



## St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### **Panto and Party Food**

Next week we are excited for the children to have Christmas Party food at school followed by a performance of *Cinderella* at the Brindley Theatre.

- Reception, Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 will attend on 16th December 2025.
- Year 4, Year 5, and Year 6 will attend on 17th December 2025.

Children will enjoy Christmas Party food and will then travel to the Brindley Theatre by coach, leaving school at approximately 12:45pm and **returning at approximately 4.15 pm**. 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.

**Year 6 Children will need to be collected from school at 4:15pm and will not be released to walk home without an appropriate adult.**

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. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

We will take any food intolerances into account when preparing the party lunch, so please ensure that your child's records on Arbor are up to date.

### **Panto Volunteers**

We are looking for parent volunteers to help support the children during our upcoming Christmas pantomime trip. Your involvement would make a big difference in ensuring that all the children have a fun and safe experience. If you are available from 12:30pm – 4:15pm and would like to join us, please contact the school office. We greatly appreciate your help and support!

### **Breakfast with Santa Reminder**

We are excited to announce that we have a special visitor coming to school for breakfast! Santa will be joining us from 7:50am on **15th December** for Reception and Year 1, and on **16th December** for Year 2 and Year 3. If you would like your child to take part in this magical event, please log on to Arbor to give your consent and make the payment. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to enjoy a festive breakfast and meet Santa in person. We look forward to celebrating the season with you all!

### **Enterprise Fair**

What an incredible end to the week with our annual Enterprise Fair! The children have worked really hard 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 our 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 this week. We truly appreciate all the support!

### **Christmas Dinner**

The festive spirit sparkled brilliantly in our school this week! Our Christmas dinner on Thursday was a magical moment bringing our entire school family together for delicious food and Christmas songs complete with Christmas Crackers and an elf! A massive, thank you to Mellors and our wonderful catering heroes - Mr Cassidy, Miss Hurst, Mrs Nash, and Miss Smith. Their hard work and fabulous food ensured a fantastic celebration full of memories that will twinkle in our children's hearts throughout the holiday season.

## **Christmas Jumpers Swap Shop**

I wanted to share an exciting initiative that reflects our school community's commitment to sustainability and supporting families. We are launching a Christmas Jumper Swap Shop – a practical way to help parents and reduce waste.

Parents can donate their children's gently used Christmas jumpers to the school. Before the next holiday season, we will open the school hall for families to browse and select pre-loved festive jumpers. It's a simple idea that can make a real difference – helping families save money and giving perfectly good clothing a second life. If you have Christmas jumpers you would like to donate, please bring them to the school office.

Together, we can make Christmas a little easier and a lot more environmentally friendly.

## **Midday Assistant – Vacancy**

We are looking to recruit a Midday Assistant to help keep our lunchtimes safe and fun for our children. If you would like to join us, or know someone who would, please contact the office for an application form.

## **End of Term Reminder**

Please be reminded school will close at 3:15pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December and there will be no wraparound care or sports afterschool club on this day.

## **Healthy Schools Newsletter**

Welcome to the latest 2025 edition of the Healthy Schools Newsletter!

News for parents/carers, can be found here: [Parents and carers newsletter Padlet](#)

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

- Jacob (Y3) for being such a lovely friend during meditation time, reading his book to a friend – Mrs Hughes
- Dylan (Y4) for trying so hard in science making a switch ❤️
- Theo (Y4) for working hard in science 😊
- Tori and Niamh (Y1) for being kind and helping a younger child at lunchtime – Miss B
- Joseph (Y1) for beautiful manners when visiting the office
- Lola and Harrison-Jake (Y6) for being a massive help all week in afterschool club with tombola tickets
- Charlotte (Y6) for always being polite and saying hello to me – Mrs Bonnett
- Roman (Y4) for wishing me a good morning! – Miss Fisher ❤️

## Parent Dates

### **Looking Ahead:**

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

- 15<sup>th</sup> Dec – Reception and Y1 Breakfast with Santa
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec – Y2 and Y3 Breakfast with Santa
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec – Rec, Y1, Y2 and Y3 Party Food and Panto
- 17<sup>th</sup> Dec – Y4, Y5 and Y6 Party Food and Panto
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dec – School Closes at 3:15pm (No afterschool Club or Wraparound Care)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jan – School Opens
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jan – Rec Parent Insight Maths 2:15pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y6 Parent Insight – SATs 2:15pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y3 Family Worship in school 9:00am
- 16<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y1 Parent Insight Maths – 2:15pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y2 Parent Insight Maths – 2:15pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y3 Parent Insight Maths – 2:15pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y5 Parent Insight Maths – 2:15pm

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

## Trip Sign Up and Payment Dates

To help parents plan ahead we will be opening up all trips for the year ahead on Arbor and we will be issuing reminders for upcoming deadlines. Please find below some of the exciting trips we have planned so far. Additional trips will be added as and when confirmed.

Trip Date(s)	Trip Name	Groups	Sign-up deadline
Mon, 15 Dec 2025, 07:50 - 08:35	Rec and Y1 Breakfast with Santa	Year R and Year Y1	11 Dec 2025
Tue, 16 Dec 2025, 07:50 - 08:35	Y2 & Y3 Breakfast with Santa	Year Y2 and Year Y3	11 Dec 2025
Tue, 16 Dec 2025, 08:45 - 16:00	KS1 Brindley Panto	Year R, Year Y1, Year Y2 and Year Y3	05 Dec 2025
Wed, 17 Dec 2025, 08:45 - 16:00	KS2 Panto & Party	Year Y4, Year Y5 and Year Y6	05 Dec 2025
Tue, 02 Jun 2026 - Wed, 03 Jun 2026	Y6 London Trip	Year Y6	10 Dec 2025 2 <sup>nd</sup> Instalment
Wed, 10 Jun 2026, Thu, 11 Jun 2026, 15:15	Pettypool Y5	Year Y5	31 Dec 2025 3 <sup>rd</sup> Instalment

# Living Our Values

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

## Thankfulness

*"We appreciate everything we have, our family, friends, homes 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 14: Every child has the right to be of any or no religion

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 - Cole for trying really hard with his letter to Father Christmas ❤️

Y1 - Ted for an all-round fantastic week! ❤️

Y2 - Charlotte for always making good choices

Y3 - Faith for always being fantastic in every lesson

Y4 - Kirstie for always being so polite and kind 😊

Y5 - Lyla for a wonderful attitude to learning and fantastic enthusiasm!

Y6 - Fern for a consistently outstanding attitude to learning 😊

## Lunchtime Superstars

Rec - Reuben

Y1 - Torvi

Y2 - Bonnie Rae

Y3 - Ivy

Y4 - Roman

Y5 - Jacob

Y6 - Annie

# Attendance Counts!

#momentsmatter

Whole School Attendance - this year:

94.5%

Whole school attendance - this week:

96.3%

Class attendance winner:

99% - Y2

Class Attendance:

Rec - 96.8%

Y1 - 96.1%

Y2 - 99%

Y3 - 96.8%

Y4 - 94.7%

Y5 - 97.3%

Y6 - 93.7%



## 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

ST MICHAEL WITH ST THOMAS  
invite you to attend Reception & Year One's

# Breakfast With Santa

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 7:50am

Please book via Arbor



ST MICHAEL WITH ST THOMAS  
invite you to attend Year Two & Three's

# Breakfast With Santa

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 7:50am

Please book via Arbor





**The Three Saints Academy Trust**  
**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2026/2027**

<b>Term</b>	<b>*Open On:</b>	<b>*Close On:</b>
<b><u>Autumn term 2026</u></b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2026
	4 <sup>th</sup> November 2026	18 <sup>th</sup> December 2026
<b><u>Spring term 2027</u></b>	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2027	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
<b><u>Summer term 2027</u></b>	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027	28 <sup>th</sup> May 2027
	7 <sup>th</sup> June 2027	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2027

***Bank Holidays during term time:***

**May Day: Monday 3 May 2027**

**CPD Days**

1<sup>st</sup> September 2026

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2026

20<sup>th</sup> November 2026

4<sup>th</sup> January 2027

## Digital Arts Free Event

On Saturday, we're running a free festive art session where Halton families can come together for a fun, creative morning.

Event Details:

Widnes:

- ⌚ Date: Saturday, 13th December
- ⌚ Time: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
- 📍 Location: St Paul's Church Hall, Widnes

❖ Activities include LEGO, 3D pens, digital art, Christmas crafts, and more.

Free refreshments will also be provided! ↗ Families can sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3ubXRsl>

# digital arts get together

These **FREE** sessions are for families living within our community in Halton, from any background, to come together, socialise and create!

**date:** Saturday 13th December

**location:** St Paul's Church Hall, Widnes, WA8 7QU

**time:** 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

**signup now:**  
[info@digitalartsbox.org](mailto:info@digitalartsbox.org)  
0151 433 2223  
[www.digitalartsbox.org](http://www.digitalartsbox.org)



 Digital Arts Box

 HALTON

Please could you share this opportunity with your school community?

We're back for a Christmas holiday full of free creative fun with our Halton HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) workshops. We have four exciting festive sessions coming up:

**1.  Light Up Christmas Card**

**Making** – Monday 22nd December

**2.  Green Screen Christmas**

**Card Making** – Tuesday 23rd December

**3.  Minecraft Winter**

**Wonderland Build** – Monday 29th December

**4.  Minecraft New Year's**

**Celebration Build** – Tuesday 30th December

**Session Times:**

Ages 8–11: 9:30 am to 12 pm

Ages 11–16: 1 pm to 3:30 pm

**Location:**

Grangeway Community Centre, Halton

These sessions are for young people aged 8 to 16 from Halton who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. A limited number of places are also available for other groups of young people, including those with an EHCP, SEND, young carers, NEET and more.

** More information and sign-up link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/holiday-activities-and-food-workshops-in-halton-3460779>

**AGES 8-16**

**HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD (HAF)**

# winter holiday activities

FREE creative tech workshops for young people aged 8-16 in Halton who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Limited places are also available for those with SEND, young carers, NEET, and more.



**light up christmas card making workshop**

**DATE:** Monday 22nd December      **TIME:** 9:30 am - 12:00 pm (Ages 8-11)  
AND 1:00 - 3:30 pm (Ages 11-16)      **LOCATION:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn

**green screen christmas card making workshop**

**DATE:** Tuesday 23rd December      **TIME:** 9:30 am - 12:00 pm (Ages 8-11)  
AND 1:00 - 3:30 pm (Ages 11-16)      **LOCATION:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn

**minecraft build challenge: winter wonderland**

**DATE:** Monday 29th December      **TIME:** 9:30 am - 12:00 pm (Ages 8-11)  
AND 1:00 - 3:30 pm (Ages 11-16)      **LOCATION:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn

**minecraft build challenge: new year's celebration**

**DATE:** Tuesday 30th December      **TIME:** 9:30 am - 12:00 pm (Ages 8-11)  
AND 1:00 - 3:30 pm (Ages 11-16)      **LOCATION:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn

**sign up now:**

[info@digitalartsbox.org](mailto:info@digitalartsbox.org)      0151 433 2223



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# Outdoor Christmas Tree Display

**St Michael with St Thomas Church**



Ditchfield Road, Widnes. WA8 8XR

**Friday 12th December**  
**6.00-8.00pm**

**Grotto - Father Christmas (Free),  
Roasted Marshmallows (Free),  
Hot food & drinks (Free)  
Cake & Tombola Stalls etc.  
Outdoor Carol singing &  
'Snow' time at 7.15pm!**

**A FREE  
Community Family Event!**

## **Trans Pennine Trail 2025 Christmas Holiday Activity Pack**

The Trans Pennine Trail 2025 Christmas Holiday Activity Pack is bursting with festive fun for families and children and is available FREE to download from our website.

You'll find nature-themed challenges like a winter scavenger hunt, creative crafts such as making a bird feeder, and a delicious cake pop recipe to try at home. The pack also features sensory games, puzzles, and a heart-warming story adventure with the Trail's friendly mascots, encouraging everyone to explore the great outdoors.

With colourful characters leading the way, this activity pack inspires kids to discover winter wildlife, get creative, and enjoy the magic of the outdoors. There are opportunities to share their adventures and to earn a digital certificate.

The packs are ideal for Key Stage 1 and 2, but there's something for everyone – whether you're a teacher, parent, or young explorer. They're perfect for use on the Trail, in your local park, or even indoors on a rainy day. Every pack is designed to help everyone learn, play, and make memories while exploring the outdoors.

The activity pack can be used 'on the go' by downloading it to a mobile or can be printed at home. **We'd obviously prefer parents to download the pack themselves so if you could share the link with them, it would be appreciated.** But we can send out printed copies to people who don't have a printer or are unable to access the website if they get in touch with us.

Download it from the Trans Pennine Trail Children's page at: [TPT Activity Packs | Trans Pennine Trail](#) or by clicking the image below:



## **School age flu drop-in clinics**

**The flu vaccine is available to all children  
from nursery up to year 11.**



**You can drop-in to one of the clinics being provided by  
Mersey Care's School Aged Immunisation Team.**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 9:30am to 3.00pm at**  
Manor Farm PCRC, Huyton, L36 0UB

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 9:30am to 12:30 pm at**  
Kensington Clinic, Liverpool, L7 2PF

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 9:30am to 3.00pm at**  
Manor Farm PCRC, Huyton, L36 0UB

**✓ Remember:** This is a drop-in service, so you may need to wait to be seen. Your patience is appreciated.

For further drop in venues please visit the living well bus timetable:  
<https://www.cwp.nhs.uk/livingwellservice>

**If you require an appointment time, please contact:**

Liverpool School Immunisation Team: 0151 295 3833  
Sefton School Immunisation Team: 0151 247 6130  
Knowsley, Halton & St Helens Schools: 0151 351 8805