

St Thomas of Canterbury



NEWSLETTER



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

Dear parents and carers,

This half term has absolutely flown by and it has been wonderful to see the children continuing to work so hard, enjoy their learning and take part in the many exciting activities happening across the school. It has been wonderful to continue to get to know all the children, staff and parents, thank you for your continued warm welcome. We are incredibly proud of all that the children have achieved over the past few weeks.

May has been a particularly busy and memorable month for our school community. One of the highlights was our special celebration of Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday, which was generously funded by the PTA. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in activities linked to the natural world and environmental awareness, helping to inspire our young learners to care for the world around them and the animal encounter experience. We are very grateful to the PTA for funding this wonderful event.

Our Key Stage 1 children also had a fantastic time representing the school at the Infant Agility Sports Event. They demonstrated excellent teamwork, enthusiasm and determination throughout the activities and were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Further up the school, I would particularly like to congratulate our Year 6 pupils, who have recently completed their end of Key Stage 2 SATs. They approached the week with determination, resilience and maturity, and we are extremely proud of the positive attitude they showed throughout. A huge thank you also goes to our staff and families for their encouragement and support during this important time.

Finally, as we reach the end of another busy and successful half term, I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support. We hope you all enjoy a restful and enjoyable half term break with your families. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 2nd June. Please note that Monday 1st June is an INSET Day and school will be closed to pupils on this day.

God bless,

Mrs Worton-Geer
Executive Headteacher

Catholic Life of the School

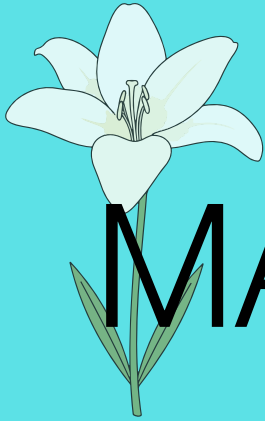
Ascension Mass

The Ascension of the Lord, celebrated on Thursday 14th May 2026, marks the moment when Jesus returned to Heaven, forty days after Easter Sunday. It recalls Jesus ascending to His Father, bringing His mission on earth to completion and taking His place in glory with God the Father. The whole school attended mass in the Church led by Father John and Deacon Paul.



This important feast also leads us towards Pentecost this weekend, when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, strengthening them to continue the work of Jesus on earth. Pentecost marks the birth of the Church and reminds us that the Holy Spirit continues to guide, strengthen, and inspire us today. Through the gifts of the Spirit, we are equipped to live out our faith with confidence, to build community, and to share God's love with others.

Catholic Life of the School



MAY The Month of Mary

Throughout this month, we have been joyfully celebrating Mary, our Mother. We began with a special Marian procession in the beautiful sunshine, bringing our school community together in prayer and reflection. Across the school, every class has spent dedicated time learning about Mary and honouring her through prayer, activities, and collective worship. It has been wonderful to see the children deepen their understanding of Mary's importance in our faith and reflect on her example of love, kindness, and devotion.





David Attenborough's 100th Birthday

We had a fantastic day celebrating Sir David Attenborough's milestone birthday. The children enjoyed meeting incredible creatures, watching clips from his documentaries, taking part in outdoor learning activities, and celebrating with cake. It was a wonderful opportunity to inspire curiosity and a love of the natural world, linking closely to Catholic Social Teaching and our responsibility to care for God's creation.



Spotlight on

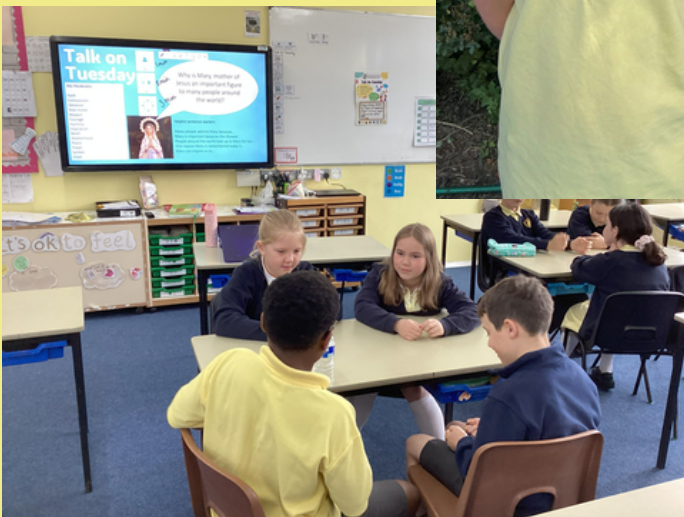
Oracy



Oracy continues to be a key focus across our Trust as part of our participation in the Voice 21 programme. We are committed to developing pupils' confidence, communication skills and ability to express themselves clearly across all areas of school life.

This term, the Trust has introduced two exciting new initiatives: Talk on Tuesday and School Oracy Ambassadors. These initiatives are designed to encourage purposeful talk, active listening and pupil leadership throughout the school community.

Congratulations to Leah and Elliott, who attended their first official meeting this week as our newly appointed Oracy Ambassadors. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented our school and look forward to seeing them lead and promote oracy across the school.





KS1 Infant Agility

Our Year 1 and 2 children had a fantastic time taking part in a range of exciting sporting activities including tennis, rapid fire cricket, javelin and relay races. They showed brilliant teamwork, determination, and enthusiasm throughout the day, and we are so proud of all their efforts and sportsmanship!

Attendance

YEAR R: 94.1%

YEAR 1: 93.1%

YEAR 2: 95.5%

YEAR 3: 95.6%

YEAR 4: 93.7%

YEAR 5: 89.3%

YEAR 6: 94.5%

To put it in perspective:

95% attendance means missing about 1 day every month in a school year.

90% attendance can equal around 4 weeks missed per year.



Safety Alert



NEEDOH / Jelly Cube Viral Trend

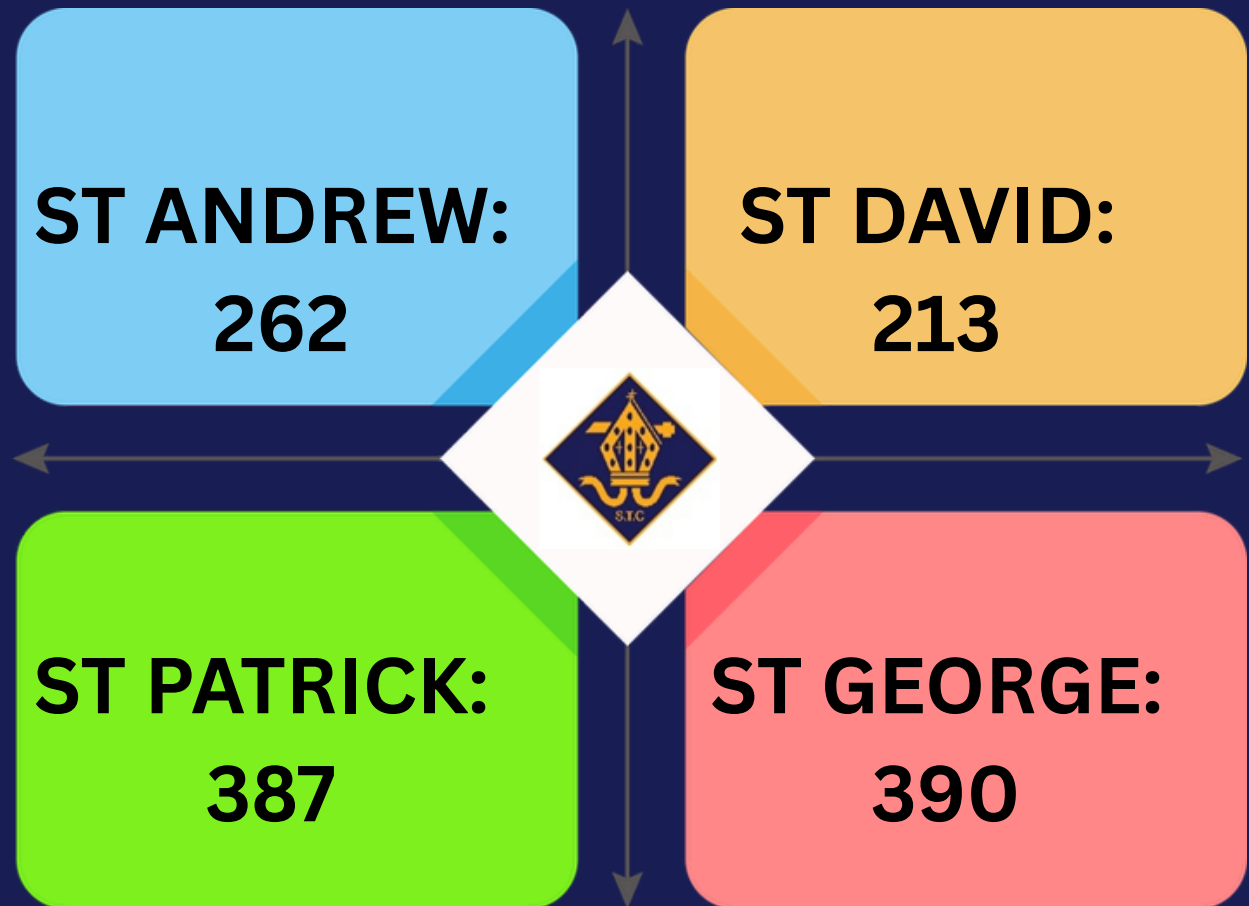
Children and young people are microwaving squishy silicone toys after seeing online videos claiming this makes the toys softer and more pliable. When the toy is squeezed afterwards, it bursts and sprays boiling material, which reportedly has left children's hands and faces seriously burned.

Children have been seriously injured by this trend in the UK and the United States since 2025. Most recently, a 10-year-old girl in Bristol was seriously hurt and left with facial burns on 4th May 2026 after supposedly hearing about the trend from TikTok.

Transition Arrangements

We are finalising our staff deployment for September and then will aim to share this with parents after half term before starting our transition program.

House Points



Notices and Reminders



School closed Monday 1st June - Inset Day

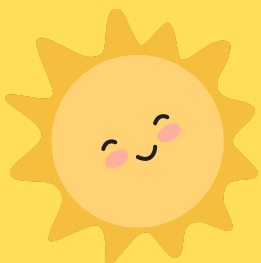
Please remember to book lunches on Select ready for June!

Please ensure any outstanding debt for trips etc is settled. If you are experiencing any financial difficulties, please speak to Mrs Sellers in confidence

A reminder of the Corpus Christi Mass and Holy Communicant celebration Tea Party on Thursday 4th June

Please refer to Mrs Gilbert's letter for our Sports Day arrangements. Sports Day this year will be held on Friday 5th June

Our new Breakfast Club with Superstar Sports starts on Monday 8th June. If you would like to book a place for your child, please do so via [this link](#)



Wishing you a wonderful half term break, filled with plenty of sunshine!