St Thomas CE (VC) Primary School Newsletter



Diary Dates:

- Thursday 19th December school closes for Christmas
- Friday 20th December school closed Staff INSET day
- Monday 6th January 2025 School opens
- Wednesday 15th 2025 January Parents Evening
- Year 6 SATS Monday 12th -Thursday 15th May

SEE SEPARATE EMAIL FOR CHRITMAS EVENTS

Head Teacher's Message



As the nights get darker and the festive season draws near, I know many of us are already thinking about Christmas preparations and the excitement that comes with it. However, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that continues to take place within our school community. Last week, we had Assessment Week, and I am impressed by the focus and commitment shown by our pupils and staff alike. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to everyone for their tireless efforts. I am also pleased to share that our recent Safeguarding Review has yielded extremely positive feedback, a testament to our school's unwavering commitment to providing a safe and supportive environment for all. As we navigate the busy weeks ahead, let us continue to work together to ensure our school remains a place where everyone can thrive

Collective Worship

This week we focused on the British Value of Individual of Liberty and choices we have, we linked this to our school rules and the choices we make every day. We talked about our faiths and family values and how these can help guide us to make good choices.



FOST

We would again like to thank everyone who came to the Christmas Fayre last week. We are thrilled to announce that we made an amazing grand total of £1922.25. This will go towards events, trips, experiences and resources.

We were delighted to organise the pantomime that came into school this week and hope that everyone thoroughly enjoyed it, and the popcorn afterwards.

We will be running the tuck shop after school in the front playground. There will be raffle tickets on sale for 3 hampers. The winners will be drawn at the Christmas concert.

FOOTBALL

Won ALL 5 qualifying games, scoring 9 and only conceding 1, which took us into the Semi-Finals.

A late goal from the opposition meant the 1-1 semi-final went to penalties, which we won 5-3!!!



FINAL v Lindley

... A tight game throughout which was destined to go to penalties as neither team could score. Cruelly, Lindley scored the luckiest of goals on the final hooter and the drained and gutted St Thomas lost their only game of the day, 1 nil.

We were the best team by far and credit is due to all, but sport can be cruel and we returned in 2nd place.

Reception



Reception have started their new mini project, Sparkle and Shine this week. We are learning all bout festivals and celebrations through the Autumn and Winter months. We have enjoyed the party themed home corner and the mud kitchen has been enhanced with coloured water, flowers, herbs

Year 1

Year 1 have had a fabulous week beginning our Christmas celebrations. We really enjoyed the whole school Panto on Tuesday and making our own Christmas tree decorations to hang in the hall. It was very special to join together and sing our favourite Christmas carols with all the older boys and girls at school.



Year 2



Year 2 have had a lovely time this week learning about Advent. We have even made a beautiful Advent wreath.

Year 3

In Year 3 we started the week by getting ready for Christmas. We made Christmas cards, decorations for our classrooms, ornaments for the hall trees, and prepared props for our KS2 Christmas production, Children of the world, all whilst singing along to Christmas songs. There was a wonderful atmosphere and some amazing team work, especially when it came to tidying the classroom at the end of the day





Year 4

This week, the children in year 4 have been looking at the four different types of teeth and their functions. The children worked in pairs to create an interactive mouth and they labelled the teeth as incisors, canines, premolars and molars. Both classes showed great teamwork.



Year 5



This week, Y5 have begun researching Fu Hao; she was an ancient Chinese warrior queen in the Shang Dynasty!

Year 6



Year 6 have done a week of D&T, making tortilla wraps and salsa then designing our own healthy meals. They've done a fabulous job and the food tasted amazing.



Home Visits

To ensure the safety and well-being of all our students, home visits are a key part of our attendance procedures.

Here's how it works:

HOME VISITS

- Day 1 Home Visit: If a child is absent from school and we do not receive any communication from the family explaining the reason for the absence, a member of our staff will conduct a home visit on the first day of the unexplained absence. This is to confirm the child's safety and to offer any necessary support to the family.
- Day 3 Home Visit: For all absences, even those with an initial reason provided, we will conduct a home visit on the third consecutive day of absence. This is to ensure continued support and to check on the child's well-being.

These home visits are in line with recommended good safeguarding practices and are consistent with policies followed by other local schools. Our goal is to ensure every child's safety and to maintain clear communication with families. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep our school community safe.

Attendance

Each day in school builds valuable skills, knowledge, and connections that help students thrive academically and socially. Consistent attendance strengthens routines, boosts learning, and supports a positive school experience. Let's work together to make every school day count!





Please ask your child (Y2-Y6) about our 12 days of Christmas attendance challenge.