



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 12th December 2025



This week's Gospel theme: Advent Week 3

"The blind will receive their sight and the lame walk...and the poor have the good news preached to them."

Matthew 11:2-11

A message from Mrs. Rawlinson



We are delighted to share that the school uniform donated to **Great Minds, Bright Futures** has safely arrived in Malawi. Thanks to Dave, a dedicated member of the charity team, the pre-loved uniform has now been delivered to the children. He has kindly sent us these wonderful photos, capturing their joy and heartfelt gratitude.

This generous act is a beautiful reflection of **Catholic Social Teaching**, reminding all of us of our responsibility to care for one another and honour the dignity of every person within our global family.

By supporting charities like this, we not only provide practical help to those in need, but we also show our own children what it means to live out the Gospel values—love, generosity, and compassion—in their daily lives as disciples of Jesus.

The photos truly speak for themselves. The smiles on the children's faces capture the pure joy that comes from simple acts of kindness.

Thank you all for your generosity towards our global brothers and sisters.

Year 4 Sacraments

There are still a number of booklets that need collecting from the office. If you have not got booklets 2 & 3 at home, please do come and collect so that your child can complete their Sacramental journey with parental support.

Thank you.

Looking ahead into spring and summer terms

During our staff meeting this week, staff have planned class 'stay and pray' sessions for parents to attend with their child.

The dates for each class are:

Nursery and Reception -

Year 1 - Friday, 9th January 2026

Year 2 - (already done one - next one in July)

Year 3 - Thursday, 12th March 2026

Year 4 - Wednesday, 11th March 2026

Year 5 - Thursday, 29th January 2026

Year 6 - Tuesday, 24th February 2026

As it is a 'Stay and Pray', the parents and/or grandparents who drop off are welcome to attend and the sessions will be at 9.00am (once registration is complete).

Important information regarding school communication

We will no longer be sending text message reminders and information from Teachers2Parents, 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 will have received an email invite over the last couple of weeks.

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.

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



Grand Total Raised This Term

£4,032

£2,403 Christmas Fayre

£676 Lottery

£552 Halloween Disco

£241 Christmas Card Project

£160 Christmas Fayre Left Over Stock Playground Sale

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and staff
who helped with the fundraisers this term.
Your help is very much appreciated.

Growing Together in God's Love

Breakfast With Santa

Breakfast with
Santa will take place in school
on

Wednesday, 17th December,

If your child is booked onto this event please
ensure that they arrive at 8am.



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.



Christmas Parties

The Christmas parties, will take place next week
during the afternoon on the
following dates:

KS1 - Monday, 15th December

KS2 - Tuesday, 16th December

Nursery & Reception - during the morning of
Wednesday, 17th December

Children can wear their party clothes on the day
of their party.

Thank you to the PTFA who have provided the
refreshments and game prizes.

Out of Hours Club 'Beckets'

A polite reminder that money to cover the session and
the late booking fee should be available on your school
money account prior to ringing school to make an on
the day booking.

Please try to book sessions in advance as much as possible
so that numbers are catered for.

**If you have arrears outstanding please settle these as
soon as possible**

Reminder

**School closes on, 19th December at 1.30pm.
Please note there will be no after school club on this
day.**

**School reopens for Spring term on Tuesday,
6th January 2026**

PTFA Lottery December Draw

The lottery draw took place during assembly last
Friday. Well done to the lucky winners:

1st Prize No. 11 Margaret Layhe £60

2nd Prize No. 26 Gini McEgan £31

Altru Drama

Altru Drama group will be in school on **Wednesday, 17th December** performing
'Robin 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.

Important Dates for your Diary

December

- 15th - Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas party
- 16th - Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas party
- 17th - Breakfast with Santa (8am)
- 17th - Wear it Well for Willowbrook Hospice
- 17th - Reception & Nursery Christmas party
- 17th - Altru Dram performing 'Robin Hood' for the whole school
- 19th - End of Autumn term (school finish at 1.30pm)

January

- 5th - Staff Inset Day—School Closed
- 6th - School Re-opens at 8.40am

NB: Dates will be added during the Spring Term

Attendance at school

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

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, 12th December 2025 the whole school attendance is 94.8%

Reception = 93.8%

Year 1 = 93.1%

Year 2 = 94.8%

Year 3 = 98.9%

Year 4 = 94.6%

Year 5 = 91%

Year 6 = 97.1%