

# ST. THOMAS' C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

*inspiring faith, love & learning*

Parkgate Road Stockton Heath Warrington Cheshire WA4 2AP

**Headteacher: Mr Ian Moss**

**Telephone 01925 268722**

**email: [stthomas\\_primary@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:stthomas_primary@warrington.gov.uk)**

**Twitter: [@stthomas\\_cofe](https://twitter.com/stthomas_cofe)**

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

## ST THOMAS' NEWS - 7TH SEPTEMBER 2018

---

Welcome to a new year at St Thomas' to all our families. We've loved hearing all about your summer adventures. We also welcome Mrs Clarke, our new nursery teacher. The children have settled in really well to their new classes and we're all looking forward to an exciting Autumn term.



### **Thank you**

All the staff wish to express their thanks for the thoughtful & generous gifts they received when we broke up for summer; your kindness really is appreciated, thank you.

### **Staffing**

If you've not seen Mr Moss on the playground this week it's because he's struggling with a bad back. He is still coming into school when well enough but sends his apologies for not being as visible as usual. We wish him a very speedy recovery.

Please also be aware that on Wednesdays and Fridays there is usually only one member of office staff in school. Please leave a message on our answerphone if you need to—we do endeavour to pick them up very quickly!

### **Safeguarding**

As a school the safety and welfare of our pupils is at the forefront of all that we do. Should you have any concerns, our Designated Safeguarding Person is the Headteacher, Mr Ian Moss or our Deputy Headteacher, Miss Vickie Toft. Our Safeguarding Governor is Teaching Assistant Mrs Elaine Smith.

### **Volunteer Training**

We are very fortunate to have so many parents who give up their time to volunteer in the classroom, your support is very much appreciated. We are holding safeguarding training which we request all our present and prospective volunteers to attend. There will be two sessions on Friday 21st September, one at 9.15am and another at 2pm. Please could all volunteers contact the school office to book onto one of these sessions, thank you.

### **Dates & Clubs**

With this newsletter you have also received a list of diary dates for the term ahead. More things will be added in the coming weeks but hopefully this list will help you get some key dates in your diaries now. It also contains details of the after-school clubs on offer this term. Please note that football is already full; we still have some spaces on zumba, sewing & multisports—please ask at the office for further details. Letters for drama will be coming home next week. Netball may not be on offer until after the October half-term break but we are trying to put something in place for this half term—we'll keep you posted.

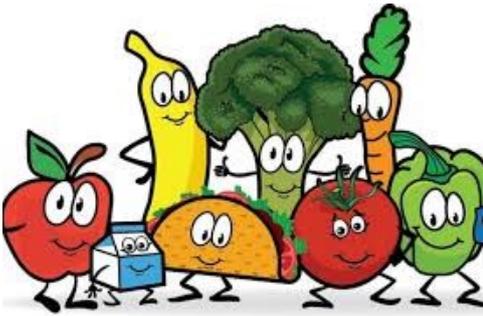
### **Meet the Teacher**

One of the forthcoming diary dates is "Meet the Teacher" on Tuesday 25th September. This replaces our previous "Parents' Evening" format. Each class teacher will be giving a 30-minute presentation at 3.45pm, 4.30pm & 5.15pm to explain the curriculum for the year, and share further information about homework and learning. Full details will be sent home nearer the time.

---

## School Meals

A revised menu was emailed out at the end of the holidays; copies are available at the school office if required. As shared previously, we are due to moving to a cashless catering system in the next couple of months, and will be sending out details about making online payments in the coming weeks.



## Allergies

Please can we remind all parents that some of our pupils have nut allergies. Please do not give your children nuts for their snack or as part of a packed lunch (this includes things like peanut butter) as this could be very harmful to those with allergies should they come into contact.

## Summer Reading Challenge

We hope that many of you were able to take part in the library's Reading Challenge this summer and that you discovered some exciting new authors in the process. Children are invited to bring their certificates into school next Friday (14th) for celebration assembly.



## Medicine in School

Our school's Medicine Policy has always been that staff will only administer medicine to a pupil if it has been prescribed by a doctor and needs to be taken 4 or more times a day. At a recent Health & Safety meeting we discussed how in recent years our school has been increasingly accommodating with the administration of antibiotics, antihistamines & painkillers, but this responsibility has become an increasing burden for staff members, particularly when they are asked to administer medicines during lesson times. We will therefore be sticking more rigidly to our stated policy this year, and ask for your support and understanding in this matter.



## Bronze sportsmark award

Last year our PE coordinators Mrs Williams & Mrs Moss worked very hard to help our school attain the Bronze Sportsmark Award. This is awarded to schools who offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities and take part in sporting tournaments. Well done to all our pupils for their enthusiastic participation in the many sporting opportunities we offer.

## Back to School Sunday

This Sunday we will be celebrating the start of a new school year at St Mary Magdalene's at 9:30am and at St Thomas' church at 10:45am. Families are warmly encouraged to attend the Back to School services—bring your school bag for a blessing. During the service there will be a noisy collection for Family Fund so please bring all your spare change; there's also a cake sale. We hope to see many of you there!

## Church for young people

Story Church: These 30-minute services take place on the third Sunday of each month at 10am at St Thomas' church. They are aimed at families with young children around 3-6 years of age, with the emphasis on fun, music, stories and crafts. The next one is on September 16th.

Praise & Play: This popular group for pre-school children has been re-vamped and will now take place every Monday at 2pm in the crèche at St Thomas' church.

Pathfinders: This is a group for children from Year 5 upwards and takes place every Tuesday at 4pm in St Thomas' church hall. There is walking bus from school to the church hall. During each session children learn about Jesus through the Bible, discussion, prayer, worship & games. There are always plenty of snacks too!

For further information on any of the groups please contact Adam our youth, children & family worker on 07914 950659.

## **Admissions**

We know this is only the first week of term, but it's already time to think about next year! If you have a child who is due to start Reception in September 2019, you should receive information from Warrington Borough Council regarding the admissions process. Please remember that you also need to complete our school admissions form; these are available from the school office.

Equally, it's time for our new Year 6 pupils to start thinking about High School. Again, letters from Warrington Borough Council are coming home, but you may want to note that Bridgewater High are holding their Open Evening for prospective pupils on Thursday 27th September.



## **Twitter**

If you don't already, please follow us on @stthomas\_cofe. We post regularly about what the children have been doing during the day; it's a lovely way to follow what happens in school.