

**St Thomas CE (VC)
Primary School
Newsletter
26th April 2024**

Diary Dates:

- **Wednesday 1st May: Parents Evening R-Y5**
- **Thursday 2nd May: Y3 Roman Day**
- **Friday 3rd May: FOST Bun Sale 2:30pm**
- **Monday 6th May: Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED**
- **Year 6 SATS: Mon 13th- Fri 17th May**
- **May Half Term: Mon 27th -Fri 31st May**



Headteacher's Message



Fridays are special at St Thomas, beginning with our celebration assembly and ending with our Friday Bangers playing on the yard! It's the end of a very busy week where the children have been working exceptionally hard! They deserve their weekends! I hope we get some sunshine and you are able to enjoy some time together.

Collective Worship

This week we continued our theme of love and looked at the concept of 'pay it forward' and the contagious nature of kindness.



FOST

Our next bun sale is on Friday 3rd May from 2-30pm in the front playgrounds. Bun donations on the day would be very much appreciated. Please support us to raise funds for the school.

We will also be holding a sponsored Wacky Olympics event in school during the week of 20th May. Sponsorship forms with information will be distributed shortly. Children who collect sponsors will receive a certificate, medal and a prize when money is collected.

Reception

This week the children have been exploring how plants grow and what plants need to grow. We have been designing our very own Reception flower garden and then getting outdoors to plant different seeds! We have also enjoyed looking at various famous artists paintings of flower gardens and creating our own version using water paints.



Year 1



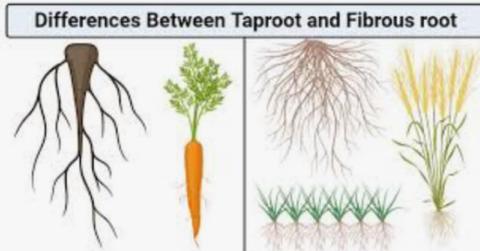
As part of our English lessons, we made a fruit salad, tasted it and then wrote instructions about how to make it.

Year 2

Last Friday, Year 2 had a visit from our local PCSOs Abby and Morgan. They told us all about their role in the police. The children got to ask lots of questions and dress up as a police officer. As a follow up this week, we have written thank you letters.



Year 3



Year 3's Science this half term is 'Plant Nutrition and Reproduction'. So far we have covered the 4 main parts of a flowering plant and the function of roots. This week we went into the school garden to look at the two types of roots 'Taproot and Fibrous'. By the end of the lesson, virtually all the pupils were

able to talk clearly about the structure of each type of root and about the function of the different parts e.g. to anchor the plant and to take up water and nutrients. Next week we will be looking at stems and their function within a flowering plant, this will be a hands-on lesson, cutting up stems and using food colouring within water to watch the process of water being taken up through the stem to the leaves.

Year 4



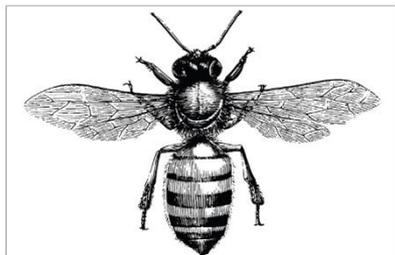
In Year 4 Science, we are learning about electrical circuits and conductors. This week we looked at a carousel of simple series circuits and tried to determine what each component did. We now know that electric current needs a complete circuit to flow around. In the next few weeks, we will create our own circuits and mend broken circuits.

Year 5

Our classes have continued their Expressionist Art lessons by colour matching the moods of some famous portraits – creating a colour palette to show different tints, tones and shades which the artists have used in order to display complimentary and contrasting colours to bring out the moods.



Year 6



In Year 6 Art, we are learning about contemporary artists. Specifically, we have been looking at Lucy Arnold and how she uses nature for inspiration. This week we looked at how an artist can use lines, tones and shapes to make realistic pictures.

Attendance

We continue to monitor attendance and identify 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

