guided tour of the museum's exhibits. The experience brought their learning to life and provided a meaningful opportunity for reflection and discussion.

Festive Events

As we approach December, we are excited to share some of the festive events we have planned for the holiday season! On **12th December**, we will be celebrating Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day, where everyone is encouraged to wear their favourite festive jumper. Reception and Year 1 students can look forward to **Breakfast with Santa** on **16th December**, followed by Year 2 and Year 3 enjoying their own **Breakfast with Santa** on **17th December**. Please make sure to submit your payments via Arbor for these events. Additionally, KS1 (including Year 3) will be heading to The Brindley Theatre to watch the pantomime *Aladdin* on **17th December** followed by their class Christmas party, while KS2 will enjoy their own trip to the pantomime and party on **18th December**. Payments and consent for these trips can also be made through Arbor. We look forward to celebrating a joyful and festive end to the term with our children!

Pupil Progress Meetings

We are pleased to invite all parents to book a Pupil Progress Meeting with their child's class teacher. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, the latest assessment week and any next steps in their learning journey. To ensure all parents have an equal chance to secure a convenient time, booking will open on

Arbor at **6:00pm on Monday**. We encourage you to log in and select a time that works best for you. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's achievements and progress.

Bikeability

A quick reminder about our upcoming **Bikeability** sessions. **Year 5** will be taking part in their **Bikeability training** from **Monday 18th November to Thursday 21st November**, while **Year 4** will have their session on **Wednesday 20th November**. Children in both year groups who have not requested a bike to be provided should bring their own bikes to school on these days. Additionally, **Reception** children will enjoy a **Balance Bike session** on **Tuesday 19th November**, and the balance bikes and helmets will be provided for them. Y5 and Reception should come into school in their PE kits that day and Y4 can bring their PE kit in a bag to get changed into after worship. Thank you for your cooperation in helping ensure a smooth and safe experience for all!

Tempest Photography

Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Tuesday 19th November 2024**. Orders can be made through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

Lantern Walk

On **Friday 15th November**, we will be celebrating our annual **Lantern Walk**—one of our favourite events of the year! The children will be making beautiful lanterns in school, that they will take home and then bring back for the walk. Each child will be given a **tea light** to place in their lantern on the evening. We will meet at **6:30 PM** in the school car park, and we hope to see lots of you there for this magical event. The evening will include **readings** and **songs** from our fantastic choir, creating a warm and festive atmosphere. It promises to be a wonderful evening for the whole school community—don't miss it!

LANTERN WALK

Let's bless our Community
with Light & Peace!

**FRIDAY
15TH NOVEMBER,
6.30PM**

Walk will begin at St Michael with St Thomas School, Spinney Avenue, Broadway, Hall Avenue, Ditchfield Rd and ending with a short service in Church which local children will lead.

FREE hotdogs & Refreshments available!



Looking Ahead:

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

- 18th – 21st November – Y5 Bikeability
- 19th November – Reception Balance Bikes
- 19th November – Y6 Ancient Egypt Museum visit
- 20th November – Y4 Family Worship – Thankfulness 9:00am
- 20th November – Y4 Bikeability Level 1
- 22nd November – Inset Day
- 27th November – Y5 Family Worship – Advent 9:15am
- 27th November – Opening Evening 3:30pm and 5:30pm
- 3rd December – Nativity (Y1 and Y2 Parents)
- 4th December – Rec/Y1 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings
- 5th December – Y6 Christingle
- 10th December – Y5/Y6 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings
- 11th December – Y2/Y3/Y4 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings
- 12th December – Christmas jumper and dinner day
- 13th December – Enterprise Fair
- 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
- 6th January – School Opens

Please note, these dates are subject to change – please ensure you check them each

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 17 Every child has the right to reliable information

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:

- George N for always being a kind and considerate friend – Miss Fisher
- Annie E for always making me smile with her wonderful sense of humour! – Miss Fisher
- Josh, Fin and James – for helping me out every morning and always cheering me up with a song, dance or joke! Mrs Worrall
- Oakley for beautiful manners as lunchtime – Miss Manders
- Savannah Y4 for making herself and me very proud with her respectful, positive choices! – Mrs Worrall
- All of Y5 for representing our school magnificently. Superstars – Mrs Hogan and Miss Lavery
- Jesse & Aiden for showing maturity when dealing with friendship issues – Mrs Fisher
- Bailie for holding the door open and helping with my bags – Mrs Hogan

Headteacher's Award Winners:

Rec – Joseph for trying his hardest and being fantastic all week!

Y1 – Sophia for outstanding writing and excellent ideas

Y2 – Isabelle for trying hard to work independently!

Y3 – Ronnie for trying so hard with his times tables

Y4 – Kian for having wonderful enthusiasm and a big smile each day!

Y5 – Ivy-Rae for care and attention to every piece of work

Y6 – Niall for not letting a broken collarbone set him back! He is still reaching for the highest standards with amazing resilience!

Lunchtime

Superstars

Rec – Frankie

Y1 – Thea

Y2 – Esmay

Y3 – Bobby

Y4 – Libbie

Y5 – Isabelle

Y6 – Cody

Attendance Counts!

#momentmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

96.1%

Whole school attendance – this week:

95%

Class attendance winner:

97.1% - Reception

Class Attendance:

Rec – 97.1%

Y1 – 95.0%

Y2 – 93.5%

Y3 – 96.6%

Y4 – 94.1%

Y5 – 94.6%

Y6 – 94.7%

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.



Starting
Tuesday
19th
November

St Mike's Warm Space

Every Tuesday 1.30-3.00pm

FREE Tea/Coffee & toast

Access to Games, Books, Cards, Dominoes, Music...BUT more importantly there will be company, fun and friendship!

St Michael with St Thomas Church Community Room,
Ditchfield Road, Widnes. WA8 8XR