



St Thomas' CE Primary Academy
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Headteacher: Miss J Sharples

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I write our last newsletter for 2025 and reflect upon the last two terms, I am delighted to share and celebrate with you all the amazing experiences and achievements that our school community have been a part of.

Our ambitious curriculum has provided plentiful wonderful opportunities for our children to think deeply and embed their learning and develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through visitors and experiences both in and out of school. Reception had a fantastic trip to Westgate Woods; Year 1 enjoyed learning basic First Aid; Year 2 led our Harvest worship for the community at St Thomas' Church; Year 3 visited Flag Fen near Peterborough, famous for its ancient Bronze Age archaeology. They have both led Collective Worship services, Years 3 and 5 led the Christingle and Carol services for Key Stage Two; Year 4 spent the day at Lincoln Castle as 'archaeologists' learning all about Anglo-Saxons from a range of artefacts.

Year 5 have visited the National Space Centre and had an outer space experience in the planetarium, which came to our very own school hall, enabling Years 1 and 3 to have a taster session too!

Year 6 have made phenomenal progress in their weekly swimming lessons with many achieving 25 metres or more; undertaken a successful 2 night residential to PGL, worked with Lincoln University to create 3D lanterns to use in a live procession with the community set to music and dance and led a very poignant and moving Service of Remembrance, with song, verse and prayer delivered beautifully. They also have led their own class Collective Worship. Across the school all year groups have had the opportunity to apply for Leadership roles and undertook interviews. Resulting in over 130 roles being awarded! What an amazing achievement!

We have had the pleasure of welcoming into school or online visitors who have led workshops on positive relationships and had two successful safety focus weeks; road safety and anti-bullying as we develop our pupil's understanding of our driver 'Safe and Secure' further.

The Autumn Term has seen the school focus on one of our key drivers, 'Safe and Secure'.

We take the education of teaching children to keep safe very seriously, which is reflected in the educational teaching and experiences below:

*We have taken part in a national, anti-bullying week so that all children know the definition of bullying and how we at St Thomas' tackle any bullying concerns.

*Road safety week provided opportunity to discuss and embed important safety rules

*Are on our way to being awarded our National Online Safety Accreditation for this academic year.

*Had visits and workshops from professionals such as the Police, Fire Service, Women's Aid and Stay Safe Partnership

*Year 1 have participated in Mini-First Aid training.

Swimming

Year 5 will begin their Swimming sessions from Wednesday 7th January 2026.

I would like to take a moment for us to reflect on our school vision of, '*Encouraging each other, overflowing with hope.*' At this time of the year, we can take the inspiration we find in the Christmas story and help people find *hope* wherever they are, *hope* is of course to look forward to a better future and trust that it will occur.

All that remains for me to say on behalf of all the children and staff is to have a safe, healthy and peaceful Christmas.

We look forward to seeing you all on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**

Yours faithfully,

J Sharples



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Encouraging each other, overflowing with hope.



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Reading with parents

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Planetarium Visit



Welcoming parents and carers into our school community to share in our enjoyment of learning.

Igniting curiosity, developing awe and wonder in the natural world around us as we consider our place in creation.

Workshops



Listening to each other and working out how we feel at different times. Understanding who our trusted adults are and administering first aid.



Remembrance



Values in action, as we show compassion for others that need our help, to make the world a better place.



Church Services



Experiences that develop our understanding of celebration within the Christian faith, leading worship and praise together as part of the whole school community.

Road Safety Week



Opportunities for us to learn from experts as we develop our knowledge and understanding of keeping ourselves and others safe.

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