

ST. THOMAS' C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ST THOMAS' NEWS - FEBRUARY 9TH 2018

The February half-term is nearly upon us; we've had a very busy few weeks in school and this will continue right up until we break up next Friday!

Please can all those who drive their children to school remember to park considerately. We've had a couple of reports recently regarding dangerous driving and parking; please do remember that at the start and end of the school day there are always going to be young children on the pavements and crossing the roads and their safety is paramount. We have been reminded that it is an offence to park at the edge of junctions as it restricts visibility for motorists and pedestrians alike; it is also illegal to park on double yellow lines or on the single yellow lines at certain times. PCSO Becky will be carrying out patrols in the coming weeks and may issue tickets for parking infringements—please be warned!

You may recall from our last newsletter that our netball team from Y5 & Y6 made it through to the finals of the High-5 tournament. Although they didn't come out the overall winners our team represented the school really well and did us proud. Well done to Indi, Lexi,

Millie, Khadija, Isabelle, Freya, Ella R, Lacey & Harriet.

In other sporting news, our Year 4 footballers won the Road to Goodison qualifier on Thursday. They scored a total of 28 goals over 7 games and didn't concede a single goal! Well done to Charlie, Teegan, Guy, Oscar, Joe L, Ellis, Adam & Billy who displayed great teamwork. They will now go on to play against other schools from across the north-west at Finch Farm, Everton's training ground.



Today our KS2 pupils have had a talk from PCSO Becky about staying safe online. She reminded pupils about the age limits of various social media platforms and advised them about limiting the time they spend on the internet and never sharing information with people they don't know.



Last Friday we were "Dressing Down for Digits" as we raised money for the NSPCC on Number Day. We started the morning with a number-themed assembly in which Miss Toft set pupils a mind-bending maths challenge, before enjoying other themed activities in our classes. We raised the grand total of £217.24 for the NSPCC, thank you for your generous donations.

We've enjoyed some exciting school trips in the last couple of weeks. Year 4 spent a day at Weaver Hall museum learning all about Anglo-Saxons & Vikings. They learnt about settlements and how archaeologists carry out excavations to learn more about what life was like over a thousand years ago.

Year 5 spent a morning at Safety Central, a fantastic resource at the new fire station in Lymm. There's a whole village to explore which includes roads, railtracks, a house, police station, and building site. This immersive experience was an amazing way for pupils to learn about preventing accidents and making sensible choices.

Year 1 took a step back in time at Tatton Hall on Thursday where they dressed up as servants and helped with all the housework—making beds, polishing the silver, brushing the floors. We're sure they're just as obliging at home!!



On Monday morning we enjoyed an assembly from Key Strings, who performed classic and contemporary numbers on an array of wind & string musical instruments. Pupils learned about pitch, rhythm and timbre; there was plenty of very enthusiastic audience participation!



Pupils in Reception and Key Stage 1 have enjoyed a dance workshop this afternoon where they've learnt some streetdance moves before performing in groups for the rest of their classmates.



Yesterday Reception took part in a Circus Skills workshop where they tried their hand at a variety of tricks—plate-spinning, juggling and even the very technical “balancing a ball on your head then lying down without the ball falling off!”

Next week we mark the beginning of Lent with the sponsored pancake toss on Tuesday. Please remember to return your forms & sponsorship money on the day. One of the highlights is always the competition between the teachers to see who can complete the most flips in a minute. Of course we have several new teachers this year, so who knows who our new champion will be? Many thanks to the PTA for organising this event.



There will be a pancake party at St Thomas' church from 4pm-6pm on Tuesday, with fun and games for all ages. We hope to see you there!

Adam, St Thomas' church Youth & Family worker will be talking to our Y5 & Y6 pupils on Tuesday about a new group he's starting for young people in Year 5 and above. Adam tells us more: “During each session we will discover who Jesus is and what He has done for us, through the Bible, discussion, prayer, worship & games. We will also explore what confirmation is all about and how the Christian faith can affect all areas of our life.” The group will meet on Tuesdays at St Thomas' church hall in term time 4pm—5.30pm.

In the coming weeks and after half-term KS2 pupils will be looking at issues concerning equality and diversity in our community and society. This is part of the Church of England's strategy towards 'valuing all God's children'. KS2 Pupils will look at the following areas of learning:

- To explore and define the term diversity.
- To develop an emotional awareness of how it would feel to be excluded/ included.
- To explore and define the term 'stereotype' and gender stereotyping.
- To explore family diversity and sexual orientation.
- To explore and identify their own family make-up and sense of identity.
- To define bullying and homophobia.

Some pupils will be asked to complete questionnaires to measure the impact of this work following delivery of the lessons to classes.