



**Don't hide your light! Let it shine for all; let your good deeds glow for all to see, so that they will praise your heavenly Father. – Matthew 5:16**



## **St Mary and St Thomas CE Primary School Newsletter**

**w/b: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

### **GOLDEN BOOK**

We introduced our whole school Golden Book this term and each week, staff will be adding names to the Golden Book when children WOW them. We are loving sharing the names of these incredible children who have demonstrated that they are Ready, Resilient or Respectful, in line with our school rules. But of course, to make it to the Golden Book their readiness, resilience or respectfulness has gone a step further. This week we've heard of children who have gone out of their way to offer their time to help younger children and children who have been so alert and eager to learn that staff have been utterly blown away. The Golden Book is on display at the front of school, so we encourage you to take a peek! Well done to this week's Golden Book children.

### **PE**

The table below details the PE for children across the school. Information was sent out this week regarding the changes to PE sessions as they may now be required to be in PE kit for two days. Children should attend school wearing their PE kit on their allocated days, which must consist of a white t-shirt, black shorts or sports trousers and black trainers. Details and pictures of the appropriate kit can be found on our school website. Please be aware that children are **not permitted** to wear football kits or branded clothing. We have a limited amount of spare kit in school and children will be asked to change into this prior to their PE session where necessary. Please note, Y4 will still be attending swimming on Mondays and therefore should have appropriate swimming kit on this day.

PE				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
YN	Y1	Y1	Y5	Y2
YR	YR	Y4	Y6	Y3
Y5		Y2		
Y6		Y3		

### **BRASS LESSONS**

Music brass lessons for KS2 are as follows: Wednesday for Y4/5 and Friday for Y6. The children should bring their brass instruments into school on these days as per the loan agreement.

### **WHATEVER THE WEATHER**

At this time of year, it's often hard to tell in the early morning how the weather will pan out throughout the day. Therefore, can we ask that children arrive to school with a coat just in case a sunny morning turns into a rainy lunchtime. It is so important that children have the opportunity to get fresh air – it's good for their wellbeing and helps them with their learning too!

### **READING 5 TIMES**

We simply LOVE reading at SMST and we know how important it is to foster this love for reading in our children. Our school rule on reading at home is that children must read 5 times each week. Those that do get 5 dojos and an extra playtime - not to mention the fact that their brains get BIGGER and more filled with wonder. It's a win-win! We thank you in advance for your support in this and ask that a record of each time your child reads is noted in their reading diary as opposed to one comment per week.

### **CLASS DOJOS**

Your child may have told you all about Class Dojos – if they haven't, make sure to ask! At our school, children can receive dojos for being Ready, Resilient or Respectful... and for reading 5 times too! For each milestone, the children may receive a certificate or a prize and all the dojos contribute to their House Team totals too. We love to celebrate their successes, their efforts and their kindness too.

**Believe in ourselves, each other and God; Achieve in all we do; Shine every day!**

Compassion, Joy, Thankfulness, Forgiveness, Hope, Perseverance

Barton Close, WA10 2HS Tel 01744 734320 Email [stmarythomas@three-saints.org.uk](mailto:stmarythomas@three-saints.org.uk)

**Web** [www.sm-st.co.uk](http://www.sm-st.co.uk)

### **TEARDROPS POSTER COMPETITION**

We know we have some fantastic artists and designers in our school. Take a look at the letter from Teardrops Community Support. They are looking for a child-designed poster to advertise their Christmas Hamper appeal. Wouldn't it be great if a child from SMST designed the poster for the whole town?

### **PANTO SEASON**

Dare we say it? The festive season isn't *too* far away. Some people will have cheered; some people will have groaned! A message has been sent out via Arbor today with details of when and how to book. Make sure you book your child's place.

### **ARBOR**

Can we please urge parents to log onto Arbor and check the following:

- \*all your child's details are correct (address, phone numbers, doctors' details etc)
- \*the list of people who are able to collect your child (you are able to add more to the list or delete people from the list.
- \*the consents for your child and update accordingly.

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Please find attached to this newsletter our dates for the diary for the year ahead. Please have a look and make a note of any that are linked to your child's class so you can be well organised for events.

### **CLASS INFORMATION**

Please be sure to keep checking the school website and in particular your child's Class page. In the next week, you will find the class handbook, curriculum overviews for the term and homework information. If you have any questions or would like a hard copy of the information, please speak to your child's class teacher.

### **BIRTHDAY OWN CLOTHES**

Just a reminder that on their birthdays, children are allowed to wear their own clothes to school. If their birthday falls on a weekend they may choose to wear their own clothes on the Friday or Monday.

### **INVEST IN PLAY COURSE**

Please see the attached flyer for information about our next parenting support programme that will commence on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. We really encourage any parents who are interested to sign up to this free, fun and informative course. It is all about learning ways to develop strong relationships with your children and develop strong, fair boundaries to enable your child to thrive.

### **WRAPAROUND LATE FEES**

Please could we remind families that our after-school wraparound care runs until 5.30pm. If a child is not collected by this time, we have to implement a late fee as this service is run by our school staff. The late fee for collection is £1 per minute late.

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## FAMILY OF FAITH

### A reflection from... Mrs Parry

I think perseverance is such an apt Christian value focus for this first Autumn term.

Soon, we will start to notice the nights drawing in and the air cooling too. I've got to admit...I'm a summer person at heart! So, for me, this term, I have to dig deep to find perseverance.

But of course, that is a known change. Something we can predict each year. When trials or tribulations come away that are unexpected and we are required to persevere, to not give up, we may need more than just ourselves to find the strength.

If you find yourself in a time of uncertainty, if you feel tested or afraid, remember the bible teaches that you are blessed and you will receive the crown of life, because you are loved. It's a promise from God.

Our **Christian value** focus this half term is...

## Perseverance

Our school **bible verse** of the week is...

### James 1:12

*"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."*

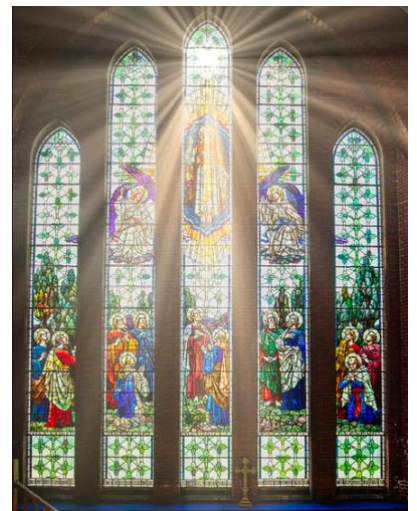
### St Thomas Church

Peter Street, St Helens, WA10 2EB  
01744 732463 / stthomaseccleston@gmail.com

#### Sunday Services

Parish Mass: 9.30am – 10.30am  
Evening prayer: 6.30pm

*"Seeking to love God and neighbour in the community of which we are part."*



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# ST MARY & ST THOMAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# 2022/23 PLANNER

## SEPTEMBER

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September:**  
Individual & sibling photographs  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>:**  
Y2 Family Learning (2:15pm)  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>:**  
Interfaith Day  
**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y6 Parent Insight morning  
**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>:**  
Rec Family Learning (2:15pm)

## OCTOBER

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y5&Y6 Eucharist  
**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y5 Family Worship  
**Friday 6<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y1 Family Learning (2:15pm)  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y2 Harvest Service @ St Thomas  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y4 Family Worship  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
Rec Family Learning (2:15pm)  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>:**  
Autumn Disco  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y4 & Y6 Trip to Clontar Opera

## NOVEMBER

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y5 Parent Insight morning  
**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>:**  
Charlie & the Chocolate Factory trip  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y3 Family Learning (2:15pm) & Children in Need  
**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>:**  
Y4 Parent Insight morning  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup>:**  
Rec Stay & Play  
**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y5 & Y6 Eucharist

## DECEMBER

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>:**  
Nursery Stay & Play  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>:**  
Christmas dinner  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>:**  
KS1 Nativity  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>:**  
Rec&KS1/KS2 Pantomime & Party  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y1/2 Parent-teacher consultations  
**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y3/4 Parent-teacher consultations  
**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y6 Christmas Service @ St Thomas  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>:**  
EVFS carols around the Christmas Tree  
Y5/6 Parent-teacher consultations

## OTHER INFO

### Half Term dates:

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023:**  
Children return to school  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023:**  
Children break up for half term  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023:**  
Children return to school  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023:**  
Children break up for half term  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024:**  
Children return to school  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024:**  
Children break up for half term  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024:**  
Children return to school  
**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024:**  
Children break up for half term  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024:**  
Children return to school  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024:**  
Children break up for half term  
**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024:**  
Children return to school  
**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024:**  
Children break up for half term

### Additional Dates:

**27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> September & 16<sup>th</sup> October:**  
Y5 Debate academy  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October:**  
Flu jabs

## JANUARY

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>:**  
KS2 Eucharist  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y3 Parent Insight morning  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y4 Family Learning (2:15pm)  
**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>:**  
Rec Stay & Play

## FEBRUARY

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>:**  
Y2 Parent Insight morning  
**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>:**  
Y5 Family Learning (2:15pm)  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>:**  
Safer Internet Day & Valentine Disco  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y5 Ash Wednesday Service @ St Thomas  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y6 Family Learning  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>:**  
Y3 Family Worship  
**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y2 Family Worship

## MARCH

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>:**  
Nursery Stay & Play  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y1 Parent Insight morning  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>:**  
World Book Day  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>:**  
Y4 Sleepover  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>:**  
Easter Bingo  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y4 Easter Church Service @ St Thomas

## APRIL

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y1/2 Parent-teacher consultations  
**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y3/4 Parent-teacher consultations  
**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y5/6 Parent-teacher consultations  
**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y1 Family Worship

## MAY

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>:**  
Rec Stay & Play  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y5 Petty Pools trip  
**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y3 Ascension Day Service  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>:**  
KS2 SAT's week  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>:**  
Sports Day

## JUNE

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>:**  
Whole School Eucharist  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y6 Moving on service  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup>:**  
Nursery Stay & Play  
**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y6 London Residential  
**Friday 21<sup>st</sup>:**  
Class photos  
**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>:**  
RSE Day

## JULY

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>:**  
Believe, Achieve, Shine awards evening  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>:**  
Rec end of year assembly  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>:**  
Y6 Leavers' Service





The **LEGO** Foundation

St Mary and St Thomas in collaboration with St Helens council are offering a brand new, exciting course for parents. The course focusses on developing boundaries and routines through the medium of...play! It is innovative, accessible and completely free of charge. The course aims to strengthen your bond with your child, promotes healthy relationships and provides you with practical strategies to manage behaviour. This course offers the building blocks for secure attachment, parental confidence and happier home. The course is available to any of our families.

The course runs for 11 weeks (term time only) and is held at St Thomas's Church

Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am, tea and coffee provided.

If you would like to attend, please give your name to the front office and you will be contacted.

Focused commenting	Building social, emotional and learning skills
Play	Building attachment, relationships and self-worth
Thoughts, feelings and behaviour	Building parental self-efficacy and confidence
Selective attention	Building co-operation
Predictable limits	Building security
Praise and rewards	Building confidence and self-esteem



Invest in play (iip) is an international not-for-profit organisation with a mission to support children and their caregivers using practical and compassionate strategies which have been proven to work over many decades.

We have co-created our programmes with local communities to provide the most current and culturally appropriate, research-based interventions to support parents and other caregivers around the world. We are an international team of psychologists who have been working with children and families for over 25 years.

The study compared measurements before and after the intervention from 4 invest in play (iip) groups. The outcomes were compared to control and intervention groups derived from a meta-analysis of 14 trials of a well-established evidence-based behavioural parent training programme.

The results show that:

iip effectively reduced child behaviour problems with effects comparable to the well-established intervention.

iip effectively reduced parenting stress with considerably larger effects compared to the well-established intervention.

Parents in the iip groups were more satisfied with the programme materials.



**Believe i**

**very day!**

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### Parent Guides to Online Safety



**A Parent's Guide to Social Media**



**A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures**



**A Parent's Guide to Gaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming**



**A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers**



**A Parent's Guide to Fake News**



**A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings**



**Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.**

**Parents** please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: [info@skips.com](mailto:info@skips.com) Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with





# teardrops

## Supporting Your Community

Hello,

Please allow me to introduce myself, my name is Florence I am the Education and Events Organiser for Teardrops Supporting Your Community. I am contacting yourselves as each year we supply families and single people in St Helens with Christmas Toy and Food hampers. Each year our christmas appeal poster is designed by a student in St. Helens and therefore we are hosting a competition for St. Helens primary schools.

If you are interested, we would like your students to be part of this and to create a poster with the following information.

**The poster must include a title of 'Teardrops Christmas Toy and Food Hamper Appeal' and also have the students name, age, school, and class on the back of the poster. Please may we also ask that all posters are drawn on a piece of A4 size paper in portrait aswell as being coloured in using felt tip pen as this shows up better when printed.**

This year we have opened the competition to more schools and therefore we would like the school to pick 2 posters from key stage 1 and 2 posters from key stage 2. (4 posters from each school). The deadline date for this competition is Friday 6<sup>th</sup>

October 2023. If you could please scan the 4 posters over to me via email ([florence@teardrops.org.uk](mailto:florence@teardrops.org.uk)) and I will confirm when I have received them.

Alternatively, they can be posted to us at Teardrops supporting your community, 110 crab street, St. Helens, WA10 2DJ.

Our overall winner will receive a certificate, a prize and their poster will be used as our advertisement for our christmas appeal in numerous businesses around St. Helens as well as on our social media platforms. The winning poster will also include the student's first name, age, and school.

There will also be runner ups who will also win a confectionary prize and a certificate.

I have attached a copy of last year's winning poster. Please let know if your school would like to participate. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you very much,

**Florence Boken – Donoghue**

**Education and Events Organiser**

**Well done to the following children, who have won the Headteacher's Award this week!**

Year	Head Teacher's Award	
N	Leo	For being really helpful and kind
R	Maui	For being a super role-model for others
1	Hunter	For being kind to his friends
2	Anna	For super work
3	Rina	For always contributing in class discussions
4	Belle	For Super reasoning in maths
5	Lacey	For excellent confidence in mathss
6	Jaxon	Excellent confidence in maths

Year	Lunchtime Award
R	Grayson
1	Beau
2	Alice
3	Oscar K
4	Terrence
5	Alfie
6	Marcus

Year	Attendance this week	ATTENDANCE AWARD
R	99.5%	Whole school attendance this week was <b>98.1%</b> Well done to <b>Year 3 with 100%</b> , they have won the class attendance award this week! Well done everyone!
1	95.5%	
2	99.6%	
3	100%	
4	96.7%	
5	98.8%	
6	99.2%	

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