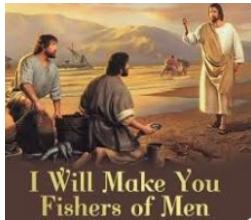




# St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 23rd January 2026



## This week's Gospel theme: Community

*"Follow me and I will make you fishers of people."*

Matt 4:12-23

### A message from Mrs. Rawlinson

Each week in our whole school Celebration of the Word gatherings (previously called Collective Worship), no matter what the theme may be, each theme always leads to the important message of being kind to one another. We always finish with this message to remind the children how very important it is to be kind to others. This week I received the most beautiful email showing how kind and considerate our children really are, as follows:

***"I wanted to inform you of a positive experience we had with one of your Year 6 pupils. My child and I were walking on Greenfield Road, when one of your pupils offered to chaperone us. He made sure my child was away from the traffic, he showed her the safest places to cross and when to do so safely. He was a real credit to your school and the buddy system that you have in place, such a kind and friendly young man. I would like to thank this Y6 pupil for his help and commend your school for the values it promotes and the positive impact it clearly has on your pupils."***



I was delighted to be able to share this with the children in today's celebration assembly. As always, I am proud of all our children and to receive such a wonderful message was incredibly heartwarming. St. Thomas of Canterbury really is such a special community to be part of. Thank you to the parent who sent this in to school and making me aware, much appreciated. Thank you to the Year 6 boy who has warmed my heart. Thank you to all our children and families for making our school such a wonderful place to be.

### Year 5 reminder

Mr McCue and the Year 5 children would like to invite parents/family members to attend their class 'Stay and Pray' session on

**Thursday, 29th January at 9.00am.**

The session should last no longer than 30 minutes for those who need to be at work.

Thank you.

### Year 4 reminder

There will be an information session for the parents of children who are to make their First Holy Communion in May.

This will take place in the school hall on Wednesday, 11th February at 3.30pm for about an hour.

Thank you.

## 2026 Year of Reading

We are excited to share that 2026 has been declared the National Year of Reading — a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy and power of books with our children. Throughout the year, our school will focus on building strong reading habits, fostering a love of stories, and supporting every child's literacy growth through fun, engaging activities.

St Helens Library Service are putting on a number of events to promote children's love of reading and books. Please see attached flyer for upcoming events in St Helens library.

The National  
Year of Reading

GO  
ALL  
IN.



### **Paediatric Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Drop in Sessions**

Come along and speak to one of the team about any questions you have about your child's therapy, get help with completing a referral form, or ask any questions you have about Physio or OT-Children welcome.

**No need to book.**

#### **Knowsley Sessions**

Knowsley Family Hub, The Pride Centre, Simonswood Lane, Kirkby, L33 5YP-**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, 3-5pm (14th Jan, 11th Feb, 11th March, 8th Apr, 13th May, 10th Jun, 8th Jul, 12th Aug, 9th Sep, 14th Oct, 11th Nov, 9th Dec).**

#### **St Helens Sessions**

Sutton Family Hub, Ellamsbridge Road, St Helens, WA9 3PY-  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month. 1-4pm (15<sup>th</sup> Jan, 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 19<sup>th</sup> Mar, 16<sup>th</sup> Apr, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 18<sup>th</sup> Jun, 16<sup>th</sup> Jul, 20<sup>th</sup> Aug, 17<sup>th</sup> Sep, 15<sup>th</sup> Oct, 19<sup>th</sup> Nov, 17<sup>th</sup> Dec)**

For more information, call 0151 351 8800



### **Occupational Therapy drop in sessions**

If you want to find out more about the service Occupational Therapy offers or have any specific questions you would like to ask a professional, please do go along to the drop in sessions as advertised here.



**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.

**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

**Attendance**

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 Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

For week ending Friday, 23rd January 2026 the whole school attendance is 95.9%

Reception =96.3%

Year 1 = 97.7%

Year 2 = 97%

Year 3 = 99.6%

Year 4 = 91.8%

Year 5 = 98.2%

Year 6 = 91%

**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

11th - First Holy Communion meeting for Y4 parents—3.30pm in school

13th - Break for February half-term at 3.20pm

23rd - Return to school start of Spring Term 2

25th - Oral Health Community Dental Survey for 5 year olds

26th - Year 1 visiting Eccleston Library

27th - Year 6 Stay & Pray (9am) - change of date from 24th Feb

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)

17th - Rock Steady Concert (2.30pm)

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