



St Thomas' CE Primary Academy
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Headteacher: Miss J Sharples

Tuesday 17th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I write our last newsletter for 2024 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 about basic First Aid; Year 2 led our Harvest worship for the community at St Thomas' Church and went on a theatre visit to see Room on the Broom live; Year 3 visited Flag Fen near Peterborough, famous for its ancient Bronze Age archaeology. Years 3 and 5 led the Christingle and Carol services for Key Stage Two; Year 4 spent the day at Lincoln Museum 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! Two visits to the theatre for Year 5 have enabled them to hear more from the authors Katherine Rundell and Frank Cottrell-Boyce the current UK Children's Laureate.

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. Across the school all year groups have had the opportunity to apply for Leadership roles and undertook interviews. Resulting in over 140 roles being awarded! What an amazing achievement!

We have had the pleasure of welcoming into school visitors who have led workshops on positive relationships, knife crime and road safety too 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

*Been awarded our National Online Safety Accreditation for 2024-2025.

*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 8th January 2025.

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 **Monday 6th January 2025**.

Yours faithfully,

J Sharples



Infinity Academies Trust

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Encouraging each other, overflowing with hope.



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England





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St Thomas' CE Primary Highlights

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



Visiting our partner school in Poland, we began to develop relationships in the wider global community.

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



Creating friendships within the school community, based on shared interests at after-school clubs. We value the contributions, thoughts and ideas of each other to share and develop knowledge, skills and interests.



Planetarium Visit

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

Children in Need

Leadership roles



Encouraging one another to be the best we can be and recognise our talents and interests to lead within the school community.



Experiences/Trips to embed knowledge

Building knowledge across the curriculum through enrichment activities, which allow us to seek wisdom.



Encouraging each other; overflowing with hope

Working with the local community as experts, to question the past and learn about developments for the future.

Boston Archaeology Dig



Creating positive partnerships with pupils and families to encourage fantastic attendance.



Attendance Awards

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



Christingle Making



Road Safety Week

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



Visit to the Theatre

Building resilience to embrace challenge, when trying new things and facing our fears!

KS1 Animal Visit

Encouraging each other, overflowing with hope.

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