



**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 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

### **HALF TERM BREAK**

It's been a long first half term but a brilliant one all the same! We've had some fantastic workshops, class assemblies, trips, and it was rounded off with an Autumn disco with some unforgettable dance moves. As always, a HUGE thank you to DJ Lacey for bringing the tunes (and the lights!). We will return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November and wish you all a restful half term break.

### **CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK – PARENT WORKSHOPS**

When we return to school, we will be observing Children's Book Week in school with some very exciting events for all the family. Parents and carers are invited to join us for an insightful workshop all about the importance of sharing stories with your children at home and how best to do so. There are two dates and times to choose from: **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 2.15pm or Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 9am.** We really encourage you to join us for one of these workshops, whatever your child's age or stage, for some interesting tips, research and information about children's reading.

### **LIGHT PARTY**

Next week, St Thomas' Church are hosting a very special **FREE ENTRY** event – it's a Light Party. It is taking place on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 5-6pm. See the poster below for more details.

### **POPPY APPEAL**

We will continue to sell items when we return to school ahead of Remembrance Day next month such as poppies, snap bands and keyrings. If your child would like to purchase an item, can we ask that you send the donation in to school in a sealed envelope with their name on. We will continue to sell these items next week and in the first week of next half term.

### **CLONTER Y4 & Y6**

The children had such a fantastic time at Clonter Opera this week! They wrote their own songs, designed sets and learned about the wonderful world of theatre.

### **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.

**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

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



## FAMILY OF FAITH

### A reflection from... Mrs Lewis

When we have time away from school, I always enjoy reflecting on the time we've spent together and the lessons learned. We always tell the children that every minute is a learning minute and we wholeheartedly believe this to be true.

So, what have I learned this half term?  
I have been reminded of the importance of patience when in the midst of perseverance. I have learned so much about our new starters who have been such a blessing to our school community. I have learned – or rather relearned, for there are many moments when I rediscover this fundamental truth – that children bring such beautiful joy to the world. And wherever life takes us, moment to moment, it is truly an honour to be in the presence of children.

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

## Perseverance

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

### Philippians 4:13

*“For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.”*

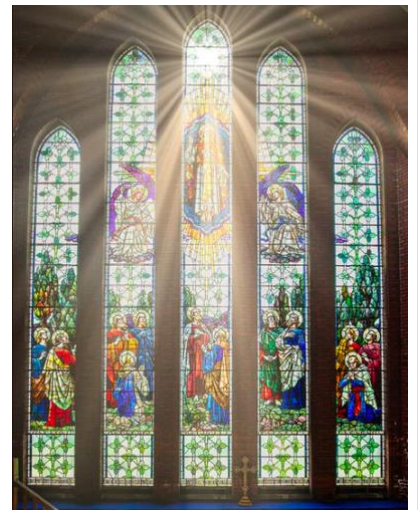
### St Thomas Church

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 Clonter 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





# CHRISTMAS

# FAYRE



❄ Various Stalls

❄ Refreshments

❄ Tombola

❄ Morning Coffee

❄ Cakes

❄ Light Lunches

❄ Lucky Dip

❄ Afternoon Tea

❄ Raffle & Games

❄ Uniformed Groups



Meet  
Father Christmas  
in his Grotto



## SATURDAY 25th NOVEMBER

11.00AM - 3.00PM

## ST THOMAS CHURCH

PETER STREET, ST HELENS



ADMISSION FREE - EVERYONE WELCOME





# FIRST STEPS TODDLER GROUP

Toys Singing Crafts Dancing

Fun for Everyone!

1:30pm - 2:30pm

Every Wednesday During Term Time

St Thomas' Church

Peter Street, St Helens, WA10 2EB

all under 5s welcome

Any enquiries please email: [stmarythomas@three-saints.org.uk](mailto:stmarythomas@three-saints.org.uk)

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FREE ENTRY

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30TH OCTOBER 5-6.30PM

# LIGHT PARTY

HOTDOGS  
ICECREAM & SWEETS  
GLOWSTICK DISCO  
GAMES & CRAFTS

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ST THOMAS CHURCH,  
PETER STREET, ST HELENS





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# BEHAVIOUR MATTERS!

*Ready, Respectful, Resilient*



## Mrs Lewis' Golden Book

Each week, staff write the names of children who have gone above and beyond in Mrs Lewis' Golden Book. It is so exciting when the names and reasons are read out in our celebration assembly!

It may be that a child has been ready to learn every moment of every day. Maybe they have been incredibly respectful to a visitor or a friend. Or maybe they have been resilient in a way that has wowed the staff!

## OUR SCHOOL RULES



## Class Dojos

Children can receive Dojo points for being ready, respectful and resilient throughout the school day. They receive 5 Dojos if they read five times, which they should do every single week.

Each child has their own Dojo character and milestones are celebrated with certificates and prizes each time they meet one.

We celebrate milestones such as 100, 200 and 300 dojos in assembly too!

## Headteacher's Award Winners

YN - Jessica for becoming more independent

YR - Alfie for trying hard to follow our rules!

Y1 - Tobias for always being respectful

Y2 - Joseph for brilliant maths work

Y3 - Celina for her amazing homework on rivers

Y4 - All or your 4 for a super effort on the Clonter trip

Y5 - Lucas M for excellent presentation

Y6 - Nevaeh for always being ready to learn

## Lunchtime Award Winners

YR - Amelia B

Y1 - Lalin

Y2 - Stan

Y3 - Poppie

Y4 - Isabelle H

Y5 - Mia

Y6 - Charlie





**ALWAYS ON TIME  
TONI**

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS. ALL DAY, EVERY DAY



**ALWAYS IN SCHOOL  
SANDY**

**TONI SAYS,**

"Our school starts at 8.45am; that's when the doors open!

*Children should arrive at school on time, so they don't miss any learning! Regularly missing lessons can have a negative impact on wellbeing and on your academic achievement too.*

*Being on time is such an important skill for life and sets you up for a life of success and positive wellbeing!"*

## EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and **future success** starts with good attendance!



Remember - your education is important - **don't miss out!**

**SANDY SAYS,**

"Children should be in school **EVERY DAY**... unless you're poorly. Every day counts!

*Every minute in school is a learning minute. The research tells us that children who are in school every day achieve more, and their wellbeing is better too!*

*Please let school know if you'll be absent before 9.15am or we'll have to contact you to check in."*

**Whole school attendance this year to date...**  
**95.4%**

**Whole school attendance this week...**  
**95.2%**

**Class attendance winners...**  
**Y2**

### Class Attendance

YN - 88.7 %  
YR - 91.0%  
Y1 - 96.6%  
Y2 - 98.3%  
Y3 - 96.0%  
Y4 - 98.1%  
Y5 - 98.0 %  
Y6 - 98.3%