



St Thomas
CE(vc)
Primary
School
Newsletter



Autumn 1
Week 2
15.9.23

Diary Dates

- **Wednesday 20th September, Meet the Teacher open evening 4pm-6pm (more information sent by email)**
- **Monday 2nd October- Training Day- school closed to pupils**
- **Tuesday 3rd October-Tuesday 10th October- Scholastic Book Fair in school.**
- **Wednesday 18th October- Flu Vaccinations**
- **Thursday 26th October- Individual and sibling photographs**
- **Friday 27th October- End of half-term**

Deputy Head Message



Another busy and productive week at school. The first full week for our new Reception cohort, and with some wonderful help from our Year 6 pupils, this has meant they are learning the routines and important places around school.



We have also had a fun visit from Brighthouse Music Hub, who introduced the children to some different instruments, as well as giving us all the chance for a sing and dance. Thanks for organising it Mr Steels!

This week also saw us start a new partnership with the Huddersfield Town Foundation who are sending in staff to work with us in our PE lessons, they will also be around at lunchtimes and run some after-school clubs.

A personal thank you from me for responding to the email I sent about parking and driving around the school during pick-up and drop-off. The past few days has looked much safer, this must however, continue. The safety of all our families and pupils is paramount.

Have an enjoyable weekend,
Mrs Goddard ☺

#teamthomas

Collective Worship



In Collective Worship this week we have been continuing to explore our value of 'Belong'. We have listened to the parable of the lost sheep and linked this to our own lives. We thought about each of us being part of a huge St Thomas jigsaw puzzle and if one piece of the puzzle can't be found or is missing, our jigsaw just isn't complete. So as a school, we will do everything to get that piece of the puzzle back to make us complete. When all the pieces of our puzzle fit in together, we celebrate and rejoice. Each class made their own class jigsaw to show this.




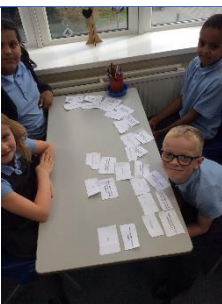



'From Tiny Seeds Grow Mighty Trees'



Reception



The children went on a walk around school looking at different rooms and meeting lots of important people. They also had to search for our school mascot Tommy the Tiger.

Year 1	In Year 1 we have been counting out an amount and then representing the number using objects and pictures.	
Year 2	In Maths, Year 2 have been using straws to partition numbers into tens and ones. We used resources to help us understand this more.	
Year 3	Year 3 have explored the use of contrasting colours in the work of different artists this week.	
Year 4	We have been learning about Britain between AD 410 and 1066. We learnt that Britain came under attack from four groups of invaders, we have documented these invasions chronologically. We have been very busy Historians!	
Year 5	Y5s showing how we are all one, whatever our background we fit together like a jigsaw.	
Year 6	As part of our topic Maafa, we had a Africa Day where we had a go at African drumming, tried African food and learnt about African culture- a great time was had by all.	
Roots and Shoots Trip	Some children took a walk around Beamont Park with Mr Bradley, Mrs Horner and Miss Oldfield. It was a sunny day and they all had a great time. Over next few weeks, more children from other year groups will be invited to join these walks. Thank you for organising it Mr Bradley.	

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.

Attendance Matters





ST THOMAS
CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Reading at home..

Can make a huge difference!



Reading is a skill we continue to develop throughout our lives, but starting this process as early as possible has significant benefits for our continued success as readers. This is why, as parents and carers, you play a vital role in supporting your child in becoming a fluent reader who is confidently able to apply their reading skills across all areas of their lives.

The teaching of reading and reading comprehension within the classroom is only part of a child's learning, and the value that is given to reading at home is equally important. Research suggests that children who read regularly outside of school perform significantly better in school assessments and so your support at home is essential in ensuring that your child makes the progress they are capable of.



You can help your child to achieve their full potential by listening to them read daily (for about 15 minutes), reading regular bedtime stories and by encouraging them to enjoy reading and sharing books together. Reading regularly will help develop your child's vocabulary, which in turn will make them more confident and fluent readers.