



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 13th February 2026

End of Term Message

As we reach the end of another busy and successful term, I would like to say a huge thank you to our children, staff and families for your continued hard work, positivity and support.

It has been a full and productive half term, and we are incredibly proud of all that has been achieved. Your partnership with us makes such a difference, and we truly value working together as our school family. We hope you all enjoy a well-earned break over the holidays. We look forward to welcoming everyone back safe, happy and ready to learn on **Monday 23rd February**.

Wishing Mrs Fisher Lots of Love!

Today we say a fond farewell (for now!) to Mrs Fisher, who begins her maternity leave.

We are so excited for her as she starts this very special new chapter. Mrs Fisher has given so much to our school and we know she will be just as amazing in her new role as a mum of two as she is in school.

Mrs Fisher – we are sending you lots of love and very best wishes. We can't wait to hear your wonderful news and meet the newest member of your family when the time comes – we have the purple dress waiting!

Water Bottles – Update from Pupil Voice

We have recently been meeting with our pupil leadership groups and listening carefully to their ideas about school life. One suggestion that came up strongly was that many children would like to bring their own water bottles into school.

We are pleased to say that **from after half term**, children will be allowed to bring their own water bottles, provided the following rules are followed:

1. Bottles must be clear, so that the liquid inside can be seen.
2. Only water is permitted – no flavoured drinks or juice.
3. Pupils are responsible for their own bottles. School cannot take responsibility for any bottles brought in.
4. Bottles must be taken home at least once a week to be washed.
5. Air Up bottles are not allowed.

School water bottles will still be available for any children who prefer to use one or who forget to bring their own.

Thank you for supporting us in ensuring this runs smoothly. We are proud of our pupil leaders for sharing their ideas and helping to shape school decisions.

Children's Mental Health Week

This week, our whole school community has been focusing on mental health through the theme "*This is my place.*" Children took part in thoughtful and mature discussions about belonging, sharing their ideas and feelings with great sensitivity and respect. We are incredibly proud of how they engaged with such an important topic.

The week concluded with our much-loved **Dress to Express Day**, and what a joy it was to see the individuality and personalities of our children shine. From bold patterns to quirky accessories, every outfit was a vibrant reflection of creativity and self-expression. It was a wonderful celebration of differences, encouraging everyone to embrace what makes them unique. The day truly highlighted the beauty and diversity of our school community, fostering pride and confidence in every child, reminding us that our differences are what make us strong and they are all valued and accepted.

As always, if you have any concerns about your child or feel they may need extra support, please do come into school to discuss the range of support options available. We are always here to help.

Spring Disco

Thursday's Spring Disco was another fantastic success, with a perfect mix of fun, hot dogs, and some truly unforgettable (and wonderfully crazy!) dance moves. The hall was full of smiles, laughter, and energy as the children enjoyed spending time with their friends. A huge thank you to Daniel Johnson for so generously giving up his time to ensure our children had such a fantastic time with their friends. We would also like to express our gratitude to all the staff members who worked hard behind the scenes to ensure the event ran smoothly. Their efforts helped create a happy and fun experience for everyone involved.

Y5 Escape to Safety

On Wednesday, Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic and informative visit from the Fire Brigade. The children learned all about how to keep themselves and their families safe at home, practised the important "stop, drop and roll" technique, and even experienced the smoke tent to understand what conditions can be like in a fire. We were incredibly proud of their maturity, enthusiasm, and sensible behaviour throughout the session. Our visitors also commented on how brilliant the children were and how well they engaged with the activities. Well done, Year 5!

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday we celebrated Safer Internet Day, with this year's theme focusing on AI: "*Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.*" As conversations about artificial intelligence become part of everyday life, many children are hearing about — and using — AI tools online. This makes it more important than ever that they are supported to understand how these technologies work, think about what they see and use, and feel confident making safe, responsible choices when engaging with smart technology. Children across all classes participated in activities and discussed different areas of internet safety and ways to stay safe online.

Police Visit

Unfortunately, we had a Police visit to the school today in response to concerns about the speed of cars travelling along Briarfield, Broadway and Spinney Avenue. We would like to remind all parents and families that the speed limit in this area is 20mph and to please drive carefully and park considerately, being mindful of our neighbours and the safety of our children. Thank you for your continued help and cooperation in keeping our school community safe.

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 come to the office for an application form.

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

- Evelyn for amazing lunchtime riddles
- Y3 for their behaviour after the disco 😊
- Leo in Y6 for his hard work in maths to improve his arithmetic scores – Miss Case 💜
- Adien (Y4) for trying so hard with his times tables
- Mia (Reception) for a fantastic lunchtime star jump challenge
- Ronnie (Y4) for being a fantastic friend
- Iviarna (Y3) for holding the door open for me – Miss Bates
- Adien (Y4) used beautiful manners and patience during lunchtime – Miss Barnett
- 💜
- 💜

Parent Dates

Looking Ahead:

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

- 23rd Feb – School Reopens
- 26th Feb – Y2 Martin Mere Trip
- 26th Feb – Y4 Swimming
- 27th Feb – Non-Uniform day for Easter Egg donations
- 6th Mar – World Book Day celebrations
- 16th Mar – Easter Egg and Easter Bonnet Entries
- 19th Mar – Easter Bingo

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	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:

Friendship

"We look after each other and try to always be kind"

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 5: parents or guardians of a child or young person should act in their best interests*

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.

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

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

Headteacher Award Winners

Rec - All of Reception for being wonderful - miss you already - Mrs Fisher

Y1 - Niamh for trying hard to share her answers 💜

Y2 - Ashvik for always being respectful 💜

Y3 - Lillie has made a great addition to the school and class, working hard on all her work, engaging during lessons and working well with her new classmates.

Y4 - Evie for always being such a kind person 😊

Y5 - Scarlett for always giving 100% effort and tackling every task with a huge smile and positivity!

Y6 - Jessica for her constant hard work in all subjects

Lunchtime Superstars

Rec - Cole

Y1 - Nell

Y2 - Paul

Y3 - Caitlyn

Y4 - Aiden

Y5 - Lyla

Y6 - Emmy Lou

Attendance Counts!

#momentsmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95%

Whole school attendance – this week:

94.9%

Class attendance winner:

98.9% - Y5

Class Attendance:

Rec – 98.8%

Y1 – 95.2%

Y2 – 94.4%

Y3 – 96.8%

Y4 – 87.7%

Y5 – 98.9%

Y6 – 91.9%



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

TOGETHERNESS



Emotional resilience for the everyday

**From understanding to thriving:
for everyone.**

Ideas proven to make a difference for
emotional wellbeing and build children's
confidence and kindness.

togetherness.co.uk/learn



TOGETHERNESS



Online learning pathways for your parenting journey and important relationships.

For healthier relationships and happier lives

- Antenatal and postnatal learning pathways for the foundations of emotional health
- Children's early development and behaviour
- Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Adolescence and young people's mental health
- Adult emotional health including trauma



Residents of HALTON

In paid partnership with:



For free access, use access code:

TOGETHER

We have been asked to share the following with you:

Trans Pennine Trail Half Term Activity Pack

We're excited to share our brand-new **Kids' February Half Term Activity Pack**, filled with fun nature-themed activities, crafts, recipes and puzzles for families to enjoy during the holiday. It's a great way to inspire children to get creative, explore the outdoors, and learn more about the outdoors and the Trans Pennine Trail.

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 our Children's page at: [TPT Activity Packs | Trans Pennine Trail](#)



We hope your children enjoy the activities. As always, we'd love to receive your feedback about the pack and suggestions for activities to include in future packs, just email your suggestions to us, at info@transpenninetrail.org.uk.

We have been asked to share the following with you:

Norton Priory Half Term Events

Please find attached the flyer for our half terms craft activities centred around Norton Priory's very own custom phantom statues. There are three different activities for children to come along to this half term.

Monday 16th - Phantom crafts-shadow puppets (included in general admissions)

Tuesday 17th - Photograph of a phantom - (included in general admissions)

Thursday 19th - Illustration workshop - a charge for this workshop of £12 per person. There also may be a chance to meet and talk to some of our phantoms on this day!

NORTON PRIORY
MUSEUM & GARDENS

Half Term: Phantoms Crafts

Join us for some phantom family fun
this half term!

Monday 16th - 11 am- 3pm Phantom
shadow puppet crafts (included in
general admissions) Make some
magical puppets and put on a show!

Tuesday 17th - 11 am- 3pm
Photograph of a phantom - (included
in general admissions) Create your
own image of a hidden ghost here at
Norton Priory.

Thursday 19th - 10am- 1pm -
Illustration workshop - a charge of
£12 per person for this workshop
a spooktacular hands-on drawing
workshop for all ages.

Check out: <https://www.nortonpriory.org/events/> for
more information!

Mental Health and SEND Services

Below is the latest signposting for Mental health and SEND services available for families in Halton



HALTON SEND

Important Information



PARENT CARER ADVICE / SUPPORT

- ### 1 Halton Send Parent Carer's Forum



A voice to inform families with children with additional needs of the services in our local area which may be beneficial to your child.

www.haltonsendcarersforum.org.uk
- ### 2 ADDvanced Solutions



An open access offer that supports the emotional health and wellbeing of neurodivergent children and young people, their families and the professionals that work with them.

www.advancedsolutions.co.uk
- ### 3 Halton Carer's Centre



Halton Carers' Centre is a network partner of the Carers Trust. We work to reach unpaid young & adult carers and develop services for them across the borough.

www.haltoncarers.co.uk

SIGNPOST FOR HALTON

- ### 1 Bridgewater



Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. Here you will find information about all of Halton's Health services

www.bridgewater.nhs.uk/halton/
- ### 2 Sendiass



If you need some advice, guidance or support on any issues that are affecting you or your child then we're here to help. We provide impartial and confidential information and support.

www.sendiasshalton.co.uk/
- ### 3 Family Hubs



A one stop digital platform for Halton residents to use to find services, events, support groups and advice

www.haltonfamilyhubs.co.uk/



SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

- ### 1 MHST



www.merseycare.nhs.uk

Our Mental Health Support Team provides direct mental health support to 45 schools in Halton. We promote the early detection and prevention of mental health problems, strengthen links with mental health services, providing direct, ongoing support around mental health and wellbeing across the whole school.
- ### 2 KOOH



www.kooth.com

Kooth is a free digital safe and anonymous platform for support for young people. They have wellbeing activities, journals, discussion boards, tips and a free Chat and messenger option for young people to talk to someone.
- ### 3 CAMHS



www.merseycare.nhs.uk

Headz Up Halton drop-in hub
An informal drop-in café where young people up to 18 years, parents and carers can drop by to speak with a mental health professional for assessment, advice and signposting to local services.
Tues- Brookvale / Thursday Warrington Rd