

**St Thomas CE (VC)
Primary School
Newsletter**



Diary Dates:

- Wed 18th September meet the teacher- a chance to see your child's classroom
- Thurs 12th September class photos
- Fri 27th September In-school house cross country with Pennine Sports
- Mon 7th- Wed 9th October Y6 residential
- Thursday 24th October Belong day (pupils may wear club uniforms /clothes that represent interests and heritage)
- Monday 7th October Y4 road safety
- **Year 6 SATS Monday 12th -Thursday 15th May**

**Head
Teacher's
Message**



What a wonderful first week. It has been lovely to welcome all your children back into school.

The children have been so fantastic we have had dojos flying around and we have celebrated our first golden ticket winner.

Today we had an assembly to introduce our new head students, house captains and prefects. We are in the enviable position that we had too many children to choose from so this year our prefects will change at Christmas and Easter so we can ensure pupils who show and share our values are given the chance to be recognised.



**HEAD
PUPILS**



Chosen for being fantastic St Thomas Role Model
Trusted pupils
#always

HOUSE CAPTAINS



PREFECTS AUTUMN TERM



Collective Worship

We have once again begun our year with the theme of belong. We shared the parable of the lost sheep and talked about working together as a community. Please note on October 24th we be our Belong Day , when pupils can wear club uniforms, clothes to reflect heritage or faith and to celebrate all the groups we belong to!

Reception

Reception have had a wonderful first week in our new classes, getting to know each other, familiarising ourselves with new routines and exploring the learning environment.



Year 1



This week Year 1 have been exploring colour mixing in lots of different ways. We talked about the primary and secondary colours and use these in our paintings.

Year 2

Y2 are learning about the history of Huddersfield. We are so impressed with J in year 2 who is already showing a commitment to his learning, completing the Huddersfield Ramsden Heritage trail!



Year 3



family.

In Year 3 this week we have completed our first unit of work already! Each afternoon, we have been working on colour theory and have learnt about analogous colours (together on the colour wheel) and complementary colours (opposite on the colour wheel) as well as some other colour families. We completed the week by painting patterns using just one colour

Year 4

Year 4 teachers would like to say thank you to all of Year 4 for a fantastic beginning of term. They are looking forward to lots of exciting learning. They were so busy today they forgot to take photos- but we hope you liked their helmets!

Year 5

Welcome back 5F!
We did some amazing artwork this week.



Year 6



Year 6 have completed some collaborative art based on the front cover of their book.
#teamthomas



I know we have sent this message before but please park **SAFELY** to protect our children and please be courteous to our neighbours and not block driveways.

Attendance

Last term I sent out information regarding the new DFE National Attendance Guidelines.

Please see the poster below for more details.

Attendance Matters



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For Example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 Consecutive days of Term Time Leave

Penalty notice fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days.

10 Sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10- week period

Penalty notice fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be :

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days

Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrate's court. Magistrates fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

Local Authority DO NOT accept the following as exceptional circumstances:

- My work do not allow me to take holidays during the school summer holiday period, even if they provide a letter
- My child needs a holiday at quieter times due to needs
- Our holiday has been gifted and paid for and did not have a choice of dates
- My child has good or 100% attendance
- I will report my child being poorly - schools are expected to carry out home visits, if a holiday is suspected, school will report to the local authority for a penalty notice fine