



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 3rd July 2026

Uniform Swap Shop

As we move towards the end of the school year, we would like to remind families that our high expectations remain in place right up until the final day of term. We expect all children to attend school wearing the correct school uniform and PE kit.

Our PE kit consists of:

A plain white T-shirt and plain black shorts, or

The school PE top

Please note that tracksuits, branded sportswear and clothing with large logos are not part of our school PE uniform and should not be worn for PE lessons.

As children grow so quickly, many families find themselves with uniform items that are no longer needed. If your child has outgrown any school uniform, PE kit or coats that are still in good condition, we would be very grateful if you could donate them to our Uniform Swap Shop. All donated items should be washed and clean.

If your family would like to take a look at the items available in the Uniform Swap Shop, please speak to the school office and a member of staff will be happy to help.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain our high standards and ensuring that all children are ready to learn each day.

Need a little extra support?

We would like to remind all families that school is an official referral agent for the local Food Bank.

We understand that life is becoming increasingly expensive and that many families may be feeling the pressure of rising household bills and the additional costs that can come as we approach the summer holidays. If you are finding things difficult, please do not struggle alone.

Support is available, and we are here to help. Any conversations will be treated with sensitivity, respect, and confidentiality.

If you think your family could benefit from support with food or other practical assistance, please speak to Miss Slingsby, who will be happy to help and discuss the options available.

At our school, we are a community and looking after one another is important to us. If you need help, please reach out. 💜

Transition Day

Tuesday 7th July marks our transition day which gives all children an opportunity to get to know their new teacher and to help them feel settled in their new environment. It also gives the staff important time to work with the children and find out exactly where they are up to in different subjects ready for September.

Go Ape!

Our Year 3 and Year 4 classes had a fantastic trip to Go Ape this week! We were incredibly impressed by the way the children challenged themselves and stepped outside their comfort zones as they climbed high through the treetops. It was wonderful to see them supporting, encouraging, and cheering each other on throughout the day. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they represented our school brilliantly. It was a truly memorable experience and, as the children said, a “Really Good Day”! 🌳

Fun Day 8th July 2026 Invite

We would like to invite all our friends, families, neighbours, and members of the wider community to our annual Fun Day, which will be held on 8th July 2026. Join us for an afternoon filled with fun, games, and delicious cakes for all ages to enjoy. Please help us spread the word by sharing this invitation with anyone you know through toddler groups, churches, community groups, and local networks—everyone is welcome! We hope to see as many people as possible on the day, as your support helps make our events bigger, better, and more enjoyable for the whole community.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to make our Fun Day a successful and enjoyable event for everyone.

Fun Day Volunteers

If you or your family members have businesses that can help with raffle prizes, please contact the office.

We are also reaching out for volunteers who can help on the day setting up stalls and games and to run stalls in the afternoon – lots of tea and coffee will be provided! We thank you in advance for all your support in making our events a success!

Sports Day

We were delighted that the weather was finally on our side, allowing us to enjoy a fantastic Sports Day without having to contend with either rain or excessive heat. It was wonderful to see our KS1 children taking part with such enthusiasm, encouraging, and supporting one another throughout the day. Our KS2 pupils, including our very competitive Year 6s, also impressed us with their determination, teamwork and excellent sportsmanship. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the parents who embraced the spirit of the event by joining in the parent race—your enthusiasm and involvement always help to make the day even more special. A huge thank you also goes to our sports coach, Mr Wortley, for his invaluable support in organising such a successful event, and to Mr Albrecht for all of his hard work in making the day a memorable experience for everyone.



We are excited to announce that this year's winning House is Nightingale (Red)!

Well Done!

We would like to share Lola-Rae and Emmy-Lou's recent dance success. The girls were at Butlins this weekend competing in their dance group. Not only did their group win overall for the second year running but both girls also placed 1st in their solo routines! Lola-Rae had a brand new acro that won first and Emmy-Lou had a brand-new commercial routine that won first place. Both girls were absolutely phenomenal! Well done!

Martyn's Law

We would like to bring to your attention some important changes to our school access and safety procedures, particularly in relation to the implementation of Martyn's Law. These changes will affect arrangements for attending school events and entering the school building with prams, and bags. As part of our commitment to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all pupils, staff, and visitors, additional security measures may be in place. We are sure you understand the importance of these procedures and appreciate your support in helping us keep our school community safe. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



Martyn's Law Update



In light of Martyn's Law, a statutory requirement under the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, all schools within the Trust have introduced additional safety measures for school events with immediate effect.

To help ensure the safety of everyone attending, bags larger than A4 size will not be permitted on site; the only exception to this will be baby bags, which will be subject to inspection by a member of school staff.

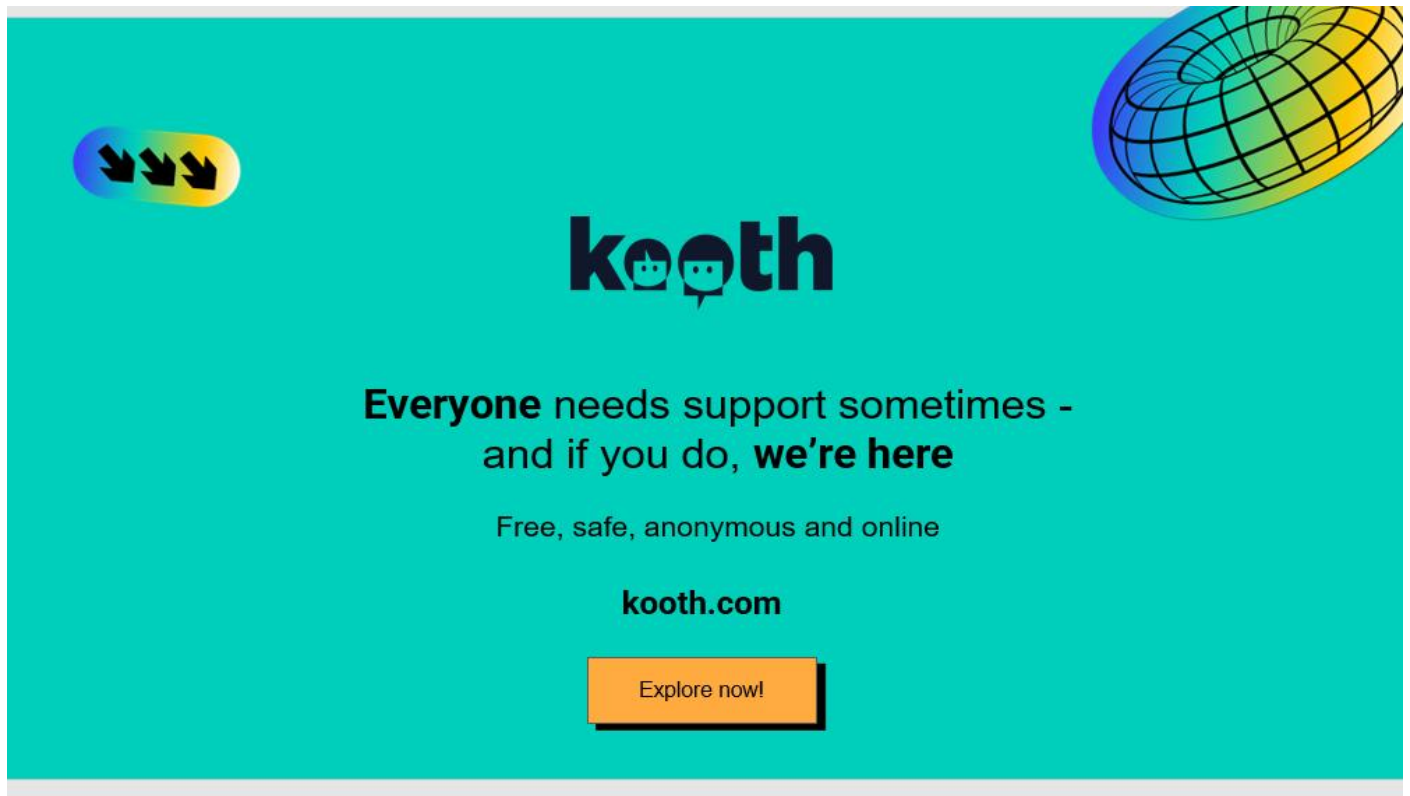
In addition, prams will not be allowed unless parents or carers consent to them being checked by a member of school staff. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we take these important steps to keep our school community safe.

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

- Rosie (Y3) for being the best helper at Go Ape! – Miss McMullen 😊
- All of Y3/Y4 for smashing Go Ape – Miss Ellis, Mrs Bonnett, Miss Swain, Mrs Manders and Miss McMullen
- Annie (Y6) for being a superstar and reminding me about all of the sweet treats I had accidentally left in the office! -Miss Mason 🥰
- Bonnie (Y2) for being such a kind and caring friend when their friend had hurt themselves – Mrs Hughes
- Ivy (Y3) for smashing the tree top challenge at Go Ape! You were so brave facing one of your fears, so proud! Mrs Bonnett
- Joshua and Joseph (Y3) for getting involved on Monday in Reading. You were both fab and had some amazing answers 😊 Miss Mulhearn
- ❤️
- Daniel (Year 1) for being a ray of sunshine every morning in Breakfast Club 🌞 Miss Mason

Y6 Kooth Workshop

Y6 enjoyed a visit from Kooth this week. These sessions gave pupils a relaxed space to chat through and manage any worries about the big jump to secondary school. They were introduced to **Kooth.com** (the free, NHS-commissioned mental health and well-being service for 10-25 year olds in St Helens), so they know exactly where to find anonymous counselling and support over the summer break and into Year 7 (please see [here](#) for more information).



Parent Dates

Looking Ahead:

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

- 6th July – Y6 Transition Day 1
- 7th July – Y6 Transition Day 2
- 8th July – Fun Day 1:30pm All welcome (KS1 Athletics cancelled)
- 13th July – Reception Celebration Worship 9am (Parents welcome)
- 14th July – Y6 BBQ and Water Fight
- 17th July – Y6 Leavers Assembly 9am (Parents welcome)
- 17th July – School Closes f3:15 (KS1 Athletics/Afterschool Wraparound Cancelled)
- 20th July – Inset Day
- 1st Sept – Inset Day
- 2nd Sept – School Open

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

Next Week's Menu (Week 1)

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Dish	Cheese Pizza or Southern Fried Chicken	Veggie Sausage Roll or Quorn Sausage	Roast Chicken or Quorn Fillet with Gravy	Meatballs or Quorn Meatballs	Battered Fish or Vegetable Fingers
Accompaniments	Diced Potato *** Salad Bar	Seasoned Wedges & Baked Beans *** Salad Bar	Mash Potato, Veg of the day & Yorkshire Pudding *** Salad Bar	Roast Potato & Veg of the day *** Salad Bar	Chips & Veg of the day *** Salad Bar
Desserts	Dessert of the Day	Dessert of the Day	Dessert of the Day	Dessert of the Day	Dessert of the Day
Fresh Fruit & Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt
Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato & Todays choice of filling	Jacket Potato & Todays choice of filling	Jacket Potato & Todays choice of filling	Jacket Potato & Todays choice of filling	Jacket Potato & Todays choice of filling

Please note – The catering staff will make every effort to follow the menu as set out above, however there may be occasions when food served may differ from the menu and if this is to happen, we will make you aware of the change at the earliest convenience.

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 15: Every child has the right to meet friends and join in groups so long as it does not harm others*

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 – Zach F for showing perseverance, determination, and patience with the Rainbow Challenge

Y1 – Hallie for being such a role model to her peers, going above and beyond every week with her homework and reading at home twice a day.

Y2 – Albie for being ready, respectful and safe and for all amazing effort you have put into your writing this week 💜

Y3 – Faith for fantastic effort at swimming showing a real desire to improve her front crawl and back stroke 😊

Y4 – Leighton for outstanding behaviour all week! An amazing improvement

Y5 – Riva-Rose for amazing effort and team spirit during Sports Day! 😊

Y6 – Ruby for a great attitude to learning this week!

Lunchtime Superstars

Rec – Gene

Y1 – Eleanor

Y2 – Alayna

Y3 – Josh

Y4 – Bobby

Y5 – Freddie

Y6 – Hailey

Attendance Counts!

#momentmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95.1%

Whole school attendance – this week:

94.6%

Class attendance winner:

98.7% - Y1

Class Attendance:

Rec – 95.2%

Y1 – 98.7%

Y2 – 94.1%

Y3 – 92.8%

Y4 – 93.7%

Y5 – 95.6%

Y6 – 92.3%



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



JOIN US FOR OUR

SUMMER FUN DAY

WEDNESDAY
8TH JULY 2026
1:30PM - 4:00PM

FREE
ENTRY

ST MICHAEL WITH
ST THOMAS CE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPINNEY AVENUE
WA8 8LD

RAFFLE STALL

RAFFLE

GAME STALLS

FOOD STALLS

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Water Safety

As the weather warms up, many families will be spending more time near water – whether at the coast, rivers, lakes, or canals. While this can be a great way to enjoy the outdoors, it's important to remember that water can be unpredictable and dangerous.

It's important that everyone is aware of a [few simple steps to stay safe](#):

- Know the risks – conditions can change quickly, and it's easier than you might think to get into difficulty in open water.
- Always supervise children and young people closely around water – even if they can swim.
- Avoid jumping into unknown water – there may be hidden hazards, and sudden entry can lead to cold water shock.
- Teach children what to do if they get into trouble: Float to Live – tilt your head back, keep your ears submerged, relax and gently move your hands and feet to stay afloat while you control your breathing.
- Know how to call for help – in an emergency, dial **999 or 112 and ask for the Coastguard**.

Talking to children about water safety before visiting any location near water can make a vital difference.

Further information and resources

Parents, carers, colleges, and schools can find more guidance and free resources from the RNLI and Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service:

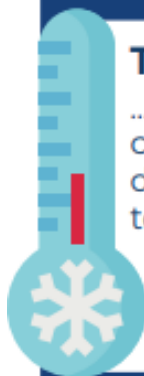
- Water safety advice and guidance: <https://rnli.org/safety>
- Float to Live advice: <https://rnli.org/safety/float>
- Education and teaching resources for children and young people: <https://rnli.org/youth-education>
- Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service water safety advice: [Water Safety | Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service](#)



OPEN WATER: DON'T TAKE THE RISK



Swimming in or playing near rivers and canals may seem like a great idea, particularly on a warm day, but it could all end in tragedy. **DON'T take the risk.**



THE WATER IS COLD...

...even on very warm days, rivers and canals contain water barely above 10 degrees. Sudden immersion can lead to cold water shock, which can cause gasping and intake of water.

This can be deadly in a matter of seconds.

DID YOU KNOW?

Even the narrowest of rivers can be considerably deep. Rivers are subject to strong flow and **hidden currents** which can trouble even the strongest of swimmers.

WHAT LIES BENEATH?



The water is untreated and can make you ill.

Canals and rivers contain pollutants, sewage and often unseen underwater obstructions and snag hazards.



Debris under the water such as shopping trolleys, broken glass and cans can cause **injury** or **trap** you.

Remember, there are no lifeguards to help you at your local river, lake, canal or dam.



Rivers can be very difficult to climb out of, especially with steep or slimy banks. **Stay clear of rivers with steep or unguarded banks.**



IN AN EMERGENCY...NEVER enter the water to try and help a person or animal. You could get into difficulty yourself. Instead, dial 999 and use any water rescue equipment that is available.

If you fall into the water unexpectedly, fight your instinct to thrash around. Instead, lean back, extend your arms and legs & float.



MERSEYSIDE
FIRE & RESCUE
SERVICE

www.merseyfire.gov.uk



BEACH SAFETY: KNOW THE DANGERS



MUD AND QUICKSAND

Large areas of the coast can have mud and quicksand which can cause you to get trapped and risk drowning.

REDUCE THE RISK

Check tide times

Follow warning sign advice

Avoid crossing estuaries and mud where there can be hidden channels or fast water

If trapped, **sit back and spread your weight evenly across the surface**

Stop others from trying to help you as they may get stuck

Call **999** immediately and ask for the **Coastguard**



Strong currents can sweep inflatables and people out to sea

FOLLOW THE FLAGS



There are lifeguards in the area. Swim between the two flags.



Do not enter the water. There could be unseen dangers such as currents.



No swimming in this area. There may be non-powered watercraft such as surfboards, kayaks, etc. in this area.

IF YOU SEE SOMEONE STRUGGLING:



PHONE 999

Tell them to **FLOAT** on their back

THROW them something to help them float

TOP TIP
ALWAYS GO TO A BEACH WITH A LIFEGUARD



Rising Stars Summer Holiday Club



Summer Holiday Club: Kingsway Primary – Widnes

Football, dance games, sports, activities, and more...

**Primary aged children + | Ofsted registered & tax-free
childcare accepted | 8am – 6pm**

raringstars.com



We will also have free spaces via the HAF scheme for those on benefit-related free school meals.

Parents/carers should contact us for more info on this.

Best wishes,

Jack
Raring Stars

Keep up to date with us on Instagram, X, Facebook, TikTok, and LinkedIn '@RaringStars', and on our website: 'raringstars.com'!

Telephone: **07762745607**

Email: **contact@raringstars.com**



Be safe this summer

Travelling abroad? Stay safe around animals to protect your family from rabies.



What is rabies?

Rabies is a virus that affects mammals, including dogs and people. It is deadly but preventable.



How rabies spreads

Rabies is spread in the saliva of infected animals through:



bites



scratches



licks

How to stay safe



Don't touch or approach unknown dogs or cats



Check the rabies risk at your destination and consider pre-travel vaccination



Never disturb dogs when they are eating, sleeping or with their puppies to reduce the risk of bites



Avoid dog bites, scratches and licks

If a dog bites you:

1



Wash

Wash the wound with soap and running water for 15 minutes



2



Apply

Apply antiseptic, if available

3



Go

Go to the hospital

Did you know?



Around 59,000

people die from rabies every year worldwide. Children are most at risk.



99%

of human rabies cases are linked to contact with infected dogs

While rabies is rare in the UK, it remains a serious risk in many popular holiday destinations. Mission Rabies works around the world to end rabies through dog vaccination and education.



For more details scan QR code or go to wvs.org.uk/rabies-travel-advice/



KIDS OUTDOOR CHURCH

Let's have some fun!

Sunday 5th July, 11.00am

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

