Thursday 21st May 2026

Issue 30 (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

What a busy and successful final week of Summer 1! Our Year 3 children represented the school beautifully at the Ascension Worship Service at the Parish Church, while Year 5 enjoyed their final Beacon Project session. It has also been lovely to welcome families into school for our Parent Teacher Meetings and celebrate the children's achievements and progress.

A reminder that we break up for half term today, **Thursday 21st May**, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for Summer 2 on **Monday 1st June.** We are hopeful that the warmer weather is finally on its way!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We wish all of our families a relaxing and enjoyable half-term break.

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	Annalisa for having a great week and following all the carpet rules
Reception	Wiktoria for trying really hard with writing
Year 1	Arlo for always being amazing!
Year 2	Alfie B for trying really hard all week!
Year 3	Toby for showing resilience and persiverance with his work!
Year 4	Iris for always trying her best in lessons
Year 5	Niamh for excellent effort all the time
Year 6	Tim for always trying his best!

Lunchtime Award Winners

Reception	Eli
Year 1	Isabella
Year 2	James T
Year 3	David-Costin
Year 4	Braxton
Year 5	Ziggy
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- **90%** Reception- **95%** Year 1- **90.7%** Year 2- **84%** Year 3- **95%** Year 4- **95.3%** Year 5- **89.6%** Year 6- **100%**
Whole school attendance last week **92.5%**	
Class attendance winners last week... **Y6 with 100%**	

FAMILIES OF SMST

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

It is with great pride and excitement that I write to you as the newly appointed Headteacher of St Mary and St Thomas Primary School.

For many of you, this will not be a first introduction. Over the years, I have had the privilege of being part of this wonderful school community as a teacher and Assistant Headteacher before leaving to work across our Trust, supporting school improvement as a director. Although I valued that experience enormously, St Mary and St Thomas has always held a very special place in my heart: returning as Headteacher truly feels like coming home.

I am also returning to this role following maternity leave and, now having a child of my own, I feel an even deeper sense of purpose and commitment to the children and families we serve. I understand more than ever the trust families place in schools each day and building strong, positive relationships with our community will continue to be one of my greatest priorities.
I already know many of our wonderful families and I am so grateful for the relationships we have built over the years. For those I have not yet met, I am very much looking forward to getting to know you and your children in the months ahead.

St Mary and St Thomas is a school full of warmth, ambition, faith and care and I feel incredibly proud to lead it into its next chapter. Our mission statement — Believe, Achieve, Shine — sits at the heart of all we do:
Believe in ourselves, each other and God;
Achieve in all we do;
Shine everyday!

Together, we will continue to ensure that every child is known, valued and encouraged to let their light shine, just as our school verse reminds us:

“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 (TLB)

I will officially begin my role in September and I already cannot wait to get started. Thank you for the warm welcome so many of you have already given me. I feel very fortunate to be returning to the St Mary and St Thomas family and I am excited for all that lies ahead. Whether it’s at the school gate, on the playground or at one of our many school events, please do come and say hello. Schools are built on people and partnerships; I am genuinely excited to continue building ours together.

With warmest wishes,
Natalie Parry
Headteacher
St Mary and St Thomas Primary School

Information

NURSERY MORNING PLACES

STILL AVAILABLE

STARTING SEPTEMBER 2026

We currently still have morning places left in our nursery for September 2026 and would love to welcome new families into our school community. Our nurturing environment provides a fantastic start to your child's learning journey, helping them grow, explore, and thrive.

📌 Interested?
Please collect an application form from the school office.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Important Date or Events

Y4 SLEEPOVER FRIDAY 5TH JUNE

We currently have only a small number of children signed up for the Year 4 Sleepover taking place on Friday 5th June. If your child would like to attend, please sign up as soon as possible. Please note that if we do not have enough numbers by the deadline of Tuesday 2nd June, unfortunately the event will have to be cancelled.

The sleepover will be held at school, with activities starting at **5:30pm on Friday**. Children should be collected by **10am on Saturday** morning.
The cost is **£10 per child,** which includes an evening meal, breakfast and all activites. Payment can be made in the usual way via Arbor under Trips and needs to be paid by **2nd June 2026**.
We encourage all Year 4 children to attend. It is a great opportunity for them to enjoy an overnight stay with friends, build independence, and develop important life skills linked to the Forest School curriculum.
Please note that the event is **NOT** compulsory, and children may choose to attend the evening activities only.

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.

SPORTS DAY TUESDAY 30TH JUNE

We are pleased to inform you that our Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 30th June. More Details to follow after half term on the timings for the day.

Information

CHANGES TO SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS STARTING SEPTEMBER

All children from Reception to Y6 should have brought home a few weeks ago regarding the new school day timings **starting 2nd September 2026**.

There will be no change to the start of the school day (8:50am) but there will be a new **collection time of 3:20 for Reception to Y6.** This is to align ourselves to the DFE guidelines for a 32.5 hour school week. The letter you received will provide full details.

HEALTH UPDATE

We are currently experiencing a sickness and diarrhoea bug within the school community. In response, we have carried out a thorough deep clean of all affected areas and are continuing to reinforce the importance of good hand hygiene with all children, particularly before and after communal activities such as lunchtime and eating.

To help minimise the spread of infection, we have also reduced any unnecessary mixing between classes where possible.

If your child experiences any vomiting or diarrhoea, please ensure they remain off school for 48 hours after their last episode.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

BEST START IN LIFE Family Hub

FAMILY HUB SPRING HALF TERM OFFER

Check out the the family hub spring sent out with this newsletter. All activities are free, and everyone is welcome.

Adult £12
Child £5
Family of 4
£29

4K ROUTE

Run for fun… raise money for Willowbrook

St Helens Colour Run

Saturday 4th July 2026

Arrive from 11.15am & Start 12pm

Victoria Park, St Helens, WA10 2UE

Organised in partnership with

ST HELENS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Sponsored by

2u ..Food

Scan to book:

Willowbrook Hospice *Every Contact Counts*

Registered Charity No. 1020240

www.willowbrook.org.uk

01744 453798

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

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