



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 17th July 2026

Goodbyes, welcome and good luck!

As we come to the end of the school year, we have messages for staff.

Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Albrecht, who will be moving to Willow Tree Primary School in September. Whilst we're sad to see him leave St Michael with St Thomas on a daily basis, we're delighted that he won't be far away! Mr Albrecht will continue to work closely with our school in his role as a Trust Curriculum Lead and will also be collaborating with our staff on the exciting new Re-Play project.

Mr Albrecht has been a fantastic member of our team, and his passion, creativity and commitment to our children have made a real difference. We know he will be a huge asset to Willow Tree, and we're looking forward to continuing to work together across the Trust. We wish him every success in his new role.

We're also delighted to welcome Mr East, who joins our team in September. Many of the children had the opportunity to meet him on Moving Up Day, and we know his new class really enjoyed getting to know him. We are excited to officially welcome him to the St Michael with St Thomas family and are sure he will be a wonderful addition to our team.

Many of you have been asking after Miss Bates and her beautiful twin boys. We're pleased to share that Alfie and Oliver are growing bigger and stronger every day, and we are hopeful that they will both be home together by the end of the month. We know you'll join us in continuing to send them lots of love and best wishes as they reach this exciting milestone.

Finally, we are saying goodbye—for a little while—to Miss Fisher, who begins her maternity leave this summer. Miss Fisher is such a huge part of life at St Michael with St Thomas, and she'll certainly be missed as she dashes around school each day! We wish her and her partner every happiness as they prepare to welcome their first baby. We hope the coming months are filled with love, laughter, precious memories... and hopefully a little bit of sleep too!

We can't wait to share the wonderful news and welcome the newest member of our ever-growing school family.

And Finally...

What a year it has been!

As we come to the end of another wonderful school year, I wanted to take a moment to thank all of our families for your continued support and to reflect on what has been an incredible year for St Michael with St Thomas.

There has been so much to celebrate. We have welcomed visitors from schools across the country, who came to see our outstanding maths provision in action and to learn from our excellent practice in areas such as attendance, inclusion and our Right Respecting work. Every visitor has commented on the warm, welcoming atmosphere in our school and the fantastic, high-quality learning taking place in our classrooms.

We were also incredibly proud of the outcome of our SIAMS inspection, which surpassed all of our expectations and recognised the exceptional work that happens here every day. Alongside this, our

children have achieved fantastic outcomes and continued to make us proud, not only through their academic achievements but through the kindness, confidence and enthusiasm they show every day. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our amazing staff and the wonderful support of our families. Thank you for working in partnership with us, for encouraging your children and for placing your trust in us. Together, we continue to create the very best opportunities for every child.

As we look ahead to September, we already have so many exciting plans and we are looking forward to getting going with them once we have all had a chance to recharge! For now, though, it's time to enjoy a well-deserved summer break. I hope you all have the opportunity to rest, spend time with family and friends, and make lots of happy memories together.

Thank you once again for all of your support this year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, achievement and opportunities.

Have a wonderful summer!

Love from

Miss Slingsby and all of the staff

xx

Uniform Swap Shop

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. 💜

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.

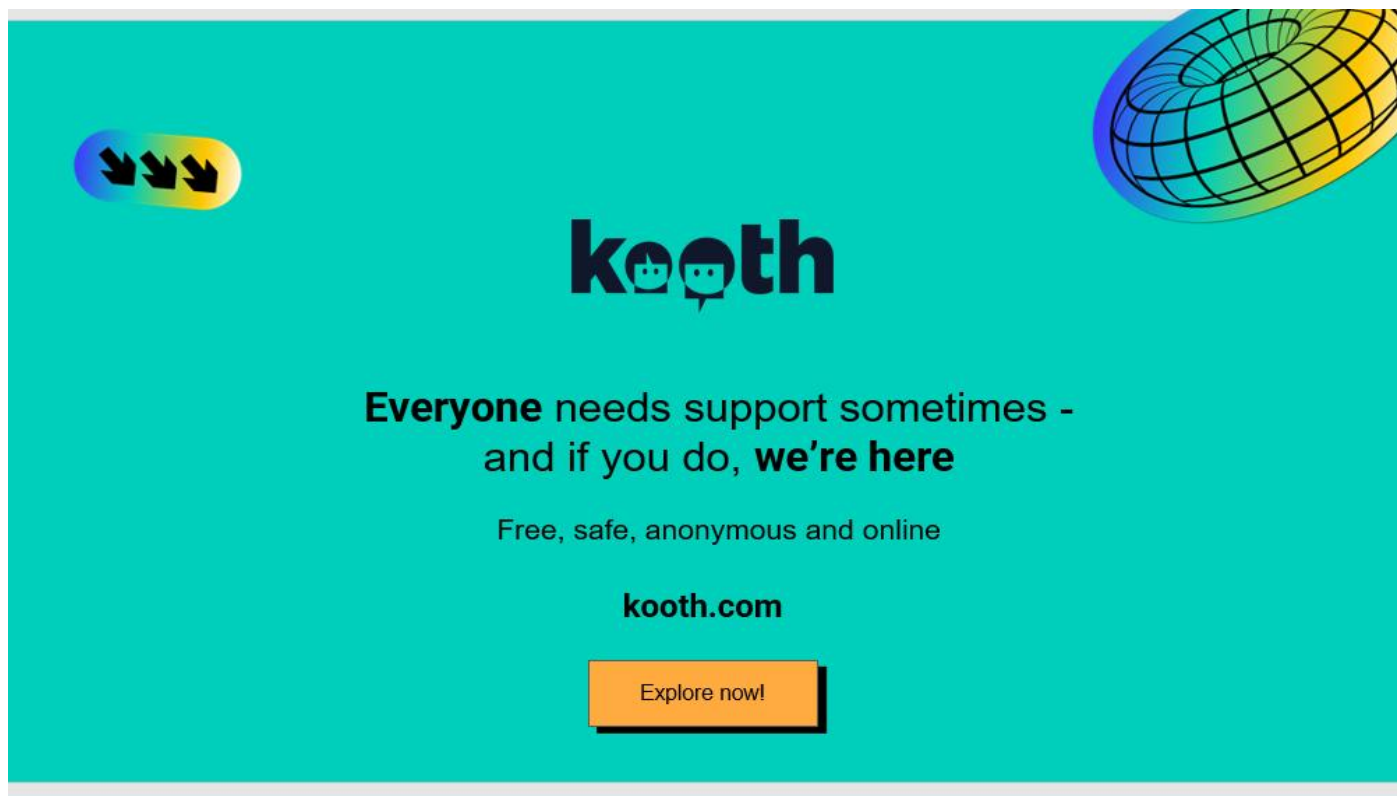
In addition, prams will not be allowed unless parents or carers consent to them being checked by a member of school staff. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we take these important steps to keep our school community safe.

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

- Olivia (Y3) for fabulous engagement during our lesson on Rio de Janeiro – Miss Swain 😊
- Aren (Y4) for being so fantastic this week! I am so proud – Miss McMullen 💜
-
- Paul (Y2) for working hard on Wednesday afternoon. I am so proud of you – Mrs Bonnett 😊
- Mason (Y2) for being a wonderful helper – Mrs Bonnett
- Evie and Kirstie for always asking if there is anything they can help with and for just be kind – Mrs Bonnett 😊
- Aiden and Jesse (Y4) for helping me complete lots of jobs this week – Mrs Bonnett
- 😊
- 💜

Kooth Workshop

Y6 enjoyed a visit from Kooth. 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:

- 20th July – Inset Day
- 1st Sept – Inset Day
- 2nd Sept – School Open
- 7th Sept – Meet the Teacher Y5 & Y6 (15:20pm)
- 8th Sept – Meet the Teacher Y3 & Y4 (15:20pm)
- 9th Sept – Meet the Teacher Y1 & Y2 (15:20pm) – ***Please note date change***

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

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 42: Both children and adults must know about children's rights*

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!



End of Term Award Winners

Rec – Amelia for truly embodying our seven Christian values

Y1 – Elliott for his excellent focus and effort in every lesson, he has been fantastic!

Y2 – Max for being an amazing role model always!

Y3 – Eva for showing amazing focus, kindness and resilience throughout the summer term, I am very proud of you!

Y4 – Kirstie for being so kind, hardworking and supportive to everyone – all the time!

Y5 – Nathaniel for always working hard, being kind and respectful and a wonderful role model to us all!

Y6 – Hailey for constant dedication to learning throughout the year

Lunchtime Superstars

Rec – Tallulah

Y1 – Wilson

Y2 – Max

Y3 – Faith

Y4 – Dylan

Y5 – Tilly

Y6 – All of Year 6

Attendance Counts!

#momentmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95.1%

Whole school attendance – this week:

94%

Class attendance winner:

99.3% - Y2

Class Attendance:

Rec – 89%

Y1 – 96.5%

Y2 – 99.3%

Y3 – 96.8%

Y4 – 85.3%

Y5 – 90.3%

Y6 – 98%



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

Please note some dates may change and dates added

 2026/2027 Autumn Planner			
September	October	November	December
• 1st Inset Day • 2nd Rec Meet the Teacher • 3rd Rec Start Date Group 1 • 4th Rec Start Date Group 2 • 7th Y5 & Y6 Meet the Teacher • 8th Y3 & Y4 Meet the Teacher • 9th Y1 & Y2 Meet the Teacher • 24th Whole School Eucharist • 25th Y4 Clonter Theatre Trip • 28th Y4 Bikeability • 29th Y5 Bikeability • 30th Y5 Bikeability	• 1st Flu Vaccinations • 1st Y5 Bikeability • 5th Rec Parent Insight • 6th Y1-Y6 Chester Zoo Trip • 7th Y1 Parent Insight • 8th Y5 Harvest Service @ Church • 8th Y6 Parent Insight Reading • 12th Y3 Parent Insight • 13th School Individual Photos • 13th Y4 Parent Insight Reading • 15th Y5 Parent Insight Reading • 19th Y2 Parent Insight Reading • 22nd Reception Welcome Worship • 22nd Autumn Disco • 23rd Finish for Half Term	• 2nd Inset Day • 3rd Inset Day • 4th School Reopens • 10th Y6 Museum Trip (TBC) • 18th Y4 Family Worship • 20th Inset Day • 25th Y5 Family Worship	• 3rd Y6 Christingle at Church • 4th Enterprise Fair • 7th Rec & Y1 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings • 8th Y5 Y Y6 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings • 9th Y2, Y3 & Y4 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings • 14th Rec & Y1 Breakfast with Santa • 14th KS1 Panto • 15th Y2 & Y3 Breakfast with Santa • 15th KS2 Panto • 18th Finish for Half Term

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:

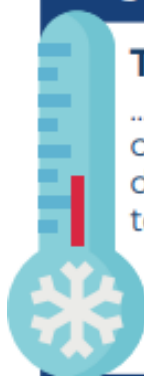
- Water safety advice and guidance: <https://rnli.org/safety>
- Float to Live advice: <https://rnli.org/safety/float>
- Education and teaching resources for children and young people: <https://rnli.org/youth-education>
- Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service water safety advice: [Water Safety | Merseyside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



Summer Reading Challenge

From Saturday 18 July 2026 to Saturday 5 September 2026, children and young people aged 0–16 years are invited to take part in our **READ 5 FOR A PRIZE** challenge

Simply borrow and read 5 books from the library over the summer holidays, and you'll receive a FREE tote goody bag containing:

- A wristband
- A bookmark
- A certificate
- A sticker

Visit your local library to join in and enjoy a summer full of reading!



A vibrant poster for the Summer Reading Challenge. At the top, a large yellow ribbon badge with the text 'READ 5 FOR A PRIZE!' in red, curved letters is centered. Inside the badge is a small image of a library building with the text 'Halton Libraries' below it. The background is a light blue sky with white clouds and three orange and yellow hot air balloons. Below the badge, the text 'THIS SUMMER, GO ALL IN AT HALTON LIBRARIES!' is written in large, bold, red letters. Underneath this, three yellow stars are followed by the text 'Read 5 or more books', 'Tell us when you've finished', and 'Claim your prizes!'. Below these stars, the text 'Plus, enjoy lots of FREE events, great reads, activities and more throughout the summer.' is written in blue. To the right of this text is a cartoon yellow star character with glasses, sitting on a stack of four books (blue, green, red, and yellow) and reading a blue book. At the bottom left, the website 'www.halton.gov.uk/libraries' is listed, followed by social media icons for Facebook, X, and Instagram. In the center bottom, there is a QR code with the text 'SCAN ME' above it. At the bottom right, the Halton Libraries logo is displayed, featuring a stylized 'h' and the word 'HALTON' above 'LIBRARIES'.

READ 5 FOR A PRIZE!

THIS SUMMER, GO ALL IN AT HALTON LIBRARIES!

- ★ Read 5 or more books
- ★ Tell us when you've finished
- ★ Claim your prizes!

Plus, enjoy lots of **FREE** events, great reads, activities and more throughout the summer.

Your next adventure starts at Halton libraries!

www.halton.gov.uk/libraries

Like us on  Follow us on  Follow us on 

SCAN ME



HALTON
LIBRARIES



NETBALL RECRUITMENT

YEAR 2 - 4

- BEGINNERS WELCOMED
- MATCH PLAY
- QUALIFIED L2 COACHES
- TECHNICAL TRAINING
- SQUAD TRAINING
- MAKING MEMORIES

Widnes Mondays

Halewood Tuesdays



www.nelliesnetball.co.uk

07872 499 626



FREE

bMindful Movement & Creative Day

Parent and Child
Holiday Drop-In

Tuesday
18 August

BOOK
NOW

Join us for a relaxed and welcoming day where children can explore mindful movement, creative activities, and playful learning in a calm, supportive environment.



Mindful
Movement



Creative
Play



Building &
Problem Solving



Fun, Safe &
Inclusive

Schedule for the day



10:30am – 11:30am
Morning Movement

A fun and engaging session of mindful movement, stretching and activities.



11:30am – 12:30pm
Creative Session

Explore arts, crafts, sensory play and imaginative activities.



1:00pm – 2:00pm
Lego and Build

Building challenges and free-play construction to spark creativity, teamwork and problem solving.



2:00pm – 3:30pm
Movement and Play

A variety of fun movement games and activities to explore, play and build confidence.



For Parents & Carers

While your child enjoys the activities, you're welcome to chat with our friendly team of clinicians.

We're here to answer any questions you have about your child's mental health, SEND needs, sensory processing, regulation, sleep or other concerns. You can also find out more about how our assessments and therapy services work.



*Advice, reassurance and support
in a relaxed, friendly space.*



LOCATION

Stockroom Stockport

Unit 5, Stockport Exchange,
Railway Road, Stockport, SK1 3GG



0161 510 0111

www.bmindfulpsychology.co.uk



*Empowering minds.
Supporting futures.*













HAF SUMMER CAMP

Fun-filled holiday sessions for
children aged 5–7 years

★	FREE For eligible families	Tuesday Wednesday Thursday 9am to 1pm	Children aged: 5 to 7 years	Drop off Max. 12 children per session	★
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PLAY TOGETHER, LEARN TOGETHER, GROW TOGETHER



• PLAY TOGETHER, LEARN TOGETHER,
GROW TOGETHER

What to expect

- ♥ A safe, welcoming and inclusive environment
- ♥ Fun daily themes and activities
- ♥ Healthy lunch and snacks provided
- ♥ Plenty of time to play, move, create and relax
- ♥ A team that cares!

Funded by the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)
Programme.

Helping children have a healthy, happy and active
summer.

To book: Search "Moo and a Brew" on Eequ



Book now!
Limited spaces available

Ready for a summer full of fun?

- ☀ Free for eligible families

 17 Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
28th Jul to 20 Aug

 9am–1pm

 Ages 5–7

 Lunch & snacks included

 Small groups (maximum 12 children)

 Moo and a Brew, Widnes

 Book via Eequ using your HAF code



Kids Summer Activity Pack

Dear School Administrators, Headteachers and Teachers

We're delighted to share our new **Kids Summer Activity Pack**, bursting with fun, family-friendly activities to help children stay active, creative and connected with nature during the summer holidays.

Featuring Mandy Mole, Hannah the Horse, Bob the Badger and their friends, the pack includes outdoor challenges, crafts, puzzles, colouring activities, a short adventure story and plenty of opportunities for children to explore the natural world while having fun.

Suitable for Key Stage 1 and 2 children, the free pack can be downloaded to a mobile device or printed at home, making it perfect for families at home, in the garden, at the park or out on the Trans Pennine Trail.

We would be grateful if you could share it with parents and carers through your newsletters, websites or social media channels.

The activity pack can be downloaded from our Children's Page, at: <https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/childrens-page/>

