Friday 11th September 2026

Issue 1 (2026-2027)

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

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!

Welcome Back!
Dear Parents and Carers,
A very warm welcome back to a new school year at St Mary and St Thomas!
I am absolutely delighted to be writing to you as your new Headteacher. For those who don't know me, I am Mrs Parry, and it has been so lovely to return to a school that already holds such a special place in my heart, having worked here previously.
I couldn't be prouder of our children after their first week back. They have been ready, respectful and resilient, settling beautifully into routines and showing such kindness and enthusiasm.
It has been particularly wonderful to hear visitors commenting on what a calm, happy and welcoming place our school feels. What a fantastic way to start the year!
I am so excited for everything this year will bring and for all the wonderful learning, memories and moments our children will experience together.
Here’s to a brilliant year ahead!
With very best wishes,
Mrs Parry
Headteacher

WEEKLY AWARDS

Each week, staff celebrate children who have truly gone above and beyond byoment when these names and the reasons behind them are shared during our celebration worship....

Headteacher's Award Winners

Nursery	Robyn for an excellent start in Nursery
Reception	Lucas for just being a superstar in every aspect
Year 1	Arlo for excellent writing this week
Year 2	Liam for allways trying his best with Maths
Year 3	Winter C for always being ready and respectful to everyone and showing resilience in her work
Year 4	Marni for demonstrating our learning behaviours beautifully this week
Year 5	Iris for consistently demonstrating our school rules making a wonderful start in Y5 and being a great role model to others!
Year 6	Connor Stout consistently being ready with magnet eyes and learning hands

Value Award Winners

Nursery	All Nursery children for showing resilience.
Reception	Annalisa for preserving with your carpet times!
Year 1	Nayali for always showing she is ready to learn
Year 2	Maria for pereserving with her writing in lessons
Year 3	Hunter for being incredible every day and a much valued member of year 3
Year 4	Frankie for showing compassion to others
Year 5	Joe C for showing amazing perseverance in English and Maths this week
Year 6	Olivia Smith for pereserving during lessons and asking questions

Information

PE DAYS

Our PE days this year are as below. Please can children come to sschool their full PE kit on their PE days.

MONDAY - Y6, Y4 swimming
TUESDAY - NURSERY / RECEPTION / Y1 and Y2
WEDNESDAY - Y5, Y3
THURSDAY - Y1, Y2
FRIDAY - Y3 / Y4 / Y5 / Y6

COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

From this September onwards all official school communication will be sent via Arbor rather then through class dojo. A letter was sent out earlier this week detailing all these changes. Communication will largely be sent out via email through the Arbor system and occasionally Arbor In-App messages, It is therefor essential we have correct email addresses for parents and guardians and all parents/guardians have downloaded and are able to log into Arbor.

CLUBS NOW LIVE ON ARBOR

There has been a change to how our clubs will be organised going forward.
Clubs will continue to run each half term; however, they will now take place over 4 weeks within the half term, rather than running for the full duration.
The booking process for clubs has also moved back to Arbor. Clubs are now live for this half term, as previously communicated, and will start next week.
Going forward, you will be notified a few days before bookings open, including the date and time that the club will go live for booking.

MEDICATION POLICY UPDATE

It has been agreed at Trust level that, with immediate effect, we are no longer able to administer non-prescribed medication to children in school.
If you wish your child to receive non-prescribed medication, such as Calpol, this will need to be administered by a parent or carer..
We are still able to administer prescribed medication in school, following our usual procedure. This requires the appropriate red medication form to be completed.
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Important Date or Events

WRAPAROUND CARE IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please remember that all Breakfast and After School Club sessions must be booked in advance via the Arbor app.
We are currently finding that children are arriving without a booking, which makes it difficult to plan appropriate staffing and can cause confusion at home time.
Please ensure your child is booked onto the relevant club before attending. Bookings can only be made once payment has been received. If you use childcare vouchers and have not already informed the school office, please contact us.
Children must not attend Wraparound Care without a confirmed booking!

ROAD SAFETY REMINDER

If your child walks home from school independently, please ensure they are following all road safety advice, particularly when crossing roads and when walking along pavements.
We have received a report of a near miss on Low Street, opposite the Lidl car park, this week. Please remind your children to remain vigilant, be aware of their surroundings, and take extra care when crossing the road.
If you choose for your child to walk home alone, please ensure they understand the importance of staying alert and following safe road-crossing practices at all times.
Thank you for helping us keep our children safe.

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TALES AT TOM'S

Children are invited to come along to 'Tales at Tom's' at St. Thomas Church on the last Sunday of each month, 11am to 12 noon. Children will have a simple bible reading, there are some craft activities going on during the hour and they can have a drink and a biscuit. All children are invited to come along and celebrate with us.

Information

🌟 **WELCOME TO SMST!** 🌟

We are delighted to welcome Miss Seville, Miss Jackson, Mr Clarke, Miss McGlen and Miss Conway to the SMST family!

It has been wonderful to have you join us and we are so excited for the energy, ideas and expertise you will bring to our school community.

We hope you already feel at home and we look forward to a fantastic year together!

Welcome to the team! 💙

REGISTERED CHARITY : 517144

YMCA ST HELENS

FREE

The Youth Hub

(For 11-18 year olds)

"The Youth Hub is our safe place to be ourselves, to be comfortable, and be happy"

Open Daily Monday to Friday 4pm til late

Activities include:

Get Active: Sports/Bouldering/Breakdance/Parkour

Get Creative: Photography/Digital/Art/Craft/Drama

A "chill out" space, and much more.

(Get in touch for our current program)

COMPLETE THE FORM VIA QR CODE OR CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO (OR JUST DROP IN WHEN OPEN)

Youth Hub
YMCA St Helens
College Street
St Helens WA10 1TF

01744 415260

YMCAStHelens

Youthwork@ymcasthelens.org.uk

YMCA ST HELENS
Would like to thank the following for their support:

YOUTH INVESTMENT FUND

Clarion Housing

NHS
Cheshire and Merseyside

The LF Foundation

Historic England

TIM HENMAN FOUNDATION

YMCA

Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you

YMCA enables people to develop their full potential in mind, body and spirit. Inspired by, and faithful to, our Christian values, we create supportive, inclusive and energising communities, where young people can truly belong, contribute and thrive.

We have a 'Need to Talk' button available on our school website to help children share any worries or concerns quickly and safely:
✅ Provides a confidential way for children to let us know if they need support even when not on the school site
✅ Can be used for worries about friendships, wellbeing, or concerns at home or in school
✅ Messages are monitored by our safeguarding team
✅ Submissions are reviewed during school hours only and responded to within the school day where possible

Please note, this feature is not intended for:
❌ Use by parents – parents should contact the school office in the usual way
❌ Urgent safeguarding concerns or situations where a child is in immediate danger – these should be reported to the appropriate services:

- 📞 Social Services: 01744 676767
- 📞Childline: 0800 1111
- 🚓 Police: 999 (emergency)

❌ Communication outside school hours that requires an immediate response
❌ General enquiries such as reporting absences, club bookings or routine communication
❌ Day-to-day queries that should be directed to the school office
This tool helps ensure every child has a voice and another means of communicating with school to access 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.

Diary Dates

School Terms and Holiday Dates 2026-27

Term	Opens On	Closes 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	3rd May 2027

All CPD Days 2026-27

1st September 2026

2nd November 2026

3rd November 2026

20th November 2026

4th January 2027