



# St Thomas of Canterbury School Newsletter

Week ending Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear parents and carers,

This has been a very busy week in school! In assembly this week we launched Pupil Parliament for this academic year. As before, our representatives, from Y2 - Y6, will support pupils' having a voice in school and will work on shared goals and ideas which will help further develop our school. We will have four representatives from Y6 and two from the other classes (y2 - Y5). We have asked that the children think carefully about whether they would like to stand for parliament. They need to think about whether they are good role models who live out our values of ready, respectful and safe and whether they are proactive people who would happily work in some of their own time towards shared goals. Please talk to your children about this opportunity. Manifestos are to be shared with classes this coming week and voting will take place on Monday 4th November.

Our Trust safeguarding review on Wednesday went very well. I was pleased to hear that you had spotted that the safeguarding information sheet is always attached to this newsletter. One development point was to remind you all that any safeguarding concerns about me should be taken to our Chair of Governors.

On Thursday, Y5 went to St Marie's Cathedral to celebrate the second Trust mass. This was well attended both by representatives of the whole Trust and by members of our parish family. Thank you very much to those of you who were able to attend.

We have finished our week with the first Class Assembly of the year. A big thank you to Y6 and Miss McKay for a wonderful assembly and a very special message. They reminded us of the importance of showing love to one another through giving forgiveness. They told us that we need to do this, even when it is difficult to do so because God always forgives us.

As you may know, our caretaker, Mr Pepperdine, is not very well at the moment. We wish him a swift and full recovery. We are very lucky that we are part of such a supportive community as we have already had several parents help us out with work around school. If you are willing and able to offer any support while Mr Pepperdine recovers, please speak to Miss Schofield in the office or email us at enquires@st-tc.co.uk. Thank you so much.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

God bless

Mrs Clements

## Autumn Term PE Days

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

## School Calendar

**Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct** – 17:00 Reception 2025 Prospective Parent event

**Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct** – 13:30 Reception 2025 Prospective Parent event

**Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Oct** - Inset Day (No pupils in school)

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Oct – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov - Half Term**

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Pupils return to school

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 09:00 Year 5 Class Assembly

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 4pm Spring 1 Breakfast & Afterschool club bookings open

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Nov** – 15:30 – 17:45 Parents Evening

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 15:30 – 17:45 Parents Evening

**Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 09:00 Year 4 Class Assembly

**Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Pupil Flu Vaccinations

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Dec** – 14:00 Winter Warmer Performance

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Infant Christmas Dinner

**Weds 11<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Junior Christmas Dinner

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Dec** – 14:00 Traditional Winter Warmer in Church

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Dec** – 14:30 Nativity Performance for Year 2 Parents

**Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Dec** – 14:30 Nativity Performance for Year 1 Parents

**Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Dec** – The Hive Pantomime Trip

**Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Dec** – 09:15 Pre-school Christmas Performance

**Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Dec** – 14:30 Nativity Performance for Reception parents

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec** – School Finishes at 12pm

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

**Christmas Break**

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Pupils return to school

**Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Year 4 Swimming Lesson

**Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Year 4 Swimming Lesson

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Jan** – Year 4&6 Swimming Lesson

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Jan** – 09:00 Year 3 Class Assembly

**Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Year 4&6 Swimming Lesson

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Year 4 & 6 Swimming Lesson

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Year 5 & 6 Swimming Lesson

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Internet Safety day

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

**February Half Term**

**Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Inset Day (No pupils in school)

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Pupils return to school

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Year 5 Swimming Lesson

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Feb** – 09:00 Year 2 Class Assembly  
**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Year 5 Swimming Lesson  
**Weds 5<sup>th</sup> – Mon 10<sup>th</sup> March** – Book Fair  
**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Mar** – World Book Day  
**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Year 5 Swimming Lesson  
**Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Mar** - 15:30 – 17:45 Parents Evening  
**Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Mar** - 15:30 – 17:45 Parents Evening  
**Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Year 5 Swimming Lesson  
**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Mar** – 09:00 Year 1 Class Assembly  
**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**  
**Easter Holidays**  
**Mon 14<sup>th</sup> April** – Pupils return to school  
**Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> April** – Easter Egg Decorating Competition  
**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> April** – Good Friday (No pupils in school)  
**Mon 21<sup>st</sup> April** – Easter Monday (No pupils in school)  
**Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – 09:00 Reception Class Assembly  
**Mon 5<sup>th</sup> May** – Mayday Bank Holiday (No pupils in school)  
**Mon 12<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> May** – **SATS Week**  
**Weds 21<sup>st</sup> – Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> May** – **Year 6 Residential**  
**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Spring Bank Half Term**  
**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – Pupils return to school  
**Mon 16<sup>th</sup> June** – Class Photos  
**Weds 18<sup>th</sup> – Fri 20<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 5 Residential  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> June**- 14:15 Y3 & Y6 Open Afternoon  
**Tues 24<sup>th</sup> June** – 14:15 Y2 & Y4 Open Afternoon  
**Weds 25<sup>th</sup> June** - 14:15 Y1 & Y5 Open Afternoon  
**Weds 16<sup>th</sup> July** – Pre-School Family Fun Day (Pre-school closed)  
**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> July** – Whole School Sports day at EIS  
**Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> July** – Last day of School Year  
**Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> July** – 14:30 Year 6 Leaver’s Assembly  
**Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> July** – Inset Day (No pupils in school)

### Alter Servers

We would like to recruit some new Altar Servers to join our current servers. It's open to anyone who has made their first Holy Communion. If you would like to become a server then please email [ktgrady@gmail.com](mailto:ktgrady@gmail.com) . Practice sessions will be arranged in a few weeks time.

### Head lice

We have recently had a number of parents reporting that their children have had head lice, please could you regularly check your child’s hair. Please see the below link for more guidance.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

### Admissions Policy 2026-27 consultation

We are consulting on our admissions arrangements for pupils applying for places in the year beginning September 2026. A copy of our draft arrangements and details about how you can share your views or questions can be found on our website at

<http://www.st-tc.co.uk/admissions/proposed-admissions-policy-3>

### Safeguarding Reminders

Please line up against the fences when waiting to enter school, ensuring there is enough room for other pedestrians to get by safely on the footpath. Thank you.

We have several children with severe allergies and so are a nut free school. Please check the ingredients of food that children are bringing in to ensure they do not contain nuts. If we are unsure whether or not a food does contain nuts, to ensure the safety of all of our children, we will need to err on the side of caution and ask for an alternative. Thank you

### England Women vs Germany ticket offer

England women will host Germany at Wembley Stadium on Friday 25 October 2024. The FA are delighted to be able to offer the opportunity for schools to purchase tickets for the game for only £5 each, tickets at this discounted rate are limited to 5,000 and will be available on a first come first served basis. Please share this opportunity with your schools, a maximum of 50 tickets can be purchased in a single order.

Tickets can be purchased via the link below, please use promo code SCHOOLEVG2024 to receive the discounted rate.

Purchase your tickets here-

<https://www.wembleystadium.com/events/2024/England-Women-v-Germany>

### Free School Meal Eligibility

We have seen an unprecedented rise in FSM eligibility in schools across Sheffield in the last few years. As the school will receive additional funding based on the number of children who receive FSMs, not only will your child receive a FSM and free school milk but also financial support towards school trips in the future. With this in mind we want to make sure that our parents are aware of how to check their eligibility.

**Even if you don't think you are eligible, it is worth your while to check.**

You can check your eligibility online by following this link: <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/utilities/form/schools-and-childcare/free-school-meals-start>

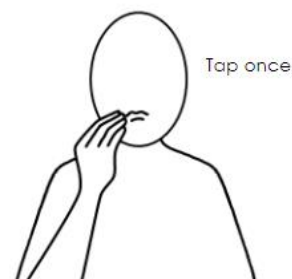
### Whole School Attendance

Our attendance last week was 95.7 %  
 Our attendance this week is 98%

### Makaton Sign of the Week

This week's sign is **Food**.  
 Please click this link to see how it is done!

<https://youtu.be/yrnyVvol1tA>





# A Safeguarding Policy Front Sheet

**Name of Education Setting: St Thomas of Canterbury School Academic Year 2023 - 2024**

We all have a statutory duty to “safeguard and promote the welfare of children”, ([Working together to safeguard children, DfE 2015, page 5](#))

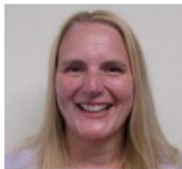
If you have any concerns about the health and safety of a child or young person at this education setting or feel that something may be troubling them, you should share this information with an appropriate member of staff straight away.

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 and then it should be reported directly to the Chair of the Governing Body or Management Committee.



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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.

### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued (after 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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.

### 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.