



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 19th December 2025

Happy Christmas and New Year

As we come to the end of term, I just want to say a huge thank you for all of your support this year. Working together with our families makes such a difference, and we really appreciate everything you do to support the school and your children.

I'm incredibly proud of what our children and staff have achieved. The school continues to go from strength to strength, and it's been lovely to see so many great moments, successes and opportunities for our pupils along the way.

Looking ahead, 2026 is set to be another fantastic year. We are excited about new adventures for the school, including plans to expand our provision with a special educational needs base. This is an important step in strengthening our inclusive ethos and ensuring that we truly are a school for all pupils.

I would like to wish everyone in our school family a happy, peaceful and restful Christmas. We look forward to welcoming everyone back safe and sound on **Monday 5th January 2026**.

With love,

Miss Slingsby and all of the staff xx

Festive Fun

The festive fun continued this week as we were delighted to welcome Father Christmas and his elf, who took time out of their very busy schedule to join our younger children for a special breakfast. Children across the school enjoyed Christmas parties, party food, and had a ball on their trip to the Brindley Theatre watching the pantomime *Cinderella*, everyone had a fantastic time. Our children were exceptionally well behaved throughout all the celebrations, making us very proud! We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the parent volunteers who came with us - we really appreciate you giving up your time to help make these memorable events happen 🎄

And the Winner is ...

We are delighted to announce that the winners of our Enterprise Fair were, once again, Reception class, who narrowly beat Year 2 by just £5.00 in a very close competition. Well done to all the children who worked so hard planning, creating, and running their stalls — their enthusiasm and teamwork were fantastic to see. We would also like to thank all the parents and families who came along to support us on the day. Thanks to everyone's efforts, we raised an incredible total of £1,275!

Reception Walk to the Post Box

After being rained off on their first attempt to walk to the post office, our Reception children were full of excitement when they finally set off to post their letters to Father Christmas. Despite all the anticipation, they showed fantastic enthusiasm and did an excellent job of being Ready, Respectful and Safe throughout the trip. We would also like to extend a big thank you to the parent volunteers who joined us and helped make the experience both memorable and safe. Your support is always greatly appreciated and truly makes these days extra special for the children. 🎄 📮

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.

Parent Insight

Even though Christmas is not yet behind us we are already looking ahead to next year. You will have noticed in the Looking Ahead dates, that we have our Parent Insight sessions coming up. This time we are inviting parents to join us in a maths lesson, learning alongside your child. This enables parents to get a flavour of what life is like in the classroom, and to see the different strategies and methods we use to teach, which helps you to support your child at home.

Last year the sessions were so popular that we needed to put a limit on as there weren't enough chairs in the classroom! Therefore, please can we ask that parents who wish to attend the sessions, sign up on Arbor and we will be limiting the sessions to one parent only per child. Only those booked in on Arbor will be admitted and as these are live lessons unfortunately younger siblings are not able to attend. We thank you for your understanding and support.

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

- Charlotte & Arthur (Y6) thank you for being so kind and helpful at lunchtime – Miss B
- Ronnie (Y4) for beautiful manners to the kitchen staff – Mrs Manders-Tuthill ❤️
- Leyton (Y4) always being polite and friendly by saying hello to me – Miss Wilson
- Issac (Y5) for doing the right thing and reporting an issue on the playground so that a grown-up could help 😊
- Reuben (Y3) for fantastic work in all areas of learning this week! – Mrs Manders-Tuthill
- Bella (Y1) for being an amazing, helpful friend to everyone in year one – Miss Lavery
- Logan (Y1) for always being ready, respectful, and safe – Miss Lavery
- Carter and Amelia (Y6) for helping me in class supporting other children with their work – Miss Case
- Carter (Y6) An amazing achievement in completing his black belt! (Miss Lavery)
- Nathaniel (Y5) for being a super kind friend for tying his friends lace – Mrs Hughes
- Ivy-Rae (Y6) for always taking the time to stop and chat and ask how I am! 😊 Mrs Worrall
- Fern (Y6) for singing brilliantly and being so brave getting on stage at the panto! Mrs Worrall
- Lyla (Y5) for showing so much maturity all term and communicating so clearly with her friends 😊 Mrs Worrall
- KS2 Children for their wonderful behaviour at the panto! Mr Albrecht
- Reception, KS1 and Year 3 for their excellent behaviour at the panto! Mrs Fisher
- Mary-Rose (Y4) for always contributing to learning – Miss McMullen
- Bobby (Y4) for a fantastic drawing in RE – Miss McMullen
- Carter (Y4) for always giving 100% effort – Miss McMullen
- Charlotte (Y6) for being a great friend ❤️

Parent Dates

Looking Ahead:

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

- 5th Jan – School Opens
- 12th Jan – Rec Parent Insight Maths 2:15pm
- 13th Jan – Y6 Parent Insight – SATs 2:15pm
- 14th Jan – Y3 Family Worship in school 9:00am
- 16th Jan – Y1 Parent Insight Maths – 2:15pm
- 19th Jan – Y2 Parent Insight Maths – 2:15pm
- 20th Jan – Y3 Parent Insight Maths – 2:15pm
- 26th 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
Tue, 02 Jun 2026 - Wed, 03 Jun 2026	Y6 London Trip	Year Y6	10 Dec 2025 2nd Instalment
Wed, 10 Jun 2026, Thu, 11 Jun 2026, 15:15	Pettypool Y5	Year Y5	31 Dec 2025 3rd 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 4: Governments do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights*

What does this mean?

Article of the WEEK



Ready, Respectful, Safe!



End of Term Award Winners

- Rec - Thomas for embodying our school ethos ❤️
- Y1 - Millie for 100% effort in all subjects ❤️
- Y2 - Thea for always having fantastic learning behaviours and persevering with every challenge
- Y3 - Olivia for being such a fantastic learner and showing perseverance through every area 😊
- Y4 - Ethan for always trying his hardest all the time
- Y5 - Erin for incredible effort, enthusiasm, and perseverance in all she does!
- Y6 - Annie for a consistently outstanding attitude to all that you do - Well Done! 😊

Lunchtime Superstars

- Rec - Zoe
- Y1 - Niamh
- Y2 - Emmie
- Y3 - Eva
- Y4 - Dylan
- Y5 - Nathaniel
- Y6 - Joshua

Attendance Counts!

#momentsmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

94.7%

Whole school attendance – this week:

96.9%

Class attendance winner:

99.3% - Y5

Class Attendance:

Rec – 96.5%

Y1 – 96.1%

Y2 – 98.3%

Y3 – 98.7%

Y4 – 93%

Y5 – 99.3%

Y6 – 95.6%



**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



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

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

Bank Holidays during term time:

May Day: Monday 3 May 2027

CPD Days

1st September 2026

2nd November 2026

3rd November 2026

20th November 2026

4th January 2027

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
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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
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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
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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
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 Digital Arts Box

sign up now:
info@digitalartsbox.org
0151 433 2223



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:

