



# St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 19th December 2025



**This week's Gospel theme: Advent Week 4**

***"It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that Mary is going to have a son.  
You must name him Jesus."***

**Matthew 1: 18-24**

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**A message from Mrs. Rawlinson**



Not only do we have incredibly skilled and talented children at St. Thomas of Canterbury, we also have incredibly skilled and talented staff!

Here are pictures of our very own Mrs. Mills, who is performing as Princess Fiona in a production of 'Shrek' in a theatre in Colchester.

We shared videos with the children this morning so we could all appreciate her singing and acting skills.



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Wishing all our children and their families a very happy, peaceful and joyful  
Christmas and a very happy new year.

Thank you for making 2025 yet another incredible year for our school community  
and here's to more success and celebration in 2026!

Merry Christmas everyone. Love from Mrs. Rawlinson  
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### **Christmas events in St. Thomas of Canterbury**

We really have had a wonderful Christmas time at school since the day the Elves took over on 1st December and hopefully made many Christmassy memories for everyone.

- Mr. Martin and Mrs. Murphy beautifully decorated the entrance area for us
- EYFS retold the Nativity in their own beautiful way
- Key stage 1 performed 'Off to Bethlehem' in song, narration and drama
- Key stage 2 performed the most wonderful carol service in church with their readings and beautiful singing.
- All classes have had Christmas parties
- Santa has been to visit the children for Breakfast with Santa
- Altru drama entertained us all with a production of 'Robin Hood'
- Our Young Voices choir took part in the annual 'Christmas Sing' in Parish church
- Our Young Voices choir performed for the people in the Dementia café
- We have supported 'Wear it well for Willowbrook'
- We have enjoyed our Christmas dinner day
- Lots of Christmas jumper days

Massive thank you to all the staff of St Thomas of Canterbury for making this a truly memorable and joyous Advent season. I wish you all a well earned rest and a happy Christmas with your families.

### **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 Dates for your Diary**

**January**

- 5th - Staff Inset Day—School Closed
- 6th - School Re-opens at 8.40am
- 9th - Year 1 Stay & Pray (9am)
- 28th - Year 5 attending Crucial Crew (am)
- 29th - Year 5 Stay & Pray (9am)

**February**

- 5th - Young Voices Concert at Co-op Live
- 6th - Reception Hearing Screening
- 13th - Break for February half-term at 3.20pm

**NB: More 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, 19th December 2025 the whole school attendance is 95.3%

Reception = 98.7%

Year 1 = 90.4%

Year 2 = 98.5%

Year 3 = 95.9%

Year 4 = 94.6%

Year 5 = 93.9%

Year 6 = 96%