



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 4th September 2026

Welcome Back!

It has been so lovely to welcome everyone back to school and see the children coming through the doors again! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and managed to enjoy some time together as a family.

A huge welcome, too, to all of our new children and families who are joining us this year. Starting a new school can feel like a big step, for parents as well as children, and we hope you already feel part of our school family. We are really pleased to have you with us.

There is always something special about the start of a new school year. It is a fresh start, with so many opportunities ahead, and we have lots of exciting plans for the children over the coming months. Most importantly, we want our children to be happy, feel safe and loved, enjoy coming to school and be given every opportunity to be the very best that they can be.

As we start the year, I also want to remind you just how important working together is. We all want the same thing – the very best for your children – and we can achieve so much more when school and families work as a team.

Please never worry about coming to speak to us. If something is bothering you, however big or small it might seem, talk to your child's teacher or another member of staff in their class. My door is always open too, and I am always happy to listen, have a chat or help where I can. Good communication works both ways, and having open and positive relationships with our families is incredibly important to us.

Thank you for the support you continue to give to our school and, most importantly, to your children. I am really looking forward to the year ahead and to sharing all of the successes, special moments and probably a few challenges along the way!

Let's work together to make this a really happy, successful and memorable year for our children.

Miss Slingsby
Executive Headteacher

A Special New Arrival!

We are absolutely delighted to share some lovely news from the summer with you all – Miss Fisher has welcomed a beautiful baby girl! 💖

Mum and baby are both doing well and we know you will all join us in sending Miss Fisher and her family lots of love and **congratulations** at this very special time.

We can't wait to meet the newest little member of our school family!

Parent Forum Invitation

We would love to invite you to join our wonderful Parent Forum! Your thoughts, ideas and experiences are so important to us and really help shape the decisions we make. Our Parent Forum is a friendly, welcoming space where we come together to chat about how we can make our school community even better, gain parent views and insights on different topics. We are always excited to hear fresh perspectives and new ideas from our families.

Ideally, we would like a nominee from every class. The Parent Forum will meet with Miss Slingsby each term for an hour, from 3:30-4:30pm (coffee, cakes and free afterschool club provided!)

If you would like to get involved and be part of this lovely group, please email the office and we will send you further information and dates. Together, we can continue creating the very best learning environment for all our children.

Invitation to Meet the Teacher - Reminder

We would like to invite you to our upcoming "Meet the Teacher" events where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher. This is a wonderful chance to learn about the year ahead and ask any questions you may have.

Meetings will be held at 3:20pm on the following dates:

7th September 2026 - Year 5 and Year 6

8th September 2026 - Year 3 and Year 4

9th September 2026 - Year 1 and Year 2

Uniform

We would like to remind families of our high uniform expectations. We expect all children to attend school wearing the correct school uniform and PE kit. Hair should be tied back, and earrings are not permitted.

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 cardigans, jumpers, PE kits, coats or shoes 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.

The Year Ahead

Over the next week or so, we will be sharing some important information to help families prepare for the year ahead. This will include our **PSHE documents**, which will outline the topics your child will be learning about and provide useful information to help you understand and discuss these themes with your child at home. We will also be sending out a **Homework Letter**, which will serve as a reminder about our homework expectations and highlight a couple of changes for this year. Finally, our **Trips and Experiences Letter** will provide an overview of all the trips, visits and events your child will take part in throughout the year. To help make the cost more manageable for everyone, **Arbor** will be opened for each event, allowing families to make payments in instalments throughout the year.

Arbor

We kindly ask that parents log into Arbor regularly and ensure all medical, dietary and contact information is up to date. Arbor also shows useful information should as your child's attendance record, available afterschool clubs, upcoming trips and much more.

We are still offering toast at £1 per week, and you must book your child on and pay via Arbor on a Monday morning before 9.00am. The cook checks the Arbor system to gather her toast numbers for the week so if you add your child after 9.00am you will need to advise the office as they will need to update numbers for the cook. We would also like to remind parents that school meals should be paid for at the beginning of the week for the week ahead, if your child does not have a school meal one day the money stays available in your meals account. If you wish to access the wraparound care you will need to book and pay for all children via the Arbor app beforehand to ensure staff are aware of numbers to expect for both snack requirements and staffing ratios. If you wish to pay using any of the childcare voucher's schemes, please let the office know and we can update your account to allow you to do so. If you need any help accessing Arbor please contact the office and we will be happy to help.

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

- Thomas and Zach F for being shining superstars – Miss McMullen 😊
- Olivia (Y6) for always being a fantastic helper at lunchtimes ❤️
- 🌟
- ❤️

Parent Dates

Looking Ahead:

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

- 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**
- 24th Sept – Whole School Eucharist (9:15am)
- 25th Sept – Y4 Clonter Theatre Trip
- 28th Sept – Y4 Bikeability
- 29th Sept – Y5 Bikeability (3 days)
- 1st Oct – Flu Vaccinations

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

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.

Living Our Values

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Perseverance

"We keep trying and never give up"



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!



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.**

Please note some dates may change and new 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 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

Attendance Counts!

#momentmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95.1%

Whole school attendance – this week:

95.1%

Class attendance winner:

100% - Oak

Class Attendance:

Acorn – 96.3%

Oak – 100%

Rec – 98.5%

Y1 – 92.1%

Y2 – 97.8%

Y3 – 92.6%

Y4 – 98.7%

Y5 – 92.1%

Y6 – 95.8%



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

KIDS CHURCH

Let's have some fun!

Our Theme is...New Season, New Beginnings!

Sunday 6th September, 11.00am

St Michael with St Thomas Church
Free Breakfast - from 10.30am.
Free Crafts, Story, Songs & Games.





NETBALL

RECRUITMENT

Widnes & Halewood Sessions 

with qualified **Level 2** Netball coaches,
Bee Netball leader with over 10 years experience 

NEW players wanted
for Sept - School Years **Y2-Y4**

FREE TASTER SESSIONS

Come and try us out! No experience needed 

-  Regular training: **Mondays** or **Tuesdays** 
-  Match play: **Sundays** 
-  League Matches: Warrington Sport For All
Centre Netball Leagues & Cheshire
Junior junior netball league 
-  Beginners welcome: Fun & friendly sessions 
-  England Netball affiliated 
-  Development opportunities for all players 

TO BOOK:
Message Coach Sally
 **07872 499626**

Bring a friend, bring your trainers,
bring your energy! 
We can't wait to meet you!

Fun Friendship Fitness Confidence 

England netball

#NELLIESNetball #NetballRecruitment #Widnes #Halewood #JuniorNetball
#Y2Y3Y4 #FreeTaster #BeginnersWelcome #EnglandNetball #NetballFamily 