

# **St Thomas' CofE Academy**



## **‘Learning for life with Jesus’**

**Dear Parents,**

**It has been lovely to see all of the children wearing red today to celebrate Red Nose Day. Thank you for your kind donations for a very important cause. The children have been learning more about article 12 – ‘respect for the views of the child’ and article 27 ‘adequate standard of living’. By donating to Comic Relief this Red Nose Day it has enabled them to provide support for someone trying to get by in the face of poverty and injustice - being forced to make truly impossible choices, every single day.**

**As the week draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you and farewell to Mrs Boyle who leaves us today. Mrs Boyle has been a fantastic asset to our school this year and we will miss her greatly. I’m sure you will join with all staff and children as we wish her well with her future endeavors.**

**Have a lovely weekend,**

**Mrs Pierpoint**

**Friday 21st March 2025**





# ‘Learning for life with Jesus’

## Dates for your diary:

Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Y3 Laches Wood – 1 night residential
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	INSET DAY – School closed to children
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	INSET DAY – School closed to children
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April	9am Friday Worship followed by Reception Coffee
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Visit to Parliament – School council and Rights Respecting School ambassadors
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service at St Thomas’ Church
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> and Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> April	PSA Easter Egg Hunt

Please note Sports day will take place on 19th June (Weather permitting)

# SHINE

## workshops

We would warmly like to invite parents and carers into school to learn alongside your child. Following the success of our previous workshops, we would like to launch our spring term SHINE workshops - all of our spring term events will have a Reading focus.

Please come into school for a fun filled and creative afternoon, where you can work alongside your child and learn new skills. This is also an opportunity to look at the methods we use in school to teach Reading.

**All of these sessions will start at 2:00pm and finish at 3:15pm. All sessions will be held in school.**

### Dates:

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January - Year 3  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January - Nursery  
**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Year 4**  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Year 6**  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - Reception  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March - Year 1  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March - Year 2  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April - Year 5

## Inspire sessions at St Thomas' Church.

**2:00pm - 3:00pm at St Thomas' Church**

### Dates:

Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Nursery
& Reception together in school	

**Please note: Time change to a 2pm start.**



We are really delighted to be continuing to work alongside Reverend Baker from St Thomas' church. We want to support children in their spiritual development and continue 'Learning for Life with Jesus.'

Following the great success of our Inspire workshops last year, each class will be spending an afternoon at St Thomas' to deepen their spiritual understanding and engage in fun craft-based activities around scripture lead by Reverend Baker and their class teacher.

We would love parents/ carers/ grandparents to join us for our Inspire workshop. Please come and work alongside us as we follow Jesus' path.



# ‘Learning for life with Jesus’

## Friday worship & coffee morning

Every Friday morning at 9am we have a worship in school led by Reverend Iain or Tom from St Thomas' Church. We warmly invite all parents/grandparents/ carers/ parish members to join us every week.

Each week a different class or school group will also be joining the coffee morning to show you some of their learning and share things they are proud of.

Everyone is welcome to every worship and coffee morning - we hope to see everyone soon.

### Dates: Spring 2

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February - Year 6

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March - Nursery

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March - Year 3

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March - SEND parents/ carers coffee morning

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March - School Closed - INSET day.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Reception

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Year 4



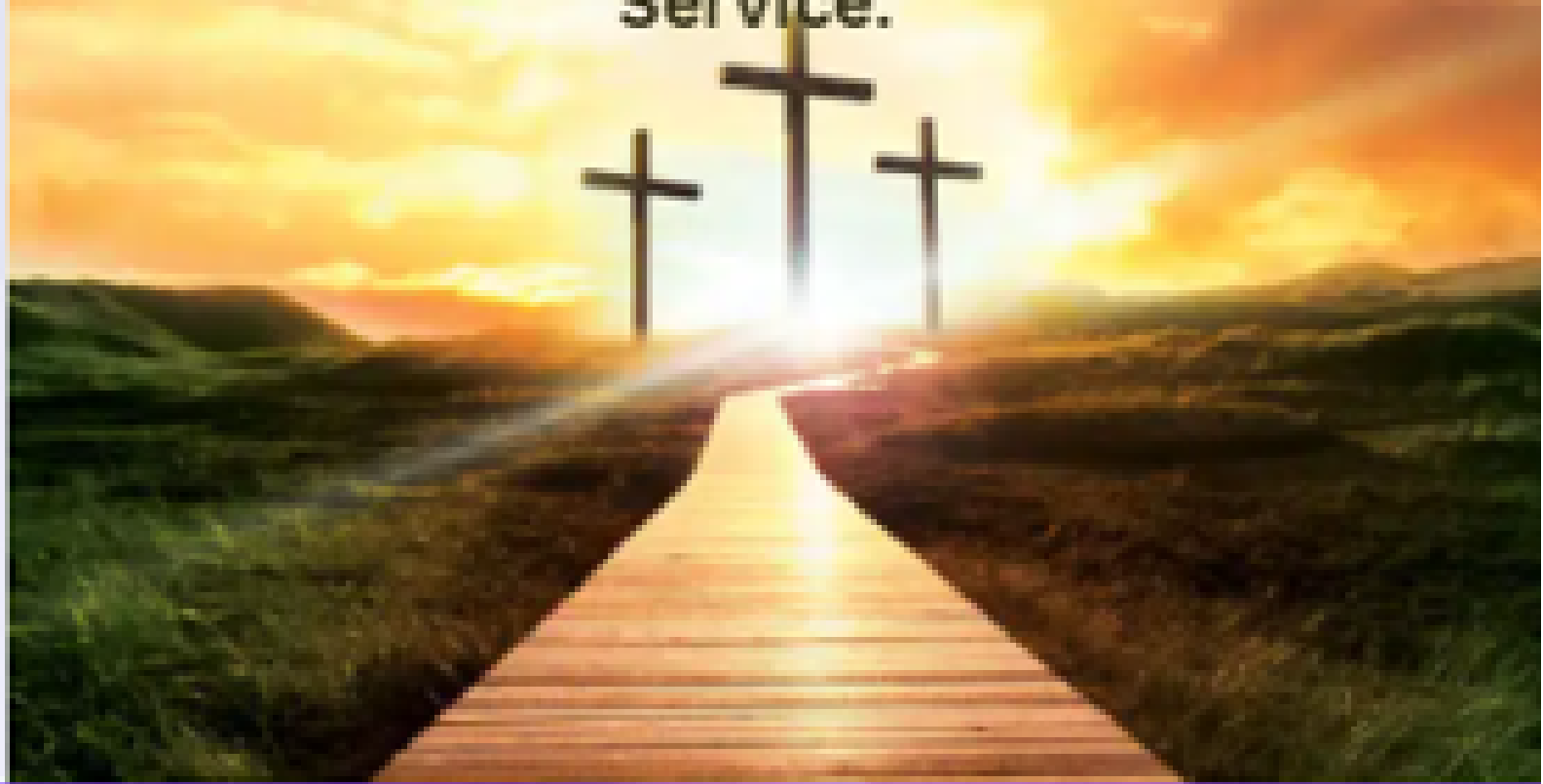
# CELEBRATE EASTER

**When: Tuesday 8th April 2025**

**2pm**

**Where: St Thomas' Church**

**All are welcome to join us for our Easter Service.**



**St. Thomas'**  
C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY  
Learning for life with Jesus

# University sports stars!

**Four Year 5 students were chosen to visit Keele University last week to take part in different sports including boccia, kurling and archery. It was a fantastic day and we're so proud of you all.**



# Music time for Year 3!



Year 3 had a brilliant time at The Victoria Hall to watch a musical concert by Hallé Orchestra.





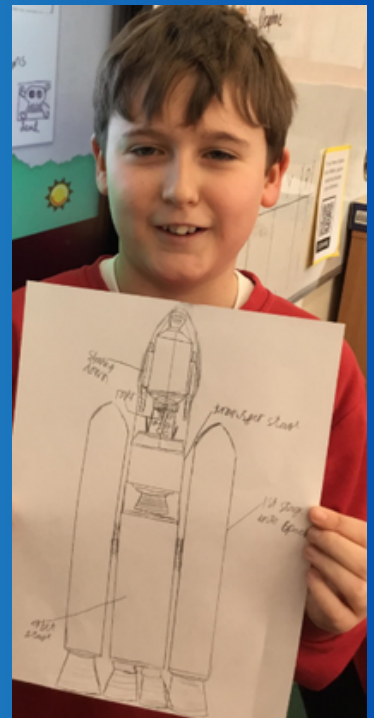
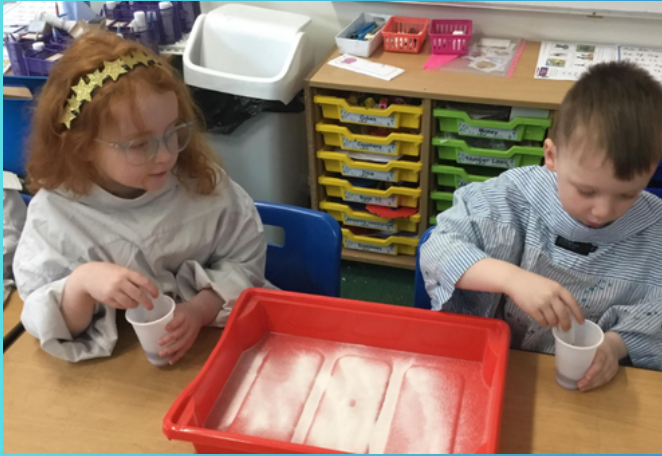
# RED NOSE DAY





# British Science Week!

Look at what we got up to in class to celebrate British Science Week!





# MOTHER'S DAY CREAM TEA

MOTHER'S DAY CREAM TEA  
THURSDAY 27TH MARCH  
2.00PM - 3.00PM

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ONE SPECIAL  
LADY PER FAMILY TO COME AND ENJOY AN  
AFTERNOON TEA IN SCHOOL.

PLEASE BOOK VIA ARBOR BY 20TH MARCH.

THE COST IS JUST £1.50 FOR A HOT DRINK &  
SCONE/BISCUIT.  
PAYABLE VIA PARENTPAY.



# Important reminders:

We have reports of headlice in classes. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat accordingly.

Please also remember that long hair must be tied up at all times.

St Thomas' is a NUT FREE school. We have members of our school community with severe allergies to nuts. Please help to keep them safe and avoid bringing any nuts or food containing nuts to school.





Please remember:

- Children are **not** permitted to wear any make up to school.  
Wipes will be provided to remove it.
- Earrings must not be worn
- Hair must be tied back.

Thank you for your cooperation.



# Important reminders:

Please do not: Park on the zig-zag or double yellow lines around school, block or park across people's driveways, park or drive on pavements, be rude or abusive to local residents, pedestrians and other drivers. Parking on pavements has been causing an obstruction for parents and residents, including an incident where an Ambulance could not get to one of our local residents in an emergency.





# Attendance matters!

## Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



### Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance





# All aboard the walking bus!

We have a new and exciting opportunity approaching! We're hoping to launch a Walking Bus. A Walking Bus is where a group of children are escorted to school by adults, either volunteers or school staff. There is a meeting start point and the option for bus stops along the way where others can join. There are many benefits, here are just a few: helps the environment, healthier and more alert to start the school day, Road Safety & local area awareness. Please complete the survey on Dojo for more information regarding volunteering to support our walking bus!



# Walking Bus



## Parent / Carer Information Introduction

Your school is investigating a Walking Bus to increase the number of children walking to school and reducing vehicles from around the school area.

### What is the Walking Bus?

A Walking Bus is a fun, safe and active way to travel to and from school. Trained and checked adults, either parent/carers volunteers or school staff, lead the group of children from a meeting point to school. Staffordshire County Council Active School Travel Team will be supporting your school with training, guidance and route planning throughout the setting up process.

### Why do we need a Walking Bus?

It is a great way to bring many benefits to the school and you as a parent/carers and to the children walking with the walking bus. There are many benefits, here are just a few.

*Helps the  
environment*

*Healthier and more  
alert to start the  
school day*

*Road Safety & local  
area awareness*

*Social for leaders and  
the children*

*Fun & Friendly*

*Free & saves time*

### What's involved in becoming a volunteer?

Not all Walking Buses use parent/carers volunteers, however if your school is looking for support to lead it, the benefits of helping are below.

Please speak to your school to find out more.

- Volunteers walk on a rota basis that's suits the individual
- Helping once a week can make a huge difference
- Buses do not need to run daily, they can be set up to suit the needs of volunteers
- DBS checks are free and completed by the school staff
- All training and equipment is provided

Start to make the journey to your school an active and healthier journey that is fun for everyone!

Get active, get moving, get involved.

### Next steps



### For more information, please contact your school office.

To find out more from Staffordshire County Council Active School Travel Walking Bus scheme [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/activeschooltravel](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/activeschooltravel) or email [walking.bus@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:walking.bus@staffordshire.gov.uk)



# Article of the fortnight

**Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.**





**This week we heard how St Patrick was captured and taken to Ireland. We thought about how St Patrick must have felt. Later in his life Patrick decided to return to Ireland.**

**There are times in all our lives when we have to show the courage that Patrick showed.**



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