

ST. THOMAS' C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

inspiring faith, love & learning

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ST THOMAS' NEWS - 17TH JULY 2018

The lead-up to the summer holidays is always a busy one in school, with extra-curricular activities & celebrations in addition to all the teaching & learning which continues right up until we break-up.

School Reports

School reports were sent home on Friday; we had a new format to our reports this year which we hope you found helpful. We would be ever so grateful if you could take the time to complete and return the acknowledgement slip—your feedback is always useful and much appreciated. Don't forget that teachers are holding a drop-in parents' evening on Tuesday; they will be available after school until 5.15pm should you wish to discuss anything.

Test Results

We just want to say how proud we are of all our pupils this year. Our SATS results for both KS1 and KS2 have been fantastic, which is testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of pupils and teachers alike. We try really hard to get the balance right between preparing for tests and all the other equally important aspects of our pupils' education, and we hope you agree we've got it right.

BikeRight

Our Year 5 pupils had the opportunity to brush up on their cycling and road safety skills over two days with the BikeRight team, when they learnt how to check their bike was roadworthy and how to cycle safely and confidently on the road. The instructors commented on what a polite and well-behaved group our pupils were—fantastic feedback Year 5!



Year 6 at Chester Cathedral

Year 6 took part in a Leavers' Service at Chester Cathedral, along with other schools from across the diocese. The service, led by the Vice-Dean of Chester Cathedral, included uplifting hymns, worship and reflections. Well done to Joe and Freya who read the Parable of the Sower from the Gospel of Matthew so confidently in front of a packed cathedral.



Mathemagicians!

Y6 pupils Amelia, Archie, Ava & Isaac were chosen to represent our school at the annual Maths Challenge at St Matthew's Primary. This event sees teams of Y6 pupils from local primary schools putting their mathematical skills to the test as they answer quick-fire questions requiring a broad range of maths knowledge.

Library Visits

All of our classes spent time at Stockton Heath library recently, where they shared their favourite books with classmates and learned about the Summer Reading Challenge.



This takes place every year during the summer holidays. You can sign up at your local library, then read six library books of your choice to complete the challenge. There are exclusive rewards to collect along the way, and it's FREE to take part! We would encourage all pupils to take part; not only is it a fantastic way to

maintain their reading during the holidays but we're also keen to reclaim our title as the Warrington school with the most pupils taking part !!

Cashless Catering

Across Warrington schools, a new cashless catering system, called ParentPay, is being rolled out. It is due to come into effect here at St Thomas' in mid-October. Once you have activated your ParentPay account you can top up your child's school meal account online in advance and then their meal is recorded at the counter - so there's no more lost dinner money, and less queuing for lunch in the dining hall. We're hoping to use the same system to pay for school trips in the future. More details will follow in the new school year.

After-school clubs

After-school clubs for September are booking up quickly, but we still have some space on the following:

Monday: Zumba Y1 & Y2

Tuesday: Multisports Y1, Y2 & Y3

Friday: Multisports Y3—Y6

Forms and further details are available from the office if your child wishes to sign up to any of these, please note that spaces are now limited on these so you'll need to get in quickly. We will also be offering Netball on a Wednesday (Y4—Y6) and Drama on a Friday (Y3—Y6); letters about these will be sent home in due course.

Gospel Choir

It has been wonderful to see St Thomas' pupils involved in community events in recent weeks. Our gospel choir

performed as part of the Stockton Heath festival and were commended by many for the joy and enthusiasm which shone through their performance. Thank you to the choir for taking part and to Mrs Mercer-Wilks for rehearsing and directing our choir.

Walking Day

The sun shone for Walking Day on Saturday, as did our gospel choir who helped perform "Faith as small as a mustard seed" in front of the gathered crowds. Thank you to all the pupils, parents and staff who joined with school for the service in the park and the walk of witness.

PTA Events

A big thank you also goes to our PTA who pulled out all the stops for the circus event which took place on Saturday. It proved to be a really popular, family-friendly event which attracted an audience from across the wider community throughout the day. Given it's only 3 weeks since the Summer Fair, we're really grateful to the PTA for keeping up the momentum and all their hard work to bring together this new event. The next date in their diary is the end of year school disco on Wednesday 25th July—more details to follow.

This week Year 6 will be performing their end of year production:

"Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits". They have been rehearsing tirelessly to make sure it's a performance to remember;



if you've ever watched one of our Y6 productions before you'll know just how spectacular they are, with amazing costumes, exuberant singing and confident performances. We have a limited number of tickets available for the performances at 6.30pm this Wednesday and Thursday; these are available from the school office on a first-come first-served basis. There will be a raffle to raise funds for music provision within our school.

Holiday Fun

If you're looking for something to do over the summer holidays, St Thomas' church is holding Family Fun days with games and crafts every Wednesday afternoon in August. It can be difficult to keep children entertained for days on end, so for just £2 per child you can come along to the church hall from 2-4pm for a fun-filled afternoon, and hopefully a bit of a breather for parents!

Pathfinders

Today is the final after-school Pathfinders session. During each session, run by the Children, Youth & Families Worker, Adam Post, children discover, in a very fun way, who Jesus is and what He has done for us, through the Bible, discussion, prayer, worship & games. They also explore how the Christian faith can affect all areas of our life. The club has proved really popular with our current Years 5 & 6. If you have children who will be in Year 5 or 6 next year, please contact Adam to find out more on 07914 950659.