

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

February

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a restful half term.

Reflecting back through the month of February, our Year 3 and 4 enjoyed an exciting and engaging Egyptian workshop day, see pages 7 and 8. Thank you parents for supporting this event and ensuring your child had an Egyptian costume - the children (and staff) looked fantastic! We are also featured on the Trust website!

Ash Wednesday last week marked the start of Lent - a time to prepare ourselves to remember Jesus' death on the Cross on Good Friday and His Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

You will see from Page 5 that as part of the Trust, we are celebrating the Year of St Francis and we look forward to sharing further plans for the year in due course.

A reminder that Thursday 5th March is National World Book Day. This day highlights the importance of reading and the love of books. Once again we invite all children to come to school dressed as a book character and to share their favourite book. There will be prizes for each class and all children will receive a World Book Day voucher. To note, between 3rd and 10th March we will be holding the Scholastic's Book Fayre.

Finally, a reminder of our forthcoming Parent Consultations, scheduled for Thursday 5th March (Year 6) and Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th March (Early Years to Year 5), please book via Arbor.

Best wishes,

Mrs Keating
Executive Head



House POINTS

ST GEORGE

712



ST PATRICK

979



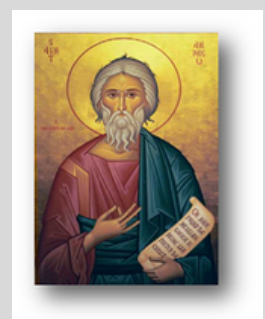
ST DAVID

934



ST ANDREW

795



House Points are given to children to encourage positive behaviour, promote a sense of community and to motivate them to work together towards a common good by earning points for effort, participation, and positive actions.



Catholic Life of the School

THE LENTEN SEASON...

PRAY, FAST, GIVE



Lent is a time where we make choices to help ourselves or others - these are called Lenten Promises. You can find our Lenten Promises displayed on our special Lenten Promise tree by the library.



LENT, IN THE LITURGICAL YEAR, IS KNOWN AS A PENITENTIAL SEASON. AS CATHOLICS, WE ARE ASKED TO GIVE UP VARIOUS ITEMS OR HABITS AND COMMIT TO ACTIVITIES THAT BRING US CLOSER TO GOD AND OUR COMMUNITY.

ON 16TH MARCH, FATHER JOHN WILL LEAD THE WHOLE SCHOOL IN A PENITENTIAL SERVICE WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE OPPORTUNITY FOR KS2 RECONCILIATION.

THE LENTEN SEASON...

PRAY, FAST, GIVE

mary's
meals

a simple solution
to world hunger

Each year, our Trust Chaplaincy Teams come together to choose a charity for our annual Trust Charity Week. This year, we are delighted to share that Mary's Meals has been chosen as our focus charity.

Our Chaplaincy Team is already hard at work planning meaningful and engaging events for Charity Week, which will take place during the week beginning 23rd March.

To help us learn more about the amazing work this charity does, we are excited to welcome Gerrard from Mary's Meals next week. He will be joining us for a special assembly to share the mission of the charity, how it supports children around the world, and the difference our contributions can make.

We look forward to a wonderful Charity Week ahead and to supporting such an inspiring cause together.



YEAR OF ST FRANCIS: A TIME OF REFLECTION AND CELEBRATION

Pope Leo XIV has recently proclaimed a special “Year of St Francis” (Jubilee Year) to mark the 800th anniversary of the saint’s death (1226–2026). The jubilee honours his legacy of peace, poverty and care for creation, and offers plenary indulgences for pilgrims who visit Franciscan churches. A range of related events, including the display of his relics, will also be held, encouraging the faithful to imitate the “Poor Man of Assisi” in a world marked by division and conflict.

The Year of St Francis will run from 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027. Throughout the year, The St Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust, together with all Trust schools, will organise a series of celebratory and reflective events, bringing together schools and communities across the Trust to honour his spirit and mission.

As a member of the Trust family, our school will actively take part in this special year. Through assemblies, classroom activities, liturgies and creative projects, children will have opportunities to learn more about the life, values and teachings of St Francis, and to reflect on how they can show kindness and care for others and the environment in their daily lives.

We look forward to sharing this meaningful journey with our pupils and families over the coming year.



The Year of St Francis



Franciscan Values Awards

Congratulations to our Spring 1 winners:

Early Years/Key Stage 1:

Hudson

Key Stage 2:

Wesley



Congratulations!



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

Spaghetti Tower Building Challenge



On Wednesday 11th February, we held our first Junior Duke House Team Meeting, we were really impressed with the progress the children had made with their challenges. To help strengthen house team communication and teamwork, we held a spaghetti tower building championship with some amazing results!!!



Our next Junior Duke House Team Meeting is:
18th March

Year 3/4

Egyptian Day



Year 3/ 4 had a fantastic Egyptian Workshop Day led by 'History off the Page' and supported by our wonderful staff (in full costume too of course). They had a full day of hands on learning experiences including mummification, canopic jars, pectoral amulets, tomb painting, ink making and writing, amulet making, bread making, perfume cone making, making Senet (an Egyptian board game) and exploring Shabti dolls.

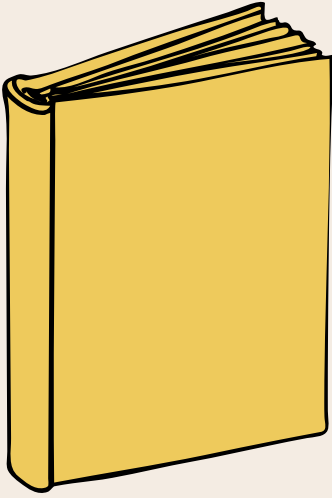


Forest School is BACK!

Forest School is back! After giving our woodland area a much-needed rest over the winter months, we were thrilled to welcome the children back this week. Year 1/2 were especially lucky— they enjoyed their first session in Wednesday's glorious sunshine after what has felt like endless rain! The children loved exploring, learning, and reconnecting with nature, and we can't wait for many more outdoor adventures ahead.



Notices and reminders



World Book Day

We have a number of special events planned for World Book Day on Thursday 5th March including:

- Breakfast with a book from 8am
- Second hand book stall (please donate your unwanted books!)
- Dressing up
- World Book Day Assembly and prize giving

Remember: year 6 Secondary offers are out
Monday 2nd March



Tree Stumps

As you may have observed, the trees situated at the front of the school were removed during the half-term break due to disease. Since the stumps pose a trip hazard, please make sure that children avoid the grassy area during drop-off and pick-up times. Thank you for your cooperation!