



The Three Saints Academy Trust

"If you can believe, all things are possible to those who believe."

Mark 9:23

Newsletter

Issue 27 Autumn 2024



St Ann's CE



St Mary & St Thomas



St Michael with St Thomas



Blackmoor Park Infants



Willow Tree

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

We are pleased to welcome you to our 27th edition of The Three Saints Academy Trust newsletter and the first for this academic year.

We are delighted to announce that our 5th school; Willow Tree Primary School in St Helens, joined us on 1st September. This is the culmination of a long partnership between the Trust and the school and we are delighted that they are now part of our family of schools.

2024 has been a successful year for our Trust, it was a time of growth when our Trust has grown to 5 schools and we have several more waiting for DFE approval to join us. Our schools have continued to compare well to national outcomes for statutory testing and attendance. We are very grateful for these successes and thankful to the whole school community for their dedication.

In November we were able to come together as a group of schools for our joint INSET day. All staff members joined together, this meant around 230 staff gathered for the day to engage with speakers such as Lisa Wisher on Emotional Resilience, Dan Fitzpatrick speaking about AI and Colin Foley on ADHD. The day culminated in our first Trust awards ceremony. All staff deserve an award for their tireless work but the winners on the day were:

Nurturing Values Award – Lynsey Tindsley BPI
Excellence & Aspiration Award – Bec Caesar SMST
Curriculum Innovation Award – Darren Partington Central Team
Collaboration Award – Kim Brimble SMWST
Leadership Award – Charlotte Foster SA
Newcomer Award – Molly Nichols WT
Dedication overtime Award – Linda Smith Central Team

We also presented staff with long service awards;

Kath Draper – SMST 27 years
Deb Rainford – SMST 34 year
Linda Rainford – SMST 28 years
Michelle Tyrer – SA 33 years
Anthony Franscina - BPI 29 years
Kamille McGrath – BPI 25 years
Jayne Harrison-Tankard - BPI 29 years

Sharon Farrell – WT 37 years

Pam Dickinson – WT 38 years



We are truly grateful to the blessing of staff who dedicate their whole working lives to our children and schools which shows what special places we work in. Congratulations to all our winners.

We are as ever, very grateful to our families for their continued support and have been very happy to see our parents supporting Christmas events in our schools where we can all remember the true meaning of Christmas; the arrival of a baby King.

You will get a flavour of all our school's amazing work during the autumn term on the following pages, all our schools are very special places and testament to the hard work of all staff and leaders. All the staff, Directors and School Committees would like to extend their best wishes for the festive season and thank you for your continued support. We pray that everyone has a healthy and happy 2025 when we look forward to celebrating 10 years of TTSAT.

Kirsty Tennyson
Chief Executive Officer
The Three Saints Academy Trust



News from St Mary & St Thomas

Believe, Achieve, Shine

EYFS STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS

Our EYFS parents have had many opportunities to come into school and learn alongside their child this term but their favourite session was the stay and play sessions. Before they got to the fun part, Miss Bowen spoke to Reception parents and carers about how they can promote independence at home. Miss Bell spoke to Nursery parents and carers about how to manage behaviours at home. There were then lots of activities for families to enjoy together.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

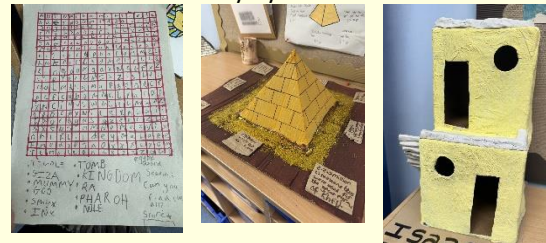
On Thursday 10th October, pupils, staff and parents and carers celebrated Mental Health Day. We began the day with a parent and carer workshop delivered by Emma, our MHST practitioner, and her colleague Siobhan. Emma and Siobhan spoke about their service and what support and guidance they can provide. They also gave parents and carers lots of handy hints and tips to help support their child at home. Emma and Siobhan then led sessions with KS2 children. They looked at the emotion characters from the film 'Inside Out 2' and discussed ways in which they can manage these emotions. They had lots of fun trying some emotion management strategies.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

This term our pupils celebrated 'Anti-Bullying Week'. They had opportunities to think and discuss the importance of kindness. We also reminded pupils about our STOP acronym- bullying can be defined as several times on purpose. To help us further embed our learning, Altru Drama performed their annual play highlighting the danger of bullying and the negative impact it can have upon children.

HOME LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Our pupils are always taking the opportunity to further their learning at home and we have been blown away by some of their efforts. Y6 have been studying Ancient Egypt in their history lessons. They have had the opportunity to hear directly from Howard Carter (with the help of Artificial Intelligence!), visit the World Museum and take part in some workshops and then complete some homework projects in their spare time. You can see the quality of what they have produced below from model homes to educational wordsearches, we have been blown away by their efforts.





SLOW DOWN FOR BOBBY:

This half term we have been exploring the wonderful work of *The Bobby Collieran Trust*. During Road Safety Week 2024 Joanne Collieran and her team visited our school to raise the importance of Road Safety. Our entire school community gathered in assembly to listen to the story 'Super Bob'.



Following this assembly, all classes visited the crossing on Leyfield Road to develop their understanding of how to use the crossing. Our children and staff recognise by fostering these practices, we can protect children from potential harm and ensure they have the skills to navigate roads safely as they grow older.

ZOE'S PLACE

During this half term we have been fund raising for several charities. One that is particularly close to the hearts of the Blackmoor community is Zoe's Place. We raised a total of £670.54. We are incredibly proud of all our children, particularly the work of Abigail.

Abigail, one of our Year 2 children, raised £1000 through her own fundraising ideas.



DENTAL WORKSHOP:

Staff from West Derby Children's Centre visited our Kindi 3 + children. Nicola explained to the children the importance of brushing their teeth and reducing the number of sugary treats. The children had the opportunity to use the large teeth and toothbrush to practice their brushing skills.



We had a dentist workshop



IT'S SNOW JOKE!

The colder climates brought wonderful learning opportunities for our youngest members of our school community. They explored the natural elements to develop their understanding of the natural world.



News from St Ann's

Together, we aim high; with God's love, we can fly

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



Proud to share the positive contribution #TeamStAnn's have made together this term through our charity work. In September we raised a massive £1382.13 for Macmillan when he hosted our annual coffee morning. Special thanks to our magnificent choir for their first performance of the school year.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL SINGING WORKSHOP

We were delighted to welcome Mr Mannings to St Ann's to lead a special singing workshop. Mr Mannings is the Director of the Anglican Cathedral Choir. The benefits of singing were clear for all to see and the children thoroughly enjoyed the session. We look forward to welcoming Mr Mannings back in the future.



PARENT INSIGHT



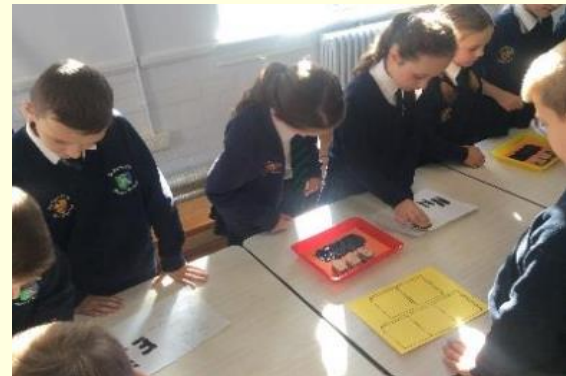
This term children and parents/ carers enjoyed our Reading Parent Insight sessions. Parents were interested to hear all about the benefits of reading bedtime stories and everyone enjoyed completing the book taster leaflets. We look forward to seeing how our class reading scrapbooks will develop over the coming year.

BIKEABILITY



This term children across Y3, Y4 and Y5 have benefitted from Bikeability sessions. We are delighted that many more of our pupils can now ride a bike and know how to keep themselves safe when out and about in the community. Well done everyone!

OUR TOWN'S SOUNDS



Y5 had the exciting opportunity to work with Shakespeare North Playhouse this term. The children discovered the fascinating world of words and phrases that we have Shakespeare to thank for. Children especially enjoyed unleashing their creativity through screen printing and inventing their own imaginative compound words. Sounds great fun doesn't it?

OPEN DAY



Special thanks to our newly elected Head Boy, Head Girl, Rights Respecting Parliament and House Captains for supporting this year's Open Day. Head Boy Jack and Head Girl Sofia spoke so articulately to the prospective parents and all the other children were so confident answering all their questions. #Proud



News from St Michael with St Thomas

Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

Centre Of Excellence for Financial Education

We were incredibly proud to have been accredited as a Centre of Excellence for our work with Young Enterprise on Financial Education. This project involved the whole school, led by Miss Fisher, and was implemented to support our children's understanding of money, building important life skills that they will use as they grow up. We are very proud of the work that we have done on this project and it was lovely to be recognised as a school at the annual Financial Education Conference in Manchester last month.



History Week



This term we took part in one of our favourite theme weeks of the year – History Week! Half of our classes focused on local History, looking at the impact of key periods of time such as the industrial

revolution and the slave trade on the local area. The other half of the school focused on WW2, looking at the event through different lenses such as the home front and the way that the role of women changed, and also the Holocaust and the learning we can take from that. The children all enjoyed the week and produced some fantastic work, as well as showing their maturity in discussing such important themes.

Interfaith Week

This term started off with our annual Interfaith week – a celebration of different world faiths, learning about the similarities and differences between different religions and Christianity. This involved looking at the key deities and practices, foods and celebrations and exploring places of worship. We are lucky enough to have a Buddhist temple right on our doorstep to explore! This work builds on our British Value of Tolerance and Respect for all, as we learn about



how our differences make us unique, and how to show tolerance and curiosity about our differences.

Reception's Welly Walk

Our Reception class did a fantastic job of raising money for improvements to their outdoor learning environment by walking a whole mile in their wellies around the school site! They were sponsored by friends and family and raised over £700!! Well done Reception!



Bikeability Sessions

Our Y4 and Y5 pupils took part in the Bikeability workshops this month, learning the important skills needed to help them keep safe whilst biking on the road and in the community. They developed their biking abilities, as well as gaining knowledge about road safety, practising their skills with qualified instructors before gaining their Level 1 and 2 certificates. We are proud of them all for doing so well, and are so glad that our pupils will stay safe whilst riding to and from school.

Halton Christmas Card Competition

This festive season, our budding artists had the opportunity to take part in a competition to design a Christmas card for Halton Council, which will be sent out by the Mayor, and we were very excited when Annie's design was chosen as the winner! Combining Santa and the famous Halton bridge was a winning combination!





News from Willow Tree

Growing, Learning and Achieving Together

Willow Tree are delighted to have joined the Three Saints Academy Trust this term and we have had a busy time.

SWIMMING POOL

The school have enjoyed having their own



swimming pool on site this November for 4 weeks. All children from Year 1 to Year 6 have been learning how to swim and the importance of keeping safe near and in water. The children have loved it and we are booking again for next year.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL VISIT

Children from Year 1 & Y2 went to the Liverpool Cathedral this term. They had the opportunity to learn about the key features in the church and its history.



YEAR 6 REMEMBRANCE ASSEMBLY



Children from Year 6 led a special

Remembrance assembly in November for parents, following their study of WW2 in History. They learned about the impact of war on children's lives and even held a 'Beat your parents' quiz!

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Mental Health Week at Willow Tree

This term, we celebrated Mental Health Week with a range of activities designed to support our children's emotional well-being. The week was inspired by the film Inside Out 2 and the Book 'The Colour Monster' for our younger pupils, helping us explore the importance of emotions and self-care.

Each class took part in workshops in The Hive, where we discussed the importance of talking about our feelings, with a special focus on encouraging boys to express themselves. We learned that all emotions are okay and worked together on healthy ways to manage them. As part of our Colour Monster activities, the children decorated biscuits and created vibrant fruit kebabs to represent different emotions.

We were thrilled to welcome visitors from a local gymnastics club and boxing club, who ran engaging workshops that built confidence and highlighted the link between physical activity and mental well-being. Additionally, lunchtime activities throughout the week focused on mental health, including the launch of our Positivity Pot, where children could share encouraging notes, and our Buzzy Bees initiative, run by our play leaders to spread positivity.

To involve families, we shared self-care ideas and provided resources to support children and parents in fostering regular conversations about emotions. For homework, children were encouraged to chat with their parents to start building these vital connections.

We're so proud of how the children embraced Mental Health Week and hope they continue to use these skills to support their well-being.