



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

*Newsletter – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026*

### **Staffing update**

At the end of this academic year, Mr Albrecht will be leaving his current role at our school. He has made the personal decision to step back from leadership so that he can spend more time doing what he is most passionate about – teaching in the classroom – as well as having more time at home with his family. Whilst we are, of course, very sad to see him leave our team, we fully support his decision. Due to a number of upcoming maternity leaves and short-term staffing changes, we do need to strengthen leadership capacity within our school. As a result, Mr Albrecht will be moving to Willow Tree Primary School to take on a Year 6 teaching role there.

The good news is that he will remain within our Trust, and as the schools share the same Headteacher, he will continue to work closely with the staff at SMwST. This means Mr Albrecht will still very much be part of our wider school family.

Some of you may have already seen that we have begun the process of recruiting a new Year 6 teacher. We will, of course, keep you updated once this process has been completed and we are able to share further details.

### **A Surprise bit of news!**

Miss Bates has unexpectedly given birth to her twins yesterday, at 27 weeks! We are delighted to let you know that both baby boys are doing well despite their early arrival, weighing a tiny 2lb 12oz and 2lb 3oz. Miss Bates is also doing incredibly well, and we are so proud of her strength during what has been a very sudden and emotional time.

We are sure you will join us in keeping Miss Bates and her boys in your thoughts and prayers. We will, of course, keep you updated over the coming weeks as we hear more about how they are all doing.

### **Sports Day**

We are excited to invite parents to this year's Sports Day which will take place on **Thursday 21st May 2025**, weather permitting. **Y4, Y5 and Y6 sports day will take place in the morning and start at 9:15am**, while our younger athletes from **Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3 will showcase their skills starting at 1:30pm**.

We are asking that children come to school dressed in the colours of their House Teams, however if they do not have anything in these colours, we have sports bibs so please do not buy anything especially for this. This event is not just about competition, it is a celebration of teamwork, effort, and sportsmanship. We hope to see you there.

### **House colours**

- Nightingale – Red
- Attenborough – Green
- Parks – Blue
- Mandela -Yellow

### **Sun cream**

With the hope of some lovely weather on the way, now is a great time to start preparing for sunnier days. We kindly ask that as the weather improves, children come to school with a sun hat for lunchtimes and that sun cream is applied before they arrive. Please note that sun cream should not be brought into school. Thank you for your support in helping us keep everyone safe and comfortable in the warmer weather.

### **Reception Trip**

This week, our Reception children enjoyed an exciting adventure on their very first school trip to the Blue Planet Aquarium. Brimming with enthusiasm, they explored the fascinating underwater world, discovering colourful sea life, including a white octopus, an axolotl and they even got to see Nemo and Dory! The highlight of the day was walking through the incredible shark tunnel, where the children looked up in amazement as huge sharks swam above their heads and were shown a real shark's tooth!

Not only was it a magical experience that will help bring our new *Under the Sea* topic to life, but it was also a wonderful opportunity for our youngest learners to show their growing confidence and maturity as they ventured beyond the EYFS classroom.

### **Y1 Family Worship**

We would like to invite parents to our upcoming Year 1 Family Worship, taking place on 29th April at 9am. During this special event, our wonderful Year 1 children will be leading a worship focused on this term's Christian value of Trust. These events are a lovely opportunity for us to come together as a school family, celebrating both the hard work and the spiritual growth of our children. We are really looking forward to seeing how our Year 1s share and express this important value, and we hope you can join us for what promises to be an inspiring and memorable experience.

### **Y1 Church Visit**

Year 1 had a phenomenal afternoon at church on Tuesday! The children's behaviour was impeccable throughout the visit, and they were a real credit to our school. They explored the theme of Easter both inside the church and around the grounds, showing great curiosity and respect. The children also learned about baptism and what it means, deepening their understanding in a meaningful way. They explored the church in detail, and some even took part in a (pretend!) baptism, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Reverend Linda was blown away by the children's knowledge, enthusiasm, and thoughtful responses—it was a truly memorable experience for all involved.


### **Trips**

We have a number of exciting trips lined up for the summer term. Please check Arbor to see which trips are available for your child and ensure that you have given consent and made full payment so that your child can attend. These trips provide wonderful opportunities for children to enjoy new experiences, explore beyond the classroom, and create lasting memories with their friends.

We are always looking for parent volunteers for our trips, if you are available and would like to join us please let the office know, your support is always greatly appreciated.

<b>Trip Date(s)</b>	<b>Trip Name</b>	<b>Groups</b>
Tue, 02 Jun 2026 - Wed, 03 Jun 2026	Y6 London Trip	Year Y6
Tue, 16 June 2026	Eureka	Year 1 and Year 2
Wed, 10 Jun - Thu, 11 Jun 2026	Pettypool Y5	Year Y5
Tue, 30 Jun 2026	Y3 and Y4 Go Ape	Year Y3 and Year Y4

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

- Ariana (Rec) for being such an incredible addition to our Reception class – Miss Mason
- All of Y2 have been absolutely brilliant in their maths lesson and let Mrs Worrall and her Maths Hub friends come to watch them 😊 – Mrs Worrall
- Mason (Y2) for being so respectful and for his fabulous singing in worship this week! Mrs Worrall 😊
- Aren (Y4) for using beautiful manners at lunchtime – Miss Barnett
- Arthur (Y6) for being a wonderful role model in worship for Mrs Worrall!
- Leighton for trying so hard with handwriting – Miss McMullen
- Arthur (Rec) for telling me a fantastic Maths equation at lunchtime – Mrs Manders-Tuthill
- Dylan (Y4) for being the best tennis partner – Miss McMullen 😊
- All year 1 for a wonderful trip to the church, they blew Mrs Jones and Miss B away with their knowledge! – And excellent behaviour! 😊
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## Parent Dates

### Looking Ahead:

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

- 29<sup>th</sup> Apr – Y1 Family Worship (Parents invited from 9:00am)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Apr – London Parents Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday
- 11<sup>th</sup> May – SATs Week
- 21<sup>ST</sup> May – Sports Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Finish for Half Term
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Inset day

***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 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Dish	Pork Sausage or Quorn Sausage	Chicken Tikka Masala or Vegan Meatballs with Naan Bread	Shepherd's Pie or Tuna Pasta	Tomato Pasta Bake or Veggie Burger with Pasta	Veggie Nuggets or Fish Fingers
Accompaniments	Herby Diced Potato & Veg of the day & Gravy *** Salad Bar	Rice & Veg of the day *** Salad Bar	Veg of the day *** Salad Bar	Garlic Bread *** 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:

## Trust

*"We trust in God, each other and ourselves"*



## 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 18: Both parents share primary responsibility for raising their child, always acting in the child's 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!



## Headteacher Award Winners

- Rec - Mia for excellent progress in maths
- Y1 - Wilson for great effort in learning how to tell time!
- Y2 - Paul for a fantastic week 💜
- Y3 - Olivia for superb effort in all her lessons especially in her writing tasks 😊
- Y4 - Dylan for being a brilliant member of our class all the time 😊
- Y5 - Willow for beautiful presentation and taking pride in all of her work! 😊
- Y6 - Hailey for consistently reflecting our school values on a daily basis

## Lunchtime Superstars

- Rec - Ferne
- Y1 - Ellie-Mae
- Y2 - Bobbie-Leigh
- Y3 - Olivia
- Y4 - Evie
- Y5 - Issac
- Y6 - Bailie

# Attendance Counts!

#momentsmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95.1%

Whole school attendance – this week:

96.5%

Class attendance winner:

98.7% - Y3

Class Attendance:

Rec – 95.2%

Y1 – 93.2%

Y2 – 97.5%

Y3 – 98.7%

Y4 – 97.7%

Y5 – 98.3%

Y6 – 94.8%



## **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

## Halton MHST - Summer of Self-Care

Please see below the summer of self-care workshop poster for sessions that Halton MHST will be running for young people and their families.

Families can also access information and booking details here: <https://www.mersecare.nhs.uk/mhst-selfcare>



## Halton Mental Health Support Team **Summer of self care**

Free summer workshops for parents, carers and young people to help Halton families support their young people's wellbeing.

### Self esteem

- Understanding how we can experience low self esteem
- Tips to improve self esteem
- Looking after you, so you can support them!

### Coping with big emotions

- How big emotions affect our bodies and behaviours
- How Zones of Regulation strategies can help when coping with big emotions.

### Transition to high school

- Preparing everyone for the move!
- Tips and tools to navigate week one in your new school and beyond.

To register your interest, scan this QR code.



Please note there is a maximum capacity of 15.

Parent and carers are able to attend alone, however, please make sure any young people are accompanied by an adult.



<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Location</b>
Wednesday 22 July 1.30pm to 2.30pm	<b>Self esteem</b>	Warrington Road Family Hub, Naylor Road, Widnes WA8 0BS
Wednesday 29 July 10.30am to 11.30am	<b>Self esteem</b>	Halton Lodge Family Hub, Grangeway, Halton Lodge, Runcorn WA7 5LU
Wednesday 5 August 1.30pm to 2.30pm	<b>Coping with big emotions</b>	Warrington Road Family Hub, Naylor Road, Widnes WA8 0BS
Wednesday 12 August 10.30am to 11.30am	<b>Coping with big emotions</b>	Halton Lodge Family Hub, Grangeway, Halton Lodge, Runcorn WA7 5LU
Wednesday 19 August 1.30pm to 2.30pm	<b>Transitioning to high school</b>	Warrington Road Family Hub, Naylor Road, Widnes WA8 0BS
Wednesday 26 August 10.30am to 11.30am	<b>Transitioning to high school</b>	Halton Lodge Family Hub, Grangeway, Halton Lodge, Runcorn WA7 5LU

All workshops will involve both a parent led and child led session. Both of these will take place at the same time, ending with a fun craft based wellbeing activity that can be taken home.

If you have any problems booking onto the workshops, please contact the team on **01925 664 120**

In partnership with Knowsley CLCs, all parent/carers are invited to an:

# Online Safety Information Session

This session is delivered virtually so can be watched from anywhere!  
We will share the link with you privately.

**Guide to Social Media & Livestreaming** - this will include latest trends and emerging threats and will focus on developing your understanding of social media and livestreaming, the associated risks and steps we can take to support our children.

**WEDNESDAY  
6TH MAY  
2026  
4PM - 4.45PM**



Knowsley  
City Learning Centres