

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

JUNE



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of another busy month, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many highlights of June here at St Thomas of Canterbury. It has been a month filled with joy, achievement and community spirit.

A particularly special moment was our pilgrimage to Westminster Cathedral for the Festival of Hope. Our Chaplaincy Team represented the school beautifully at this uplifting Diocesan celebration, and I was incredibly proud of Cole and Olivia, who read the Prayers of Intercession with poise and confidence in such an awe inspiring Cathedral.

We celebrated our First Holy Communicants with Father John in our Corpus Christi Mass, followed by a tea party back at school. We also look forward to the upcoming Trust Sacramental Celebratory Mass at St Augustine's Church.

Sport and the arts have also taken centre stage this month, with our children taking part in lawn bowls, tennis tournaments and a brilliantly sunny Sports Day – congratulations to St David's and St Andrew's for their team achievements! It was also a joy to see Year 1 and 2 enjoying physical literacy games created by our older pupils – a lovely example of leadership and care in action.

On the creative front, children from Year 5 and 6 delved into Macbeth in a lively drama workshop, and the whole school was treated to a fantastic music morning with Hertfordshire Music Service. In addition, our Speak Out Challenge participants made us extremely proud with their powerful and thought provoking speeches – a huge well done to Elliott S and Aoife O'B for representing the school and to Leo K for winning the Year 6 category trophy!

Wishing you all a safe and sunny July as we begin to wind down and celebrate all that has been achieved this year.
Best wishes,

Mrs Keating
Executive Headteacher

House POINTS

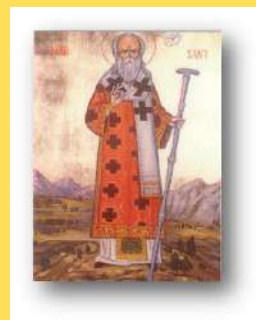
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1226



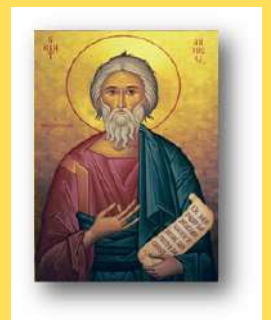
ST PATRICK
982



ST DAVID
1001



ST ANDREW
905





Catholic Life of the School



On Tuesday 24th June, the Chaplaincy Team made a pilgrimage to the magnificent Westminster Cathedral in London to take part in the Festival of Hope liturgy, a joyful and uplifting celebration that brought together schools from across the Diocese to mark this Jubilee Year as “Pilgrims of Hope”.

The liturgy was led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols and included a moving procession of pledges, as well as adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, all set within the awe-inspiring surroundings of the Cathedral. All of the schools from the St Francis of Assisi Trust had representatives at the Liturgy, and we enjoyed seeing familiar faces from our Trust Chaplaincy events earlier in the year.

**See photos of our pilgrimage
across the next two pages...**





A special well done to Cole and Olivia, who were chosen to read prayers of intercession at the Festival of Hope. They read beautifully and were not phased by a cathedral full of people! They were a true credit to St Thomas', and hopefully have made a life long memory. .





FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS



Our First Holy Communicants were honoured during our special Corpus Christi Mass, followed by a joyful tea party back at school.

They will have another opportunity to celebrate their sacramental journey at the upcoming Trust Sacramental Gathering, where all St Francis of Assisi pupils who have received their First Holy Communion and Confirmation will be recognised and celebrated together.



Mini Tennis

Alice, Wesley, Stella, Hudson, Toyosi, Elliot, Erin and Leah (from Year 3/4) enjoyed an afternoon at Hertford Lawn Tennis Club where they took part in a competition and a festival. The team came first in the festival and second in the competition and only lost by 2 points! They all had a wonderful time!



Lawn Bowls



Lawn Bowls - Stella, Jenson, Penny and Elliot (Year 3) had a enjoyable morning at Ware Lawn Bowls club where they were taught how to play lawn bowls then took part in various games. Finally, they took part in a competition where all the teams played amazingly well!



Sports Day





Congratulations

A HUGE WELL DONE TO ST ANDREW'S HOUSE WHO WON THE TEAM WORK CUP, AND ST DAVID'S WHO WON THE CUP FOR THE MOST AMOUNT OF POINTS SCORED DURING OUR TEAM EVENTS. A BIG THANK YOU TO MRS GILBERT FOR ORGANISING SUCH A WONDERFUL DAY!



Physical Literacy

Physical literacy - the year 1 and 2 children enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of play led by year 5 and 6 who created their own sports games and activities for the younger children to enjoy!





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Trust 'Speak Out' Challenge



A group of enthusiastic pupils from Year 4 to Year 8 across the St Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust took part in the “Speak Out Challenge” to showcase their public speaking skills and share their views on a range of thought-provoking topics. We were incredibly proud of our three entrants; Elliot, Aoife and Leo, who all spoke with conviction, clarity and confidence. A huge well done to Leo, who won the trophy in the Year 6 category for his speech on climate change and sustainability.





Year 5/6 Macbeth Workshop

West End
in Schools

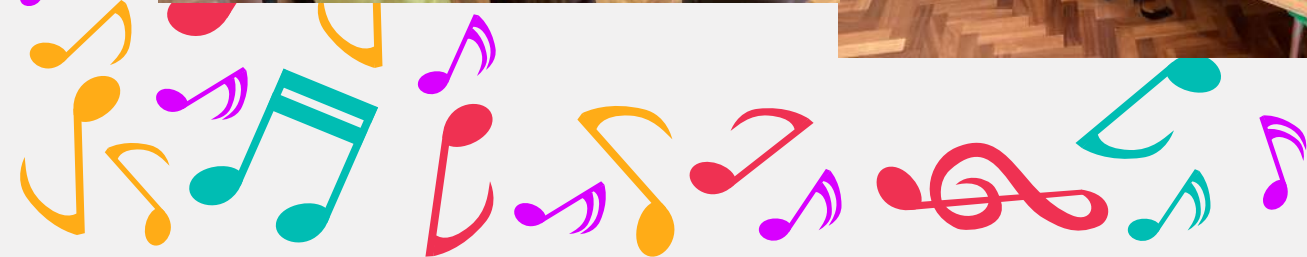


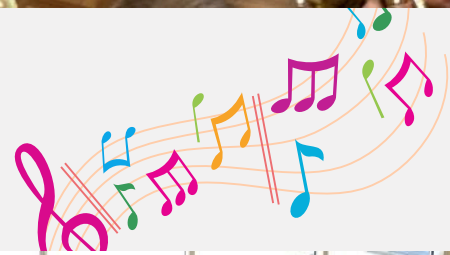
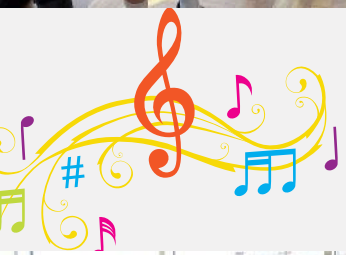
Year 5/6 had a brilliant afternoon participating in a Shakespeare Explorer workshop run by West End in Schools. They were led through a range of drama activities by actor-facilitator Lee, helping them to explore the themes and symbolism in Macbeth.



Music Workshop

Years 1-6 enjoyed a very special morning with Hattie from the Hertfordshire Music Service, listening to and learning to play a range of wind instruments.





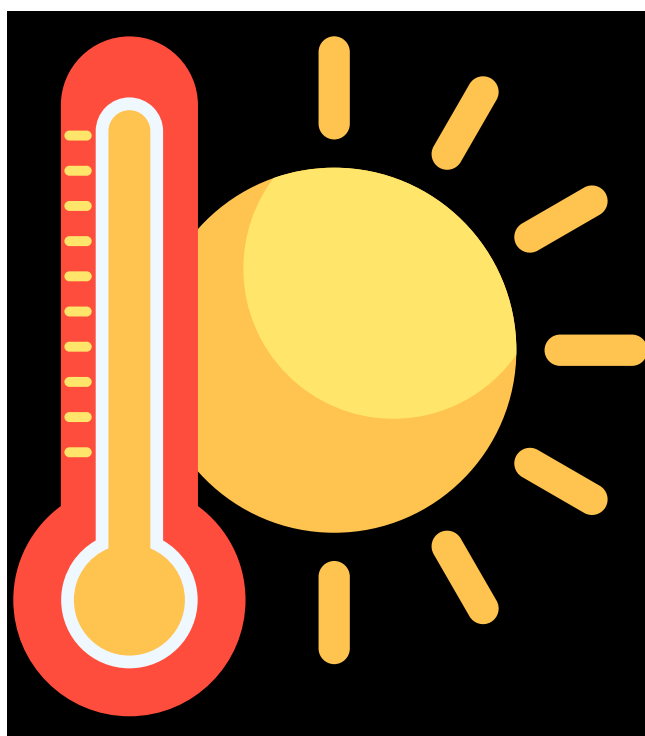
NOTICES

OVERDUE PAYMENTS!

The following products were billed through the School Shop and a number of parents have not yet settled payment. We will be adding these items to the "School Trips" section of Arbor, please check your child's account and make payment by the end of term if applicable, thank you!

- Early Years Snack
- Science Workshop
- Balance Bike

HOT WEATHER!



During this period of hot weather, please ensure your child has a water bottle, sun cream applied and a school cap

FREE SCHOOL MEALS!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS: A reminder that children moving from Year 2 to Year 3 will no longer receive Universal Free School Meals. Please [click here](#) for further information and to see if your child may be entitled to receive benefit related Free School Meals