

# ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



## July NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of another academic year! A huge well done to all of our children for their many achievements this year – we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated teachers, support staff, and governors, who work tirelessly to provide a nurturing environment where our children can thrive spiritually, academically, and emotionally. I also wish to thank you, parents and carers for your continued support and for working in partnership with us throughout the year.

In my role as School Improvement Executive Head, I am privileged to work alongside Head Teachers across the Trust, sharing best practices and collaborating to strengthen our collective focus on school improvement and excellence in education.

This half term, a key focus has been preparing the children for transition – whether into new year groups or new schools. All pupils have had the opportunity to visit their new class and meet their teachers, helping to ease any worries and build excitement for the year ahead. Thank you to all the parents who attended our recent Meet the Teacher sessions; the PowerPoint presentations are available on our website.

This final edition of the newsletter captures the many joyful moments and celebrations of July, including our Trust Sacramental Celebration, the PTA Colour Run, Leavers' Mass and Tea Party, Early Years and Key Stage One Trip to Standalone Farm and the fantastic Key Stage 2 Production. These events are a true reflection of the vibrant community spirit we cherish at St Thomas of Canterbury.

A special thank you to Father John Cunningham for celebrating our Year 6 Leavers' Mass and for presenting each child with a cross to mark their time with us and bless their journey ahead to secondary school.

We also say farewell to staff members who are moving on (see page 11). In particular, we give sincere thanks to Mr Booth, who retires after 21 years of dedicated service, to Mrs King, who leaves us after 18 years and Mrs Hart and Mr Fitzgerald with 7 years service each. Their commitment to our school has left a lasting legacy, and they will always remain part of the St Thomas' family. We wish them every happiness in the next chapter of their lives.

Wishing you all a safe, restful, and happy summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Thursday 4th September (and the week beginning Monday 15th September for Nursery).

Best wishes,

Mrs M Keating  
Executive Head Teacher



# Catholic Life of the School

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## Trust Sacramental Gathering



# COLOUR RUN



# Leaver's Mass and Tea Party



We had a very special Leaver's Mass and Tea Party on 14<sup>th</sup> July, celebrating both our wonderful Year 6 and Mr Booth's retirement.



We were delighted to welcome back two past pupils, Marie and Jed, who shared some of their favourite memories and inspired Year 6!





# KS2 PERFORMANCE

WHAT A KNIGHT!





# Early Years and Key Stage 1 Trip

## Standalone Farm





# SPORTS

## NEWS



We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the Platinum level of the School Games Mark Award for the 2024/25 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at St Thomas of Canterbury has been rewarded this year. A special thanks to Mrs Gilbert and Mr Fitzgerald for all their incredible efforts towards raising the profile of sport at St Thomas' even higher this year!

# Goodbye

...to our staff leavers: Mr Booth; Mrs King; Mr Purl; Mrs Hart; Mr Fitzgerald; Mrs Donno. We thank them for their dedicated service at St Thomas' and ask God's blessing for the next part of their journey



adieu!



# A Farewell Prayer for our Leavers

Dear Lord,

We thank You for the time we've shared together at St Thomas of Canterbury this year. For every moment of learning, every act of kindness, and every memory made within these walls.

As some now prepare to move on – pupils, staff and governors – we ask You to bless and guide each one. May they step forward with courage, surrounded by Your love and grace.

Help us all to carry the heart of our school with us: To learn, love and respect through Jesus. Let this mission live on in all we do – in new schools, workplaces, and communities.

May we always walk in faith, grow in hope, and share Your light wherever we are.

Amen.



# Notices and reminders



**Wednesday  
3<sup>rd</sup> September**

INSET DAY (no pupils in school)

**DSPL3**

**Delivering Special  
Provision Locally**

For information on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, visit our local DSPL website. The site is frequently updated and includes a wealth of useful information!

<http://www.dspl3.org.uk/>



**Thursday  
4<sup>th</sup> September**

Beginning of Autumn Term:  
Reception to Year 6



**Week beginning  
15<sup>th</sup> September:**

Beginning of Autumn Term for  
Nursery



**Thursday  
4<sup>th</sup> September**

3:30pm Hilltop  
Residential  
Meeting for Year  
5/6 Parents

## **Reminders:**

- Please collect all medication from school
- Please settle any payments for trips, clubs etc
- Please sign up for clubs during the summer holiday
- New items of branded uniform are available from Kids Connection. You can also purchase ties, caps and rucksacks from St Thomas'

