



St Thomas of Canterbury School Newsletter

Week ending Thursday 17th April 2025

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you had a good spring break. We were so lucky with the weather!

This week is Holy Week and is a very special time in school. Each class has been thinking about the importance of Jesus's sacrifice and of his resurrection which we will celebrate this Sunday. Our Y5s shared all of the events of this week with us through their powerful portrayal of the Passion Play this afternoon.

I am pleased to share that Ms Dellow has returned to work this week. She will be based in our Y2 class and will take over as their class teacher in June when Miss Batteson begins her maternity leave. Welcome back Ms Dellow, we have missed you!

Finally, I would like to thank The Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury who have donated £5000 towards the KS1 playground. The strip of astroturf, which was fitted during the spring holiday, has completely transformed the playground. This wouldn't have been possible without their hard work and dedication or without your support of The Friends' fundraising activities. Thank you all. There are plans in place to further improve the outside areas as well as funding activities and treats for every child. Please help us with these plans by supporting the upcoming Friends' events. There is our final school disco of the year on Friday 16th May. We also have our annual Summer Fair on Sunday 8th June (more details to come). There will be an 'Own Clothes Day' on Thursday 5th June in exchange for bottles for the tombola stall at the fair.



Have a happy and Holy Easter weekend.
God bless
Mrs Clements

Smart watches

Children should not be coming to school with smart watches. These are any watches that connect to the internet or have a camera. These kinds of watches can pose a safeguarding risk for our children

Toys in School

Just a reminder that toys and cards (for example Pokémon) are not allowed in school. If you feel that your child needs a fidget toy from home to support their learning, please contact Miss McKay, our SENCO to discuss this. senco@st-tc.co.uk

Class Teacher (Maternity Cover) Job Advert

We currently have a job advert out for a Class Teacher (Maternity cover). Please see the below link for more details.

<https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/jobs/teacher-full-time-maternity-cover-part-time-maybe-considered>

School Calendar

Fri 18th April – Good Friday (No pupils in school)

Mon 21st April – Easter Monday (No pupils in school)

Tues 22nd April – 16:00 Summer 2
Breakfast/Afterschool Club bookings open

Thurs 24th April - Andrew Powell-Thomas Author Visit

Fri 2nd May – 09:00 Reception Class Assembly

Fri 2nd May – 15:15 Reception Class Bake Sale

Mon 5th May – Mayday Bank Holiday (No pupils in school)

Fri 9th May - Year 3 trip to Creswell Crags

Mon 12th – Thurs 15th May – SATS Week

Fri 16th May – Year 1 & 2 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Fri 16th May – School Disco

Weds 21st – Fri 23rd May – Year 6 Residential

Monday 26th – Friday 30th May Spring Bank Half Term

Mon 2nd June – Pupils return to school

Sun 8th Jun – Summer Fair

Mon 16th June – Class Photos

Weds 18th – Fri 20th June – Year 5 Residential

Mon 23rd June - 14:15 Y3 & Y6 Open Afternoon

Tues 24th June – 14:15 Y2 & Y4 Open Afternoon

Weds 25th June - 14:15 Y1 & Y5 Open Afternoon

Mon 7th July – 16:00 Autumn 1 Breakfast/Afterschool Club bookings open

Weds 16th July – Pre-School Family Fun Day (Pre-school closed)

Fri 18th July – Whole School Sports day at EIS

Tues 22nd July – Last day of School Year

Tues 22nd July – 14:30 Year 6 Leaver's Assembly

Weds 23rd July – Inset Day (No pupils in school)

Today's Friends fundraising activity

It was a difficult job for Mrs Hartley to choose our winner as the standard was so high.

Well done to all those who entered the Egg Decorating Competition our class winners are below.

Uniform

White or red embroidered polo shirt

- Red embroidered school sweater (round neck) or cardigan
- Red gingham dress
- Black trousers, black skirt or black pinafore dress
- In warm weather, black formal shorts, just above the knee, may be worn.
- Black leather fitted school shoes
- White or black socks or black tights

PE Kit

- Black shorts
- White or red embroidered round neck t-shirt
- Black jogging bottoms
- Grey embroidered hoodie
- Trainers for games

One stud earring may be worn in each ear as long as this can easily be removed by the child for PE but no other jewellery. Makeup, including nail varnish, may not be worn.

Children may wear a watch for school if they wish. Children may not have lettering, lines or other designs in their hair. We also ask that, for health and safety reasons, long hair is tied back.

Due to the weather, if children are wanting to play football/sports on the field, they must bring change of shoes.

Pre-School – Lilah
Reception – Martha
Year 1 – Franka
Year 2 – Vienna
Year 3 – Ailbe
Year 4 – David
Year 5 – Antonia
Year 6 – Joseph
The Hive - Samuel



Here are some of the amazing eggs!

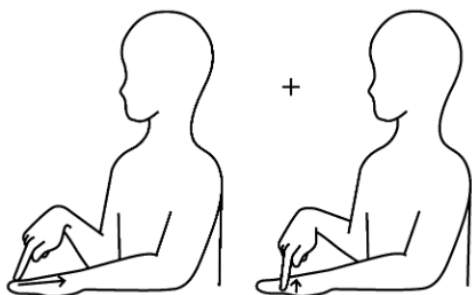


Makaton Sign of the Week

This week's sign is **Easter**.

Please click this link to see how it is done!

<https://youtu.be/ZzaWnw35mTk>



Draw cross on back of hand

Whole School Attendance

Class	Last Week	This Week
Year 1	97.4%	96.8%
Year 2	95.8%	96.2%
Year 3	95.6%	89.3%
Year 4	94.7%	97.5%
Year 5	96.7%	93.3%
Year 6	91%	97.9%

Spring Term PE Days

Reception	Friday AM
Year 1	Monday PM & Thursday AM
Year 2	Monday AM & Thursday AM
Year 3	Tuesday AM & Thursday PM
Year 4	Tuesday AM* & Thursday PM
Year 5	Tuesday PM* & Thursday AM
Year 6	Monday PM & Thursday AM

AM - children come to school in their PE kit and bring their uniform to change into.

PM - children should come dressed in their uniform, with their PE kit to change into.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025



16
MAY

SCHOOL DISCO
6-7.30PM



8
JUN



SUMMER FAIR
2-5PM



MONTHLY

FRIENDS CASH DRAW
WIN £50 A MONTH

Friends of St Thomas

All of these events raise money to support our school. Please get in touch if you would like to help and volunteer and help at any of the above dates.



A Safeguarding Policy Front Sheet

Name of Education Setting: St Thomas of Canterbury School Academic Year 2024 - 2025

We all have a statutory duty to **"safeguard and promote the welfare of children,"** (*Working together to safeguard children, DfE 2015, page 5*)

If you have any concerns about the health and safety of a child or young person at this education setting or feel that something may be troubling them, you should share this information with an appropriate member of staff straight away.

Some issues such as a child's appearance, hygiene, general behaviour, can be shared with any teacher or member of support staff in this setting. Do not worry about reporting small matters – we would rather that you tell us things which turn out to be small than miss a worrying situation.

However, if you think that a child, a young person or an adult who cares for them has been or might be harmed, please talk to one of the people below immediately.

You can ask any member of staff to find them and ask them to speak to you straight away about a confidential and urgent matter.

The people you can talk to are:



Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is:

Name: Mrs L Clements

Their office is located next to the school office.

Their tel. no / mobile no is 01142745597



Our Designated Safeguarding Deputy for under 5's is:

Name: Mrs R Hanson

Their office is located next to the school office.

Their tel. no / mobile no is 01142745597



Our Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Ms D Swain

Their office is located next to the school office.

Their tel. no / mobile no is 01142745597



Our Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Mr M Richardson

Their office is located next to the school office.

Their tel. no / mobile no is 01142745597

An allegation or disclosure involving someone working with children in a paid or unpaid capacity **must** be reported directly to the Head Teacher, Principal or Senior Manager, unless it involves them or the Deputy Head Teacher and then it should be reported directly to the Chair of the Governing Body or Management Committee.



The Safeguarding Children Team in your setting includes:

Head of School/ Executive Head: responsible for implementing policies & procedures, allocating resources to the safeguarding team & addressing staff safeguarding concerns.

Name: Mrs L Clements (Headteacher)

Tel no: 01142745597

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): a member of senior leadership team responsible for addressing safeguarding issues, providing advice & support and liaising with the local authority & other agencies.

Name: Mrs L Clements (Headteacher)

Tel no: 01142745597

Designated Safeguarding Deputy (DSD): a teacher or support worker (not admin or finance worker) who works with and covers for the DSL role above.

Name: Ms D Swain

Tel no: 01142745597

Name: Mr M Richardson

Tel no: 01142745597

Name: Mrs R Hanson

Tel no: 01142745597

Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo): provides advice, liaison & support for staff & agencies working with pupils with special education needs & disabilities and their families

Name: Miss L McKay

Tel no: 01142745597

Learning Mentor (or equivalent): supports pupils to reach their full potential by addressing their behaviour, attendance, achievement, timekeeping, homework and some safeguarding issues

Name: Ms D Swain

Tel no: 01142745597

Looked After Children (LAC) Designated Teacher: promotes the educational achievement of 'looked after' children and young people by helping staff understand issues that affect how they learn and achieve

Name: Miss L McKay

Tel no: 01142745597

E-Safety Coordinator: develops and maintains an e-safe culture within a setting

Name: Mr M Richardson

Tel no: 01142745597

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Lead: develops and maintains policies & staff awareness of CSE, the Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board responsibilities and the Sexual Exploitation Service key priorities

Name: Mrs L Clements

Tel no: 01142745597

Your Safeguarding Children Team also links with the:

Safeguarding Governor: helps the Governing Body to have safeguarding policies & procedures in place, ensures they are followed and addresses general safeguarding issues that staff and parents raise

Name: Mrs B Popplewell

Email: b.popplewell@st-tc.co.uk

Tel no: 01142745597

Chair of Governors: addresses allegations of abuse made against the Head Teacher (and other members of staff when the Head Teacher is not available), liaises with the Local Authority; and works with the Head to ensure safe recruitment practices

Name: Mrs Judith Wilde

Email: chairofgovernors@st-tc.co.uk

Tel no: 01142745597

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ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SCHOOL

A CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Pre-School

Places still available for September 2025 for 3- and 4-year old's



Children benefit from access to an extensive outdoor learning environment which is zoned to reflect the areas of learning within the early year's curriculum.

St Thomas of Canterbury Pre-school is for 3 and 4-year-old children. This newly established and purposeful environment provides a stepping stone into developing key skills that will make children confident learners in preparation for starting school. We value the importance of learning being exciting, new and innovative, creating opportunities for children that will inspire them to be lifelong learners.

Phonics and numbers are taught through adult led sessions. By the end of Pre-school, we hope children will be secure in their knowledge of numbers to 5 and their initial sounds.

For information about session times, application forms and our nursery admission policy, please visit the school website at www.st-tc.co.uk/our-nursery

Our outdoor space with a growing garden, extensive woodland, a mud kitchen, a giant sandpit with climbing equipment and a play house.



CONTACT US

Tel: 0114 2745597

Email: enquiries@st-tc.co.uk | Web: www.st-tc.co.uk

Class blog: <https://stthomasofcantpreschool.wordpress.com>

St Thomas of Canterbury School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy, Chancet Wood Drive, Sheffield, S8 7TR

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Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for term time leave taken and irregular attendance.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Where there is 4 days of absence during a week where there is also a training day, a penalty notice may still be issued.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines can also be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued (after 19th August) for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance this will be considered the first offence, and the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate.