

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 28th November 2025



This week's Gospel theme: Advent Week 1

"Stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming."

Matthew 24: 37-44

A message from Mrs. Rawlinson

What an exciting start to the week we had on Monday morning!

Staff arrived to find the entrance transformed into the most Christmassy scene — a beautifully decorated tree, floating candles, and festive garlands everywhere. It truly looked magical. A huge **thank you** to **Mr Martin** and **Mrs Murphy**, who kindly gave up their weekend to create such a wonderful display for our school community.

The staff were so delighted that we couldn't resist giving the children the same surprise.

Watching their faces light up as they walked in was absolutely fantastic!

Today marks the official beginning of our Christmas celebrations, with our Advent Mass and Christmas Fair. The first Sunday of Advent is this Sunday, and we look forward to a joyful and meaningful few weeks in school as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

We wish you a happy and hope-filled start to the Advent season.

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR YEAR 4 PARENTS

Year 4 Sacramental Workshops and preparation

There will be an information session on

Tuesday, 2nd December at 3.30pm

for the parents of Y4 children who wish for their child to make their First Confession and First Holy Communion this year.

Fr. Henry will be coming into school during the school day on **Wednesday, 3rd December** for the children to make their First Confession. We will ensure there is an appropriate place in school for this to happen. There will not be a family Mass. Apologies for the short notice.

I will need a list of the children who are to make their Sacraments this year, so a letter will be sent out on Monday with a reply slip attached. This will need to be returned by Wednesday morning at the latest.

If you have any questions regarding the 'With You Always' programme please email me with your queries. **Thank you.**

Growing Together in God's Love



Thank you to the following parents, grandparents and local company for their donations of selection boxes for Santa's Grotto and chocolate prizes









Thank you to the following parents, grandparents and local companies for their donations of raffle prizes























Nativity Performances

EYFS Nativity

Will take place on:

Tuesday, 2nd December at 9.30am

Wednesday, 3rd December at 2.15pm

KS1 Nativity

Will take place on:

Wednesday, 10th December at 2.30pm

Thursday, 11th December at 9.30am

Breakfast With Santa

We will be hosting Breakfast with

Santa again this year. The event will take place in school on Wednesday,



17th December, starting at 8am.

A letter will be sent home with the children on Monday with more information.

Wear it Well for Willowbrook Hospice

We are also inviting the children to wear their Christmas jumpers and or festive headwear on:

17th December for the 'Wear it Well' appeal for Willowbrook Hospice. We just ask that the children bring in a £1 donation and we will send the money raised to

Willowbrook Hospice.

KS2 Carol Service

Our KS2 children will be performing their Carol Service and Nativity in Church on:

Friday, 12th December at 2pm

Parents and grandparents are invited to attend.

Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas dinner day will be held on

Thursday, 11th December

If you would like your child to have a Christmas dinner please pre-order and pay on School Grid. The deadline for ordering is **Tuesday 2nd December**.

You will be unable to order after this date.

Children who don't pre-order a Christmas dinner will need to bring a packed lunch on the day.

We are also inviting the children to wear their Christmas jumpers.

Rock Steady

The children who have music with Rock Steady will be performing for parents on Tuesday, 2nd December at 2.30pm

Altru Drama group will be in school on Wednesday, 17th December performing

'Little Red Riding Hood' for all the children in the afternoon.

Their mission is to offer high quality, engaging performances during the festive season.

We know that many children may not have

Seen a theatre performance yet and we want

to give them an engaging, exciting and memorable

experience this year. We are excited to

welcome them into school.

We would like to thank the PTFA for funding this event.

Growing Together in God's Love

Important information regarding school communication

From December we will no longer subscribe to Teachers2parents text messaging service, this means that communication will be sent from School Spider.

Please ensure that you download the School Spider app if you haven't

already done so and create an account in preparation so you do not miss any information sent via the School Spider platform.

You can download the app via the Apple Store or Google Play Store by searching School Spider Parents.

Please select St Thomas of Canterbury and "Create account" using your email associated with the school.

Parents who have the app but are not registered on School Spider have been sent an email invite earlier this week.

If you are having trouble logging on, please check if you have received this email, you will then need to follow the link to register first.

We will continue to use Teachers2parents for general information & text reminders up until the end of November. The newsletter will continue to be sent weekly through School Spider.

NB: The School Money platform will continue to be used for payments and for Out of Hours Club bookings.

Beckets 'Out of Hours Club'

Sessions should be booked and paid for in advance via the school money app so that we can manage numbers. If an occasion arises where you need to book on the day, money should be put onto your account to cover the session as well as the late booking fee prior to contacting school to make the booking.

A reminder that on the day bookings for the Out of Hours Club are for emergencies only.

Any arrears should be cleared prior to using the club.

The charges are below:

Breakfast Club from 7.50am - £5.00

After School Club from 3.10/315pm up to 4.30pm - £6.25

After School Club up until 5.30pm - £8.00

Late Booking Fee (on the day bookings) - £2.50

Please do not drive through the school gates to drop off or pick up children.

The car park is for staff only, parents must use the parent car park before the school

Nursery Admissions for September 2026

We are now allocating 30 hour and 15 hour funded places in our Nursery for September 2026

for children who turn three before

31st August 2026

If you would like any further information regarding nursery places, funding entitlements or to pick up application forms, please contact the school office on telephone number

01744 621380

Important Dates for your Diary

<u>December</u>

| 2nd - | EYFS (| Reception | & | Nursery) | Nativity - | 9.30am |
|-------|--------|-----------|---|----------|------------|--------|
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- 2nd Sacramental Workshop for Parents (3.30pm)
- 3rd EYFS (Reception & Nursery) Nativity 2.15pm
- 4th Year 4 trip to Walker Art Gallery Liverpool
- 5th Young Voices to visit Dementia café
- 10th KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) Nativity (2.30pm)
- 10th Year 4 First Forgiveness (6pm Church)
- 11th KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) Nativity (9.30am)
- 11th Christmas dinner & Christmas jumper day (must be pre-ordered by 2nd December on School Grid)
- 12th Reception class Polar Express Day
- 12th KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6) Nativity/Carol Service in Church 2.00pm
- 15th Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas party
- 16th Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas party
- 17th Breakfast with Santa (8am)
- 17th Wear it Well for Willowbrook Hospice
- 17th Nursery Christmas party
- 17th Altru Dram performing 'Little Red Riding Hood' for the whole school
- 18th Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Party (date may change)
- 19th End of Autumn term (school finish at 1.30pm)

Attendance at school

Good attendance at school is not just valuable — it is essential.

Attendance Matters!

Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Attendance and punctuality at school is not just for the academic progress your child will make, but is also important for developing personal qualities too, such as:

- Friendships
- ♦ Social skills
- Team and school values
- ♦ Cultural awareness
- ♦ Life skills etc

Attendance

For week ending Friday, 28th November 2025 the whole school attendance is 96.03%

Reception = 99.18%

Year 1 = 89.66%

Year 2 = 97.78%

Year 3 = 97.78%

Year 4 = 94.25%

Year 5 = 95.7%

Year 6 = 97.85%