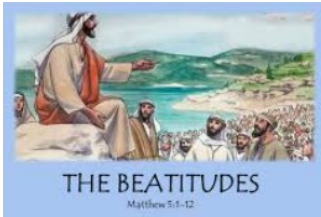




St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 30th January 2026



This week's Gospel theme: Happiness

*"Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will be great in heaven."*

Matthew 5:1-12

A message from Mrs. Rawlinson

This week's Gospel is one of my favourites, as Jesus shares the Sermon on the Mount and introduces the Beatitudes. Our school values are rooted in the Beatitudes, guiding us in how to live harmoniously and respectfully within our community.

In the coming weeks, we will be reviewing our school mission and revisiting our values with children, parents, governors and staff. I will be inviting parent volunteers to take part in this important work. Dates and times will be confirmed shortly, so please watch this space.

Vacancy: Foundation Governor

We currently have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor and warmly invite members of our school community to consider applying. This is a rewarding opportunity to support the Catholic ethos of our school, help shape its future, and work alongside a dedicated team of governors and staff.

If you are passionate about education, have a commitment to our school's values, and would like to make a positive difference, we would love to hear from you.

For more information or to express your interest, please contact the school office or email me on lyn.rawlinson@sthelens.org.uk. Thank you.

Wake up Wednesday

Wake Up Wednesday is a valuable resource used in our personal development sessions and is also very helpful for parents and carers to use at home.

It covers real and relevant topics for children in today's world, such as AI, online safety and online communication, with a strong focus on keeping children safe. These resources are uploaded to our website each week. Please do take a look and use them to support conversations at home.

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

To mark the Year of Reading, we will be launching this initiative with the children in Monday morning's assembly, where we will share the exciting range of activities planned for each month.

One of our first activities is '**Extreme Reading**' — we're encouraging children to read in a wide variety of places... safely, of course! This will be their half-term challenge.

We would love to see photographic evidence of extreme reading taking place over the half-term holidays. These will be shared in our first assembly back on Friday as part of our celebrations.

We look forward to seeing your photos! Thankyou in advance



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

Staff Car Park

A polite reminder that parents should not drive through the main gates into the staff car park when picking up or dropping off children.

This includes when using the Out of Hours Club or any morning or after-school extra-curricular clubs.

Thank you.

Important Dates for your Diary

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 Ecclestone 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

Attendance

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



For week ending Friday, 30th January 2026 the whole school attendance 95.3%

Reception = 97.1%

Year 1 = 95%

Year 2 = 97%

Year 3 = 98.8%

Year 4 = 92.5%

Year 5 = 94.6%

Year 6 = 92.8%