

Weekly Newsletter - 16/2/24

Our children of St. Thomas of Canterbury are spiritual.

Dear Parents,

It has been a very busy half-term in school. We have had a TT Rockstars/ Numbots day, a Internet Safety Day, Children's Mental Health Week and the beginning of Lent.

Deacon Matus celebrated Ash Wednesday with us in school this week, where children received the ashes of the palm leaves from last year.

As we are now in the year of prayer, we have been focussing a lot on using our new prayer areas in school when we gather for Collective Worship. All children have received prayer cards this week to use at home. The children will also have a chance to receive a 'Easter Mystery' bag so that they have the opportunity to reflect on Lent and pray with their families at home

We hope you have a happy and safe half term break.

Best wishes,



Junior and Ezra-Mae
(Head Boy and Head Girl)



Children's Mental Health Week

This week, children celebrated Children's Mental Health Week.

This year's theme is 'My Voice Matters' and children looked at how they can use their voices collectively and collaboratively for good and for those who are less fortunate. Children thought about people that were special to them, moments they are proud of, how they can celebrate their achievements and express themselves and how they can thank those that make them feel like they matter.



'Easter Mystery' Bags

To help prepare for Easter all children are invited to join a project called the 'Easter Mystery'.

Each year group has a special bag containing a variety of resources to support prayer and reflection, including a book of the Easter Story.

Every day, a different child will take the bag home and share the book with their family. By doing this, it is a time to stop and think about the true meaning of Easter.

Families are invited to write a prayer card which will be included in a school prayer book.



Important Dates

19.2.24 - 23.2.24	Half Term
26.2.24	Back at School
6.3.24	Yr 5 Mass Church
6.3.24 2:45pm	Yr 1G Liturgy Parents Welcome
07.3.24	World Book Day
08.3.24 2:45pm	Yr 6H Liturgy Parents Welcome



World Book Day

On Thursday 07th March we will be celebrating World Book Day. We have lots of lovely activities planned for the children.

Author visits

For Reception, Year 1, 2 & 3 the children will have the opportunity to get a book signed by the author and illustrator of 'Ella Plays Football'. Please use the Arbor link that was sent home yesterday if you would like to purchase this book. Authors will be visiting classes.

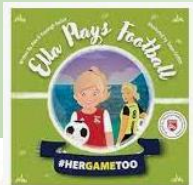
For KS2 Thomas Leeds will be visiting us again and you can pre-order his book which is due to be released on March 28th. The children will be the first to receive a signed book sent to the school, near the release date. More details to follow.

Reading Ambassadors

When the children return after half term they will have the opportunity to present in front of their peers, why they should be selected as a Reading Ambassador for their class.

Competition

We will be holding a decorated wooden spoon competition in the theme of a book. Children will be invited to dress as a character from a book.



FOST Winners! Valentines raffle winners



Next FOST (PTA) meeting is Friday 1st March

Everyone is welcome! Please come along and hear what fundraising we have planned and how you can support your school.

When we return after half term we will be bringing back the Mother's Day sale on Friday 8th March. Sadly, we have not had enough volunteers to sell raffle tickets after school for this event. So, we have decided for £2 the children will take home a gift for mum/nan/someone special and have the chance to win an extra special surprise!

If you are able to support us with our planned Easter raffle sales, please see Mrs Foley (Yr 2) under the canopy after school.



Reading Ambassadors-preparation for WBD

The role of reading ambassadors is to engage, encourage and support the creation of a positive reading ethos across the school.

Half term homework is to apply to be a reading ambassador

During your reading slots in week commencing 26-02-24 you will be given time to present why you wish to be selected as a reading ambassador for the school. You can make a poster, write a few paragraphs, make a presentation or just get up and tell the class;

1. Why you should be chosen.
2. How you think we could encourage children in school to read more

Class teacher will select one person per class after these presentations

Criteria for being selected;

You should demonstrate a joy for reading by reading regularly

You must be an avid reader as you will need to recommend books to others

New Reading Ambassadors will be announced on World Book Day





Homework before 7th March...

For WBD you will be asked to decorate a wooden spoon in the theme of any book. Maybe you'd like to begin thinking about your ideas or even start making it over half term. Here are some ideas:

