

**St Thomas CE (VC)
Primary
Newsletter
23rd February 2024**

Diary Dates

- **Monday 26th&Tuesday 27th February Reception Screening**
- **Wednesday 6th March -Friday 8th March- Y6 Residential**
- **Thursday 21st March- Year 2 Whitby trip
Friday 22nd-End of Term**



**Headteacher's
Message**



This has been my first official week back in post and it has been a joy to spend time with your children.

Our first celebration assembly for the half term has been based around attendance. Children were recognised for:

- 100% attendance so far this year
- Nealy 100% with the only time missed being for hospital/medical appointments assigned for them
- Improved attendance: children who may have had concerning attendance in the past who have made significant improvement this year.

I understand that illness can affect any family, leading to unavoidable absences for both children and staff. Recognising this, I acknowledge that there is an element of luck when it comes to successful attendance.

However, I am a strong advocate for celebrating various forms of achievement and believe that commitment, and the aspiration to attend school every day deserves recognition and celebration.

**Collective
Worship**

Our collective worship this week has been based around the theme of 'Aspire' and we have introduced the aspiration of having a 'Happy Mind'. Please see the section at the end of the newsletter for more information. We also have a video link if you want to watch for more information:

<https://myhappymind.lpages.co/myhappymind-parent-app-introduction/>

'From Tiny Seeds Grow Mighty Trees'



We have potential cases of Measles and Slapped Cheek Virus in school. If you child is unwell with flushed face or rash please seek medical advice. Both these illnesses are highly contagious and can be high risk for vulnerable children/adults.

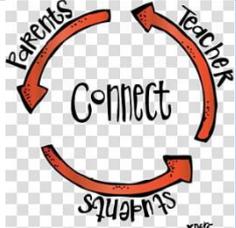
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/slapped-cheek-syndrome/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Reception



This week we have launched our new Dangerous Dinosaur project by beginning to finding out what dinosaurs are and what they ate millions of years ago. We have thoroughly enjoyed making fossils using salt dough and dinosaur dough, becoming palaeontologists by studying dinosaur fossils in the sand and water and creating our very own dinosaur pictures!

<p>Year 1</p>	<p>Year 1 have been making and evaluating taxi's as part of their DT project. We looked at the chassis, axle and wheels and how they all link together.</p>	
<p>Year 2</p>	<p>In Year 2, the children continued their road safety sessions. The session focused on how to cross the road safely and what to look out for. It was lots of fun and the children learn a lot about road safety.</p>	
<p>Year 3</p>	<p>Year 3 have been working on relief printing and transferring images in Art.</p>	
<p>Year 4</p>	<p>This week in year 4 we have been working on our William Morris inspired fabric designs. The children used block print techniques and free hand on fabrics that had been hemmed. When the paint is dry, they will embellish the designs with embroidery, so bringing together all the techniques we have learnt.</p>	
<p>Year 5</p>	<p>Year 5s have got back into the full swing of school life following our half-term break. Here's just a sample of the Artwork they've done – using ink pens and marker pens. Following this their art switches to white pencils, chalks and pastels on black paper – showing contrasts. 😊</p>	
<p>Year 6</p>	<p>Mr Boosey and Miss Williams would like to thank all the children, parents and carers who came to the parents meetings on Thursday. We hope you are all feeling proud of what your children hav achieved and enlightened with the SATs and transition going forward.</p>	
<p>Attendance We continue to monitor attendance and we are identifying persistent absentees. (less than 90%) We are keenly aware that there may be genuine and compelling reasons for pupil absence and the monitoring involves working with families to remove barriers and support pupils in their school attendance.</p>		<p>Attendance Matters</p> 



Dear Parents,

We have introduced a program to all year groups at school called myHappyMind. myHappyMind is all based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves!

myHappyMind is delivered in schools by class teachers through a series of interactive lessons and then the children apply these learnings throughout the day. To further embed this learning and ensure that you are able to engage in these topics with your child, myHappyMind has developed a set of resources for parents. These resources can be accessed online on your computer, or through an app on your phone. The resources allow children to continue to practise some of the habits they have developed at school, such as Happy Breathing, for you to learn more about what they are learning in the program. Also included are activities for you to do together at home, to complement the in-school lessons.

To access these materials just go to <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> and enter your name, email, and authentication code. Your authentication code is **136109**

Or scan this QR code to sign up



We really encourage you to make use of this free content so that you can support your child in getting the best out of the curriculum. If you have any questions about the curriculum, please contact your class teacher.

If you have any technical questions about accessing the resources, please contact hello@myhappymind.org

Want to learn more? Check out myHappyMind founder Laura Earnshaw's best selling book on [Amazon](#).



Many thanks,