



**St Thomas  
CE(vc)  
Primary  
School  
Newsletter**



**Autumn 1  
Week 5  
6.10.23**

## Diary Dates

- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October- Harvest Festival**
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October- Flu Vaccinations**
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October-Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October- Scholastic Book Fair in school.**
- **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Belong School Theme Day- more information soon.**
- **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October- Individual and sibling photographs**
- **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October- End of half-term**

## Acting Head Message



I hope you all managed to read the email sent yesterday informing you that I will be taking on the Acting Head role in Mrs Meade's absence. I would like to tell you how proud and privileged I feel in being trusted to do this job. The St Thomas team- the staff, the children and you, our families, make this school such a special place to be; and in my 17 years here, I have seen the school grow and develop into the wonderful place it is today.

Each and every day I walk in and feel a sense of pride, hearing the children in their work and play, and watching the staff care and steer them in their school journey. A huge thank you comes to you, our families, whose support and guidance are the driving force behind these wonderful children. During my time as Acting Head, I want to work closely with you and listen to your views, so I will be sending out a Parents and Family Questionnaire in the near future to listen to what you think we are doing well and what we need to get better at. Hopefully this will help us find effective ways to work together to drive and develop school, and continue to improve our school offer.

Have an enjoyable and safe weekend,  
Mrs Goddard ☺

#teamthomas

## Collective Worship



In our Collective Worships this week, we talked about compassion and how being compassionate is as key value seen in all World Religions. But also, if you have no religion, how it is often a family value. We reflected on how we can show compassion to one another and how compassion is like a chain that can pass from one person to the next. This short video sums it up perfectly.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgGEi1OXM\\_Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgGEi1OXM_Y)

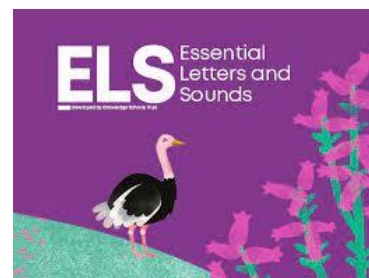
**'From Tiny Seeds Grow Mighty Trees'**

## Reception



**This week in maths we have been learning that some objects are the same and some are different.**

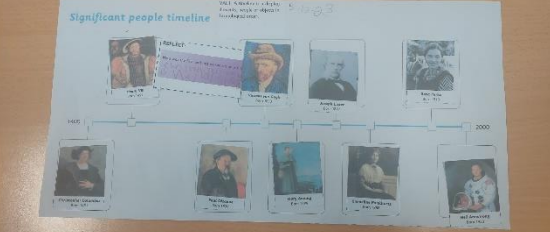


**Thank you to all the parents and families who attended the ELS phonics workshop. If you need any more information on how to support your child, please ask in school.**



## Year 1

**In Geography this week Year 1 have been looking at position and direction. We used directional language to guide our friends. Back in class we directed the beebot on a treasure map.**



<p><b>Year 2</b></p>	<p>This week year 2 have been looking at significant people in history. The children learnt the words activist, explorer, monarch, artist and scientist and matched these words to the people they have learnt about. In pairs, the children ordered the significant people in chronological order.</p>	
<p><b>Year 3</b></p>	<p>In Geography this week, Year 3 used four-figure grid references to describe the location of places on a map.</p>	
<p><b>Year 4</b></p>	<p>Teamwork in year 4- Creating a poster with all the information they had researched about the importance of monasteries in Anglo-Saxon times.</p>	
<p><b>Year 5</b></p>	<p>In Year 5 this week we have been learning about the holy pligramage to Hajj. We learnt that as once of the 5 pillars of Islam, Muslims make the trip to Mecca at least once in their lifetime.</p>	
<p><b>Year 6</b></p>	<p>As part of our current geography unit, year 6 have been exploring maps and grid reference. Here you can see some of our year sixes recording six figure grid references for specific map locations.</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.

Attendance Matters



**Parent/ Carers/Grandparents,**

## **WE NEED YOU!**

**Due to the current climate and rising costs in schools, we have struggled to provide our children with the additional experiences we would hope to e.g. trips, visitors.**



**We would really appreciate your help at raising funds for our school and help create our very own FOST (Friends of St Thomas). A group of people who are happy to give up a little bit of their time to help our children.**

**If you want to find out more why not join us Wednesday 18th October at 8:55am for a chat over coffee and biscuits.**

**Mrs Appleton and Mrs Washington.**