



St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 28th February 2025

Halton Libraries

I am thrilled to let you know that Widnes library and Halton Lea library are an official **World Book Day token exchange hub** again this year. Children can come to the library to exchange their World Book Day tokens for a brilliant free book (please see poster attached). The hub opens **Thur 13th Feb** and runs all the way until the end of March. There is so much happening at Halton Libraries. Thanks for being part of it 😊

World Book Day Celebrations Friday 7th March



We are excited to announce that this year, as usual, we will be holding a week-long celebration for World Book Day, rather than just one day, as we truly love books in our school! Our week of activities will be filled with fun, creativity, and, of course, plenty of reading. The children can look forward to **library visits**, a book hunt around the school, and our usual **#ReadingInUnusualPlaces** social media competition. The grand finale of our celebrations will be a **Dress Up Day on Friday, 7th March 2025**, where everyone will have the opportunity to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. If your child has PE on this day their costume must allow them to participate in their lesson safely and comfortably. We cannot wait to see all the fantastic costumes and share our

love for literature together!

Ashes to Go

Reverend Linda will be outside our school offering "Ashes to Go" starting from 8:30am on 5th March 2025, children will then have an Ash Wednesday Service in school (children only, no parents). "Ashes to Go" is a meaningful way to bring the spirit of Ash Wednesday, belief, and a sense of belonging beyond the walls of the church and into the everyday places we gather. This opportunity allows everyone to experience the significance of the day and offers a moment of reflection and connection with their faith in a familiar setting.

Maths Hub

This week, we were thrilled to welcome leaders from the North West Maths Hub and the Regional Director from NCETM, who spent the morning in school observing maths lessons, talking to children and staff, and reviewing maths books. They were absolutely blown away by what they saw in the classrooms, expressing their admiration for the pupils they met, the high standard of teaching, and the way the children spoke about maths with such enthusiasm and confidence. We are incredibly proud of the feedback we received and would like to share some of the positive comments with you.

"The behaviour and learning attitudes of your children are excellent, it was a pleasure to be involved in their learning and hear them answering questions in full sentences using precise mathematical language."

"I left your school wishing that every child in our Hub area could have such a high-quality mathematics education. Your pupils are an absolute credit to you and all your staff."

Art Exhibition

The artwork from the Art Exhibition is still available for purchase at a cost of £5. If you would like to buy your child's masterpiece, please make the payment through Arbor. This is a wonderful opportunity to take home a special piece of art created by your child, and we are sure it will be a cherished keepsake! Thank you for supporting our young artists.

KS1 Family Fitness

Thank you so much to everyone who attended our first Family Fitness Club! We hope you enjoyed the session and had fun being active together. Starting next week, we will be splitting the session into two parts: the first half will focus on fitness, and the second half will be dedicated to healthy cooking. We still have places available for parents and children and would love for you to join us as we continue to explore ways to stay fit and healthy. Please log onto Arbor to secure your place, and we look forward to seeing you next week!

Careers Week

We are looking forward to our upcoming Careers Week, starting on 10th March. As part of the Start Small, Dream Big Careers project, we have been exploring the world of work and career aspirations. During the week, volunteers from a range of industries will be visiting school to share insights about their jobs and careers with our children.

A huge thank you to the members of our school community who have generously offered their time to inspire our children. We cannot wait to share all the wonderful things we learn throughout the week, keep an eye out across our social media accounts!

Parent Progress Meetings

Please look out for the parent progress meetings that will be available to book onto from 6:00pm on Monday. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, the latest assessment week and any next steps in their learning journey. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's achievements and progress.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available each morning, with breakfast being served until 8:25am. This allows children time to eat and gives staff the opportunity to clear up before registration. While entry to Breakfast Club is still available, and chargeable, after 8:25am, please note that children will need to have already had their breakfast by that time. We encourage you to arrive before 8:25am to ensure your child has time to enjoy their meal.

Road Safety

We have received concerns from parents regarding parking on zigzags while dropping off children, parking on pavements, and driving at excessive speeds around the school. We kindly remind all parents that the roads surrounding the school have a 20mph speed limit, and it is our shared responsibility to ensure the safety of all children and other road users. Please be mindful of parking and driving practices to help keep everyone safe during drop-off and pick-up times. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

School Uniform

We have noticed recently that some standards have dropped regarding uniforms and PE recently. Please can we remind all families to ensure that your child comes to school wearing school shoes, not black trainers, on non-PE days. Additionally, we ask that long hair is tied back with a bobble before entering school, and earrings are removed for safety reasons. We would also like to remind you that the PE kit consists of plain black tracksuits. If a plain black tracksuit top is not available, a school jumper or cardigan may be worn instead. Any other tops are not part of the school uniform and should not be worn. We appreciate your support in maintaining our school's uniform standards.

Looking Ahead:

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

- 25th February – Y4 Swimming
- 4th March – Choir cancelled
- 5th March – Ashes to Go 8:30am
- 7th March – Y2 Library Visit
- 7th March – Y5 Library Visit
- 7th March – Reception Library visit
- **7th March – World Book Day dress up celebrations Friday**
- 10th March – Y6 Library visit
- 10th March – Y4 Library visit
- 18th March – Y4 Clonter Opera Trip
- 21st March – Red Nose Day
- 28th March – Non-uniform day (Easter treat donations)
- 31st March – Easter Egg competition entries
- 3rd April – Easter Service Y4 (Parents Welcome at the Church at 9:30am)
- 3rd April – Easter Bingo (children only)
- 4th April – End of Term

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:

Forgiveness

"We look after each other and always try to 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 41: The Convention does not limit the rights children and young people have*

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.**

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

Respectful



Safe



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

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

- Mrs Bonnett's phonics group for working so hard when Mrs Fisher visited yesterday – Mrs Fisher
- Ronnie for always being so helpful around school – Miss Fisher
- Eleanor-Rose for being a kind friend and helping me in afterschool club – Miss Fisher
- Issac for being a super helper in breakfast club – Miss Fisher
- All of KS1 Homework club – for being super sensible and helping one another – Miss Fisher
- Ameila Y4 for practicing our Christian value forgiveness
- Libbie Y4 for beautiful manners

Headteacher's Award Winners

Rec – Logan for excellent contribution to our new health living topic

Y1 – Thea for a positive attitude towards all areas of learning this week

Y2 – Olivia for sharing answers in class with increasing confidence

Y3 – Lottie for making fantastic contributions in lessons

Y4 – Savannah for an amazing display of being Ready, Respectful and Safe all week!

Y5 – Lola-Rae for a positive attitude in all lessons

Y6 – Jack for making a huge, positive effort in his beautiful, joined handwriting.

Lunchtime Superstars

Rec – Eleanor

Y1 – Charlotte

Y2 – George

Y3 – Carter

Y4 – Lottie

Y5 – Joshua

Y6 – Laura

Attendance Counts!

#momentmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

95.4%

Whole school attendance – this week:

95%

Class attendance winner:

99.5% - Y3

Class Attendance:

Rec – 98.6%

Y1 – 96.1%

Y2 – 93.7%

Y3 – 99.5%

Y4 – 94.4%

Y5 – 93.9%

Y6 – 90.7%




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



*It's Spring and nearly Mother's Day too!
Our theme will be signs of new life and why saying
'thank you' matters to those who show us love!*

Kids Church

Let's have some fun!

SUNDAY, 2ND MARCH, 11.00AM

Free Breakfast from 10.30am.

**There will be Crafts & Planting &
decorating plant pots, Story, Songs
and time to play!**

Celebrating with

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

Exchange your World Book Day
token at Halton Lea library or
Widnes library any time from
Thursday 13th February to
Saturday 22nd March.



SPONSORED BY

NATIONAL
BOOK
tokens

VIVIAN
TRUONG