



St. Thomas' NEWS

C.E. (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning for life with Jesus

Issue 64

10 November 2017

Go Kidsgrove

Go Kidsgrove are inviting families to join them for a **Christmas Light Procession** which will take place on Saturday 25th November, leaving St Thomas' Church at 4pm, to arrive at the Town Hall for the Christmas light switch on at 4.30pm.

If you would like to take part and help light up Kidsgrove with Christmas spirit, then please assemble at the church between 3.30 and 3.45pm, armed with suitable 'light decorations' - lanterns, torches, fairy lights etc .

Holidays in Term Time



Earlier this term we emailed out to you the revised guidance issued by the Staffs County Council on penalty notices for unauthorised absences. As a follow up to this, the Education Welfare Officer will be joining us in school at 2.30pm on Tuesday 5th December to give a short presentation to parents and answer any questions you may have. Please do join us if you would like to find out more about the implications of taking a holiday during term time.



Just a reminder to our KS2 parents who have a child taking part in the Young Voices concert —the deadline for ordering your audience tickets and the choir member t-shirts is fast approaching. The tickets, at £19.50 each and t-shirts at £12, are only available to purchase on ParentPay until Monday 20th November.

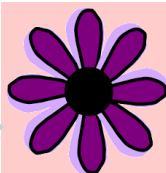


Remembrance Sunday



You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday for this special commemorative service in the memorial garden opposite St Thomas' Church for a 10:55am start and then afterwards in the church building. This year the school wreath will be carried by school councillors from Y6 but any children wishing to join the official procession as members of St Thomas' school are welcome to do so if wearing school uniform and accompanied by parents. We meet at the Town Hall at 10:20am.

I hope the St Thomas community can show a good turn out for all or part of this important occasion where we take a little time to remember those who are currently in active service and those who have given their lives in the past and to whom we all owe a great debt of gratitude.



Well done to all involved in the Gardening Club as we have once again achieved a Gold award in both the Heart of England in Bloom and Newcastle in Bloom competitions which is just wonderful and is worthy recognition of the care and dedication that goes into looking after our school grounds. Well done to Mrs Birchall and her team.



BBC Children in Need

On Friday 17th November we are having a themed dress up day to raise money for **Children in Need**. The theme we've chosen

this year is '**Children's TV Characters**'. Hopefully, with the numerous character options to choose from, the children should be able to get involved wearing clothes they already have at home, without the need for spending money on costumes but of course, they are welcome to wear them if you have them! For health and safety reasons, please ensure the children have warm clothes and sensible shoes to be able to go outside and play in!!

£1 donation for Children in Need on the day please.

Also, can we remind you that on this day, our usual Friday morning **Family Worship** will be at the later time of **2.30pm**. We hope you will be able to come and join us.

Stars of the Week

3 October


Toby Kemp
Meredith Hulme -Spence
Peter Mountford
Megan Poynton
Lucy Austin
Jessica Collins
Lily Blandford
Oscar West
Jamie Willatt

17 October

Phoebe Lear
Gracie-Lily Rawlins
Lilly-May Tudor
Kai Palin
Oliver Lear
Elizabeth Brown
Amelia Phillips
Annaleigh Beckensall
Dale Proudlove
Ava Mountford

7 November

Archie Gratton
Isaac Jennings
Lilly-May Tudor
Theo Sestic
Oliver Howden
Cyrus Summers
Zara Venables
Leah McKenzie
Tia Bailey
Phoebe Booth
Robert Hall
Thomas Morrey
Anna Zaidi
Wafa Shah

A huge thank you to the  school community for your generous donations towards our Harvest appeal. The tables in the hall were awash with items of food which have gone to support the tremendous work of our local Foodbank. Over the years many families have been helped by accessing their provision and we are proud at St Thomas' of being able to play our part. Thanks again.

Christmas Visits

You may have noticed from our year planner that theatre /Christmas visits have once again been booked for all our pupils.

Reception class are off to the Snowdome in Tamworth on Wednesday 13th December, where they will get a chance to play on the real snow and watch a 'Santa show'. Warm clothes will be a must and a packed lunch will be provided by school—more details will be sent home nearer the time.

KS1 (Yrs 1 & 2) will be going to watch the matinee performance of 'Snow White', at the Crewe Lyceum, on Monday 18th December. It will be a late arrival back to school—we'll let you know an approximate time nearer the date.

And for **KS2 (Yrs 3—6)**, tickets have been booked at the New Vic on Friday 19th January for the morning performance of 'Treasure Island'.

The PSA are generously paying for the coach travel for these visits but it is necessary to ask for a parental contribution towards the cost of the ticket:

Reception £10.95, KS1 £11.50 and KS2 £11. Your prompt contribution via ParentPay would be greatly appreciated as we have to pay for the tickets in advance. If you need a PayPoint barcode to pay in cash, please contact the school office or write a note in your child's planner. Thank you.

Christmas Fair

Friday 1st December 6-8pm

◆ On **Friday 24th November** the children will be able to wear their own clothes to school if they bring in an item for either the chocolate or bottle tombola. This has been really successful in the past as there is a huge list of items to choose from — a Twix bar to a box of Roses, a bottle of cheap Aldi shampoo to the finest wine . Many thanks in advance.

◆ Don't forget too that entries for the 'decorated bag' competition should be in school for judging by Wednesday 29th November. 2 Stamps for each bag returned!

◆ Donations of unwanted toys, books, games or other items of bric a brac can be brought into school week commencing 27th November.

◆ Entries for the Christmas themed cake decoration competition should be in school by lunchtime on Friday 1st December.

Year 5 Worship

Friday 24th November

Join us at
9am if you
can!



Parent Governor

After advertising the vacancy for a parent governor at the start of the term, we had just one applicant, **Mr Adam Pye**, (daughter in Yr 4), who I am pleased to advise, has therefore been successful in being re-elected to the post to serve for a further four years. Thank you Mr Pye!