



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 16th January 2026



This week's Gospel theme: Witness

"Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world"

John 1: 29-34

A message from Mrs. Rawlinson

On Monday, we began our week with a Celebration of the Word (Collective Worship) in which we considered 'new starts'. We reflected on the idea that each day gives us a fresh chance to begin again and that we do not need to wait for new year to make improvements.

Throughout the week, it has been wonderful to see the children embrace this mindset with such positivity, and showing our '3 Rs' of respect, resilience, and responsibility.

As always, thank you to our children, staff and families for your continued support and encouragement.

I hope everyone enjoys a restful and happy weekend, and I look forward to welcoming you back refreshed for another positive week ahead.

Car park safety

We kindly remind all parents and carers to use the parent car park safely and considerately at drop-off and pick-up times. Please drive slowly, follow the Highway Code at all times, and be mindful of pedestrians—especially children—by giving way where appropriate and parking only in designated spaces. Cars should only enter the car park if the junction is clear; cars must not stop or park on the yellow junction box. I will be monitoring this regularly, so please do help keep our children safe and understand if you are asked to move on.

Showing courtesy to other drivers and families helps keep everyone safe and ensures a calm, positive start and end to the school day.

Please do not drive through the main gates onto the staff car park at anytime.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.



Advance notice—World Book Day

This year we will celebrate World Book Day on Friday, 6th March.

Our theme is going to be Little Miss and Mr. Men .

How you interpret this is up to you! You can be as creative and inventive as you wish.

(For easy and cost saving ideas, use ChatGPT!)

There will be activities and reading tasks in school throughout the day linked to the Mr Men, making it a fun day for the children. We will finish the day with a whole school assembly to celebrate the joy and excitement books and reading gives to us.

Children arriving at school early

We have noticed that some children are arriving at school as early as 8.15am unaccompanied and standing in the cold and possible wet or icy weather until the school doors open at **8.40am**. For safety reasons we cannot be responsible for children who arrive earlier without an adult.

We kindly ask families to ensure that children are supervised until 8.40am or are accompanied by a parent or carer if arriving earlier.

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us keep all children safe.

Careers week

We would love to invite former pupils back to our school to inspire our current children by sharing their career journeys! Hearing from past students about the paths they've taken, the challenges they've overcome, and the dreams they've achieved can help our pupils see what's possible for their own futures. If you are a past pupil—or know someone who is—who would be willing to give a short, friendly talk, please get in touch (lyn.rawlinson@sthelens.org.uk).

Your story could make a big difference!

Jewellery

A polite reminder that jewellery of any kind should not be worn in school for health and safety reasons. Please make sure that all jewellery is removed before attending school.

Thank you.

Attendance

For week ending Friday, 16th January 2026 the whole school attendance is 96.2%

Reception =97.9%

Year 1 = 91.5%

Year 2 = 95.5%

Year 3 = 98.8%

Year 4 = 98.8%

Year 5 = 96%

Important Dates for your Diary

January

- 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
- 23rd - Return to school start of Spring Term 2
- 24th - Year 6 Stay & Pray (9am)
- 25th - Oral Health Community Dental Survey for 5 year olds
- 26th - Year 1 visiting Eccleston Library
- 27th - Year 5 swimming 1st session (each Friday afternoon until 27th March)
- 27th - Year 6 Conway Centre final instalment due date

March

- 2nd - Whole school photographs with Academy Photography
- 6th - World Book Day - Theme: Little Miss & Mr Men
- 10th - School Nurse Drop In (8.30-9.30am) - change of date from 30th March
- 11th - Year 4 Mothers Day Stay & Pray (9am)
- 12th - Year 3 Mothers Day Stay & Pray (9am)
- 23rd - Year 6 Residential - Conway Centre (leave school at 10am)
- 25th - Year 6 return from Residential (back at school around 3pm)
- 27th - KS2 Easter Service (11am)
- 27th - Year 5 final swim session
- 30th - Parents afternoon/evening (starts 1.30pm)

April

- 1st - EYFS (Nursery & Reception) - Easter Bonnet Parade with Stay & Pray (9am)
- 2nd - End of Spring Term: break for Easter holiday at 1.30pm