Friday 20th March 2026

Issue 23 (2025-2026)

St Mary and St Thomas Weekly Newsletter

Don't hide your light! Let it shine for all; let your good deeds glow for all to see, so that they will praise your heavenly Father.
–Matthew 5:16

PART OF

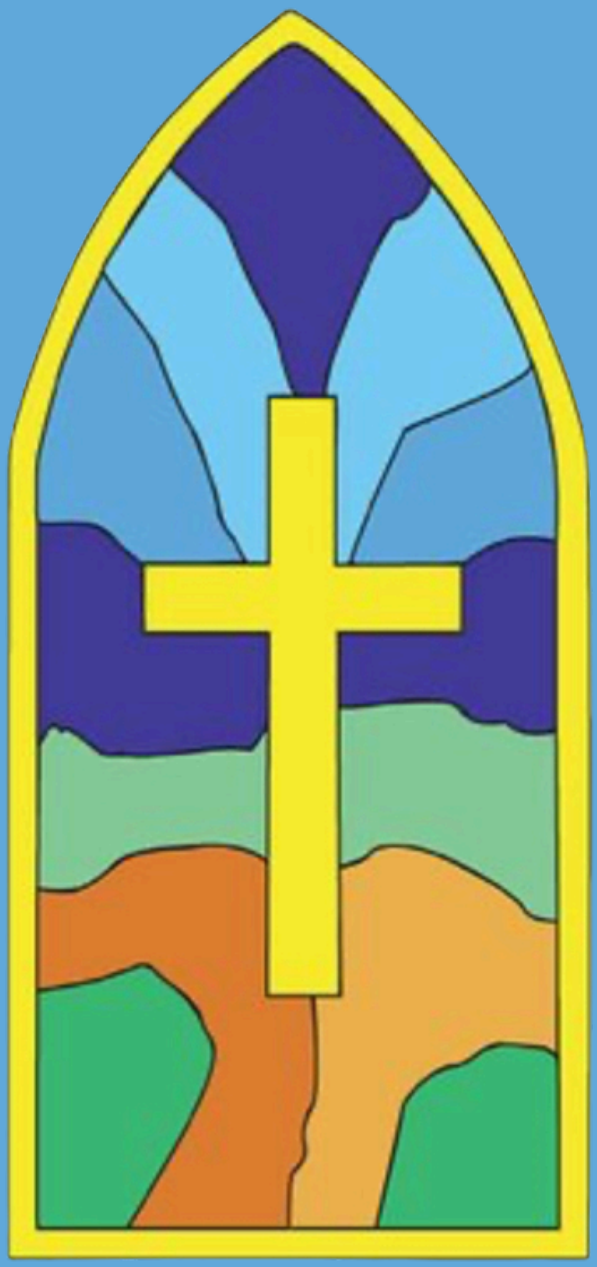
The Three Saints Academy Trust

Headteacher Reflection

What a joyful, and very chocolate-filled week it has been! There is currently no room at all in my office, as it has officially become the Easter Egg Store for next week's Easter Bingo. I must admit, being surrounded by that many Easter eggs has required exceptional willpower, and I'm very proud to say I haven't eaten a single one... yet! The generosity of our families has once again been overwhelming, and it perfectly reflects the kindness and community spirit that make our school so special. I'm very much looking forward to next week's bingo event, partly for the fun, and partly because the delicious smell of chocolate will finally be leaving my office!

Mr Pow

Headteacher



Safeguarding Leads at SMST

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr Pow

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Miss Shields

Safeguarding Spotlight

Following on from last week's focus on road safety, we would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of parking and driving safely around school. Please do not park on the zig-zag lines outside the gates, as these areas must be kept clear to ensure children have a safe and visible place to cross. We also ask everyone to follow the road signage: the road outside school is a Pedestrian and Cycle Zone only between 8:00–9:30am and 2:00–4:00pm, except for residents. These restrictions are in place to protect our children during the busiest times of the day. By following them carefully, you are helping us create a safer environment for all members of our school community.

"Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility."
Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025

Family of Faith

A reflection from... Miss Shields

This week has been a wonderful reminder of the compassion and Christian values that lie at the heart of our school community. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity shown through the vast number of Easter eggs donated for next week's Easter Bingo event. Each donation, big or small, reflects a shared commitment to kindness, community spirit, and caring for one another. It has been uplifting to see these values lived out so clearly by our families and staff, and we are incredibly grateful for the support that helps make our school such a nurturing and joyful place for our children.

Our Christian Value this half term is...

Compassion

Mr Pow' Golden Book

Each week, staff celebrate children who have truly gone above and beyond by adding their names to Mr Pow's Golden Book. It's always a special moment when these names and the reasons behind them are shared during our celebration worship.

Headteacher's Award Winners

Nursery	Noah J for growing in personal independance and self care
Reception	Indie for trying really hard in Maths
Year 1	Sofia for excellent writing this week!
Year 2	Amelia for excellent effort
Year 3	Alysia for being a great role model to the class
Year 4	Daryl for listening during lesson times
Year 5	Olivia S for always helping others
Year 6	Amelia-Rose for great participation in Maths

Lunchtime Award Winners

Reception	Georgia
Year 1	Alexander
Year 2	Arthur
Year 3	Asel
Year 4	Esme
Year 5	Kia
Year 6	Lucas

Moments Matter, Attendance Counts!

Our school day starts at 8.45am; that's when the doors open! Children should arrive at school on time, so they don't miss any learning! Regularly missing lessons can have a negative impact on wellbeing and on your academic achievement too. Being on time is such an important skill and sets you up for a life of success and positive wellbeing! Children should be in school EVERY DAY... unless you're poorly. Every day counts! Every minute in school is a learning minute. The research tells us that children who are in school every day achieve more, and their wellbeing is better too! Please let school know if you'll be absent before 9.15am or we'll have to contact you to check in.

Whole school attendance this year to date... **93.7%**	**Class Attendance Last Week** Nursery- **83.7%** Reception- **90.7%** Year 1- **87.9%** Year 2- **94%** Year 3- **97.3%** Year 4- **96.3%** Year 5- **93.3%** Year 6- **93.3%**
Whole school attendance last week.... **93.3%**	
Class attendance winners last week... **Y3 with 97.3%**	

Important Date or Events

SPRING DISCO

We hope all children had an amazing time at the school disco on Tuesday. A huge thank you to all the staff who helped organise and gave up their time to stay after school in order for this event to take place!

Y1 AND Y2 FAMILY LEARNING

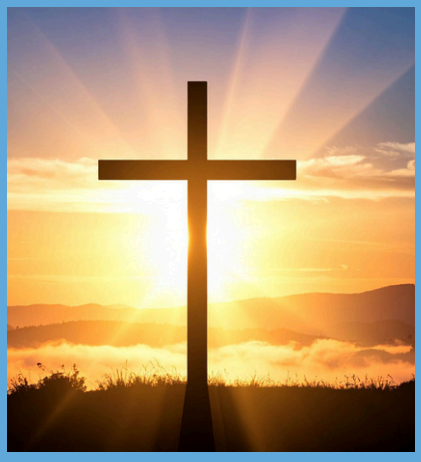
Thank you to all Y1 and Y2 families who attended our Family Learning sessions this week. We hape you found them useful.

NURSERY STAY AND PLAY THURSDAY 19TH MARCH

Thank you to all nursery parents who joined us this week for for our Stay and Play sessions. The children loved having you here and we hope you enjoyed the session!

RED NOSE DAY FRIDAY 20TH MARCH

Thank you for everyone who wore something **RED** today to support and celebrate Red Nose Day!



Y4 EASTER SERVICE THURSDAY 26TH MARCH

We are happy to inform you that our Y4 Easter Church service will take place next Thursday 26th March at 9:30am at St Thomas' church. All Y4 parents and famiilies are welcome to come along and watch.

Important Date or Events

0-19 TEAM SCHOOL DROP IN SESSION

Next TUESDAY 24TH MARCH the 0-19 team will be holding a drop in session in school between 8:30-10:30am. This is a great opportunity to ask them any health related questions you may have about your children.

EASTER BINGO TUESDAY 24TH MARCH

Easter bingo tickets are still available to buy for Reception to Year 6 children under TRIPS on Arbor. It will take place on Tuesday 24th March in he school hall straight after school and will finish at 4:30pm. Tickets are priced at £2 per child which includes all their bingo games and an Easter egg.

REMINDER NO CLUBS NEXT WEEK

Please remember there are no after school clubs running next week as it is the last week of term. There will also be no after school clubs the first week of summer, these will start the second week of term and there will be a class dojo when these go live. This includes NO BRASS CLUB either week.
Wrap around care will run as normal next week MONDAY 23rd TO THURSDAY 26th March.

NO WRAPAROUND CARE NEXT FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

Please note there will be NO wraparound care next Friday 27th March as it is the last day of term. Please ensure your child is collected at normal time.

RECEPTION VISION SCREENING 12TH JUNE

The 0-19 team will be in school on Friday 12th June at 9:30AM to complete a vision screening with the Reception class. A letter has been sent out to all Reception parents which contains all the relevant information. Please note this is an opt out format, so parents do not need to respond unless they would like to opt their child out of the Vision screening.

TERM DATES

School closes for the Easter holidays on Friday 27th March and we re-open for our summer term on Monday 13th April.

Information

At our school, we aim to create a positive and welcoming environment for every child and family. We kindly ask all parents and carers to show respect toward one another, especially during drop-off and pick-up times, and to be mindful of the language used around the school grounds. Children are always listening, and the words and tone adults use can strongly influence how they interact with others. By modelling courtesy, calm communication, and consideration, we help reinforce the values we want our children to learn and carry with them every day.

POKEMON AND TRADING CARDS

We know many children enjoy collecting and trading cards, and we want to help keep that experience positive. Recently, we've had a number of issues with cards being lost, damaged, or traded unfairly, which can lead to disagreements and upset. To prevent these problems, we kindly ask that trading cards are not brought into school.

Y6 LONDON RESIDENTIAL TRIP INSTALLMENT DUE

If your child is due to go on the Y6 Residential to London then please ensure the next installment is paid and a total of £120 should have been paid towards the trip by this point. Where possible, we recommend paying more than the minimum amount to help reduce the size of the final instalment. As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding payment, please speak to the school office or Mr Pow, who will be happy to help. A Class dojo was sent out yesterday regarding the deadline and individual texts will be sent out next week to chase up payments.
Thank you for your continued support.

UNIFORM LIST

UNIFORM

- Black trousers, shoes, skirt or pinafore
- Navy round neck sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without school logo. If you would like the school logo, you can purchase these from Price & Buckland's website)

- Blue and white checked dress/ pinafore and or black shorts (summer term only)

- White polo shirt (with or without school logo. If you would like the school logo, you can purchase these from the Price & Buckland's website)

- Black or white socks
- Black tights
- Black shoes, low heels, not boots or trainers
- No jewellery is permitted
- Due to restricted space in school we do not allow backpacks.

PE UNIFORM

On the day your child has PE they can come to school in their PE kit so long as it is correct as re-iterated below. From Tuesday 6th June, if your child does not have the correct colour PE kit they will need to come into school in their normal school uniform and bring their PE kit into school to get changed into before their PE lesson. After their lesson they will then get changed back into their school uniform. PE kit should be kept in a small school PE bag labelled with your child's name if they are getting changed in school. For After School Sports clubs the PE uniform still applies.

- White T-Shirt

- Black shorts/black leggings/black jogging bottoms

- Pumps
- Trainers can be worn for sport outside

LABELLING

All uniform and PE kit should be clearly labelled with child's name and class.

The Three Saints Academy Trust

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2025/2026

Term	Open on:	Close on:
Spring Term	Monday 5th January 2026	Friday 13th February 2026
	Monday 23rd February 2026	Friday 27th March 2026
Summer Term	Monday 13th April 2026	Thursday 21st May 2026
	Monday 1st June 2026	Friday 17th July 2026

Easter Bank Holidays:

Good Friday: 3 April 2026

Easter Monday: 6 April 2026

Bank Holidays during term time:

May Day: Monday 4 May 2026

CPD Days:

22nd May 2026 2025

20th July 2026 2025

The Three Saints Academy Trust

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2026/2027

Term	*Open On:	*Close On:
Autumn term 2026	2nd September 2026	23rd October 2026
	4th November 2026	18th December 2026
Spring term 2027	5th January 2027	12th February 2027
	22nd February 2027	25th March 2027
Summer term 2027	12th April 2027	28th May 2027
	7th June 2027	21st July 2027

Bank Holidays during term time:
May Day: Monday 3 May 2027

CPD Days

1st September 2026

2nd November 2026

3rd November 2026

20th November 2026

4th January 2027