



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 19th June 2026



This week's Gospel theme:: Compassion

"Do not be afraid"

Matthew 10:26-33

A message from Mrs. Rawlinson

Important information - Academisation Update

Our Chair of Governors, Mr. Rob Peacock, has written to parents, giving an update regarding academisation. Please ensure you read this letter as it contains important information for parents as the school continues to move forward. Please see next page. A copy is also available on our school website.

If you have any questions, please do contact school as I am more than happy to answer any question you may have about this process of conversion.

Assessments

We have now completed all our formal assessments for this academic year. Our first week back after a lovely 2-week break saw Year 1 children complete their Phonics Screening Check and Year 4 children complete their Multiplication Timestable Check. This week, Year 6 writing has been moderated by the local authority. Results of all assessments will be shared once they have been finalised and published.

Well done to all our children who have been totally amazing all week.

Massive thank you to all the staff at St. Thomas of Canterbury. What an amazing team we are!

So proud of you all.

Sports day information

Our annual sports day will be taking place on Thursday, 25th June. Please bring your own camping chairs/picnic blankets for comfort.

The timetable will be as follows:

- EYFS and Reception - 9.30am—10.30am
- Key stage 1 - 10.45am - 11.45am
- Lower key stage 2 (years 3 & 4) - 1.00pm—2.00pm
- Upper key stage 2 (years 5 & 6) - 2.00pm—3.00pm

Please ensure the children wear suncream and bring a sun hat for the day.

Catholic Multi Academy Trusts (CMAT's)

A message from Rob Peacock (Chair of Governors)

As you will have read in the previous two newsletters, the Archbishop has taken the decision that ALL Catholic schools and colleges in the Archdiocese should become part of a multi academy trust and become academies. This is very much in line with government policy and addresses the government's white paper entitled '*Every Child Achieving and Thriving*'.

Schools that are in Trusts work with other schools and colleges, sharing ideas and good practice. The Trust takes care of some of the things that a school would normally have to do: finance, HR, buildings, legal aspects. This will leave the Head Teacher more time to concentrate on their main job: teaching and learning/education.

There are to be three CMATs (Catholic Multi Academy Trusts) across the Archdiocese;

- St. Josephs
- Pope Francis
- Our Lady of Lourdes

We will be joining St Joseph's Trust, alongside the majority of Catholic schools within the St. Helens borough.

The Archdiocesan programme will happen in a relatively short period of time and will begin immediately. Regarding the timeframe, there are five "waves" for conversion and St. Thomas of Canterbury will be in the first wave.

I know that there is sometimes an impression that schools that become academies are in some type of difficulty, so I wanted to make it clear that is not true as far as St. Thomas of Canterbury is concerned; our school remains in very good health. The children at the school are well taught and cared for and the school is in a stable financial situation.

Last week, the Governors met with representatives of both the Archdiocese and the Trust. We listened to their presentations and then asked a lot of searching questions. The focus of our discussion was on ensuring that the children will continue to receive the same excellent education that we all believe they deserve. We were reassured by the answers we heard. The Trust has the same values and commitment to high quality Catholic education that we hold dear. They have no plans to change the nature of our school. There are no plans to change the name or the mission of the school and decisions about things such as term dates, uniform and the curriculum will be taken by the Headteacher and the governing body.

Governors met again this week and agreed that we should apply to join the Trust in the first wave. There will be a period of consultation and we will be seeking the views of parents and other stakeholders in the next few weeks. A letter about this consultation will follow shortly.

One of our concerns was to ensure that we remain a feeder school for De La Salle, the local Catholic Secondary School. Since our meeting, Mrs Rawlinson has contacted both Mr Rannard, the Head of De La Salle, and Ms McCarthy, the Archdiocesan Director of Education. Both have reassured her that there will be no change to the admissions arrangements and that De La Salle will continue to be the partner High School and that we will continue to work together to develop and strengthen our links.

This is going to be a period of change for the school as we join St Joseph's CMAT, but there are great opportunities for the school and the pupils as we work with colleagues across the Trust. I also know that the team here will have a great deal of expertise to offer to other schools. I am confident that St Thomas of Canterbury will continue to go from strength to strength.



Summer Fayre 2026

PREPARATIONS

Raffle prizes

If any parents or grandparents are able to help with donations of raffle prizes for the summer draw we would be very grateful.

FRIDAY

26th

JUNE

Own clothes day in return for donations of:

- **Sweets:** Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y2
- **Bottles of alcohol:** Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6

WEEK COMM

29th

JUNE

Pre-loved stall

Accepting donations of pre-loved toys and children's books in good condition. Can be brought in any day from the 29th

FRIDAY

3rd

JULY

Cake stall

Donations of homemade or shop bought cakes can be brought in on the day of the fayre for our cake stall. We politely request that cakes do not contain nuts. If homemade, please provide a list of ingredients if possible and label any cake tins so they can be returned.

Thank you for your support

All donations towards the Summer Fayre are gratefully received and help to make it a fun occasion for our school community, whilst raising much needed funds for the benefit of our children. If you are able to help out on the day of the fayre, setting up or helping on a stall, we'd really appreciate it.

Thank you for all your support!



Nursery Admissions

We still have 30 hour and 15 hour funded places available in our Nursery for
September 2026
for children who turn three before

31st August 2026

We are also taking applications for 2027 nursery places

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

After School Club

The after school club will be open on the date of the Summer Fayre, Friday 3rd July.

However, children booked into the club will be unable to attend the Summer Fayre until picked up by a parent or carer.

Thank you.

'Beckets' Out of Hours Club

To help us manage staffing, we kindly ask parents to book out-of-hours clubs as far in advance as possible. Advance bookings help us plan numbers effectively and provide the best experience for everyone.

Thank you.

Leavers Photographs

The Year 6 Leavers Group and individual photograph proofs will be sent home today.

Please note the deadline date for orders on-line or via school is

1st July 2026

Thank you



End of summer term

Please be aware that the last day of the summer term is

Friday, 17th July.

Children will finish school at 1.30pm.

Please note there will be no after school club on this day.



RAINHILL ROCKETS JUDO CLUB

KIDS JUDO!

STRONGER TOGETHER

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING

5PM TO 6PM
BEGINNERS
4-7 YEARS

6PM TO 7.15PM
INTERMEDIATE
8+ YEARS

JUDO BUILDS MORE THAN MUSCLE – IT BUILDS CONFIDENCE, FOCUS AND RESPECT FOR LIFE!

PHYSICAL STRENGTH
Build strength, balance and coordination

MENTAL DISCIPLINE
Improve focus, patience and self-control

RESPECT & DISCIPLINE
Learn respect for yourself and others

EMOTIONAL CONTROL
Develop confidence and manage emotions

LEARN TODAY. GROW FOREVER.
★ ★ ALL ABILITIES WELCOME! ★ ★

COME AND TRY A CLASS – YOUR JUDO JOURNEY STARTS HERE!

Venue:
Rainhill Scout Hut
Deepdale Drive (Jones Estate)
Rainhill
L35 4NW

For further information or to book a place:
Kerry Tansey:
Email: ktansey1@gmail.com
Mob: 07742 421640

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

June

- 23rd - Road Safety Team - workshops for all year groups
- 25th - Sports Day - EYFS – 9 to 10.30am, KS1 10.30 to 12noon, KS2 from 1.30pm
- 26th - 2nd Non-uniform day for Summer Fayre donations
- 29th - Start of De La Salle transition week for Year 6 (Monday –Thursday)
- 30th - Whole school transition day

July

- 3rd - PTFA Summer Fayre—3.30pm
- 7th - Rock Steady Summer Concert—2.15pm
- 8th - Year 6 attending Ruskin Sports Day
- 9th - Year 6 Leavers' Show—4pm in school (1st performance)
- 10th - Year 6 Leavers Mass - 11am in Church
- 10th - Last swim session for Year 4
- 10th - Year 6 Leavers Party—6pm LSH
- 13th - Year 6 trip to Crocky Trail
- 13th - Altru Drama performing Little Red Riding Hood in school (Reception—Year 5)
- 14th - Nursery End of Year Celebration—2pm-3pm in school hall
- 14th - Year 6 Leavers' Show—4pm in school (2nd performance)
- 17th - **End of Summer Term : break for Summer holiday at 1.30pm**

Attendance

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



For week ending Friday, 19th June 2026 the whole school attendance is 95.2%

Reception = 98.3%

Year 1 = 97.4%

Year 2 = 96.6%

Year 3 = 91.2%

Year 4 = 90%

Year 5 = 95.3%

Year 6 = 97.8%