



St. Thomas' NEWS

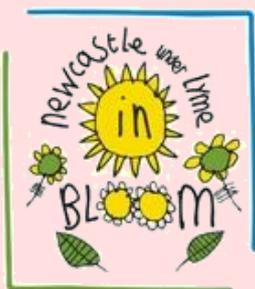
C.E. (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning for life with Jesus

Issue 61

11 May 2017

I hope you all had a great Easter and were able to spend some time with family and friends over this special period. Of course, with the Easter break being later this year, even the May Bank Holiday is now behind us and the half term holiday is fast approaching! So, can I say a belated, **Welcome Back** to the Summer term which I'm sure is going to be packed full of events to keep us on our toes. It is usually a really enjoyable time and seems to pass in the blink of an eye!



How fantastic it is to be able to share with you our successes in the Newcastle in Bloom 2017 painting competition. Under the expert guidance of Mrs Lynn our children had the chance to produce a variety of work in differing media on a theme of 'Bloomin' Wildlife' and their results really paid off. The standard of artwork was exceptional and I believe there were over 1100 entries to be judged from which makes our achievements even more special. So it's a big 'Well Done' to:

Ella Clark Y6, **Ruth Baker** Y4, **Tyler Whitehurst** Y6, and **Jack Bentley** Y6 – all who received a 'Highly Commended' result from the judges for their superb pieces.

And an extra special mention for **Sophie Ikin** in Reception class, whose work was so outstanding that it placed her into 2nd position overall for children up to age 7. What a result!!

We are so proud of everyone who participated, developed new skills and showed their talents. Big Thanks too, to Mrs Lynn.



'Well Done' to our amazing group of Year 6 children who have worked so hard in the, build up to, and during, this week of SATs tests. Whatever the results, we are so proud of their efforts and determination and we know that they have all given of their best.

Christmas Stamp DESIGN COMPETITION 2017



Whilst thoughts of Christmas 2017 are a million miles away for most of us, Royal Mail have been busy

planning their Christmas stamps and this year launched a children's competition to find the designs.

We are delighted to announce that out of the 205,000 entries judged, **Ella Mason** in Y3, has been selected as one of the 120 area finalists, from which a VIP judging panel will now choose two overall winners.

This is a massive achievement for Ella, who has, in getting this far, already won £100 worth of vouchers for herself and £100 for the school.

So, many congratulations Ella and we'll watch this space—hopefully we will all be sticking your stamps on our cards this Christmas!



Year 3 & 4 Football

An outstanding performance from years 3 and 4 saw their legendary footballing skills pay off as they reached the semi-finals and final of the inter school's tournament at Kidsgrove Athletic last week.

The team played really well, scored some amazing goals and were unlucky not to win the whole thing. It was an excellent afternoon, managed by Mr Nixon and supported by many others – thank you to all!



Please note the following change to our published 2017/18 term dates:

The new academic year will now start on **Wednesday 6 September 2017.**

This will align our start date with The King's CE(A) school and also provide the opportunity for staff to share in some valuable teacher development training they have planned. Friday 29th September, previously designated as a training day, will now be a normal school day.



Sports Day

I hope you have Tuesday **23rd May** circled on the calendar as the day the sun is going to shine all day!

Well, we can but dream as that is the date set for our Sports Day. We aim to start around 9:30am but parents are welcome to wait

on the field as soon as the children have gone into school. **SORRY BUT WE CANNOT OFFER PARKING FACILITIES SO PLEASE ENSURE YOU PARK AWAY FROM SCHOOL AND WALK IN AS A COURTESY TO OUR RESIDENTS.**

As ever, all the children are encouraged to do their best, with a balance of fun and traditional competitive events and both are equally important. On the day, the children are allowed to come to school in their 'Sports Day kit' of shorts and t-shirts in their team colours (Kinnersley : Red, Brindley : Blue, Mitchell : Green, Wade : Yellow) and trainers.

If, as often happens, rain stops play, we will keep a close eye on the weather forecast for an alternative date and give you as much notice as possible. It's not as simple as just the next sunny day as there are very many events booked in school which would mean some classes missing Sports Day altogether which we would wish to avoid if possible.

To give you an idea of the timing of the races, we will try and publish the running order towards the end of next week. This will be posted on the notice board outside the school office.

Stars of the Week

02 May

- Lexi Cook
- Ava Dickinson
- Caitlin Bell
- Oliver Curwen
- Isla Norcup
- Esmee Wilshaw
- Jessica Collins
- James Crompton
- Emily Dolman
- Rhys Parfitt
- Saher Shah



Thursday 25th May

We will be holding our usual school discos:

R & KS1:

6 - 7pm

KS2:

7:15 - 8:15pm

80p on the door plus extra for the tuck shop.



Infant Free School Meals

Thursday 18th May is one of the days when the government takes a snap shot of the number of meals taken under the 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' scheme to calculate the school's funding. With school budgets getting ever tighter, it's therefore vitally important to the school that as many children as possible in Reception to Year 2 take up the free meal on this Thursday.

I do hope you can support us in this and continue to encourage your child to take up their entitlement of a free lunch every day!



Cake Sale

The PSA have organised one of their ever popular cake sales for **Friday 26th May** to raise money to support the school. So could we please ask for donations of home-baked or shop bought goodies to come into school on the day (or the day before if necessary) so that we can sell them at break time? Cakes are sold for 20p – 50p depending on size!! Please note: **No Money – No Cake!** There will be no breaktime snack service operating on this day.



We would like to say a huge

Thank You

to Mr Moylon, grandad of Elise Richards in Y4, for organising the raffle of an enormous Easter Egg at his pub, The Red Bull, to raise additional funds for school. Mr Moylon raised a massive **£100**, for which we are very grateful.

As a step towards achieving the Modeshift Stars Gold award, the Eco-committee would like to encourage everybody to take part in the 'Walk to School' initiative, next week, by either walking all the way to (or from) school or parking outside the 10 minute walk zone (leaflet coming home today) and walking the remainder of the journey. Each class will keep a tally of the numbers of walkers each day and the class with the highest percentage at the end of the week will be rewarded with an extra playtime!



15—19 May

Summer Fair - Friday 16th June 6-8pm

Half Term Holidays

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June

Year 5 Worship

Friday 19th May

Join us at 9am if you can!!

