



## Newsletter 21/11/25

Dear Parents,  
I am delighted to share some wonderful news! We recently had entries into the **Unison's Stars In Our School Competition**, and I'm thrilled to announce that a member of our support staff has been selected as the winner for the Thurrock area. This is a remarkable achievement that we are incredibly proud. To celebrate this success, the Mayor, Councillor Sue Shinnick, will be attending an assembly on Friday 28th November. We are all excited to see who has been selected and to recognise their outstanding contribution. As a result, there will be a slight change to when children can wear their own clothes to school, this will now be on **Thursday 27th November**.

**Mrs Poulteney**  
Headteacher

**NEW DATE: Thursday 27th November.** Children are invited to wear their own clothes to school, and in return, we kindly ask for a donation of a covered jar of sweets.  The jars of sweets will be sold at the **Parish Bazaar on Sunday, 30th November.**

### Foodbank

As you may know, St Thomas' took part in collecting for The Thurrock Foodbank. In total, our donations weighed in at an amazing weight of 54.8kgs.

Thank you to everyone who offered so generously.

**Mrs Hayes**

**Congratulations**  
You are now a  
**Silver Donator to**



Awarded to  
St Thomas of Canterbury RC  
Primary School

17th November  
2025



# Diary Dates

26.11.25 - 27.11.25	Year 4 Bikeability Level 1
27.11.25	Non-uniform day, Jars for Parish Bazaar
03.12.25	Flu Vaccination Team - third session
04.12.25	Year 5&6 Carol Service for Year 5 parents/carers
05.12.25	Year 5&6 Carol Service for Year 6 parents/carers

### **School Levy**

**A big thank you to those parents who have supported the school with their School Levy. If you would like to contribute, please log onto Arbor, navigate to the School Shop, and select Voluntary Contribution.**



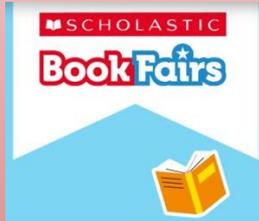
*Our children of St. Thomas of Canterbury are spiritual.*

# At St Thomas' we encourage a reading for pleasure culture.

We recognise from research, that there is a strong association between childhood reading and increased attainment in literacy and numeracy in adolescence. As well as improving children's vocabulary, imagination, general knowledge and empathy skills. Across the year we have activities to encourage children to pick up a book rather than a device at home. Most recently we held our first of our two book fairs. Last week we held our class book corner competition. Every Friday the Reading Ambassadors do a prize draw for all the KS1 children who have read every day (5 times per week).

Thank you to all the parents who purchased from our book fair during Parent's evenings. We managed to raise £480 in books which the Reading Ambassadors selected from the book fair.

The Reading Ambassadors took a tour of all the reading areas in each of the classrooms to judge which had the best book corner. In KS1, the winner was **1G** with their lovely woodland theme, which included book recommendations from the children and teachers and lots of lovely animals to cuddle whilst reading. In KS2 the winner was **6FM** with their beautiful Garden theme. Their Reading Ambassador, Ishmail, explained how they planned the ideas together with his teacher, including book recommendations and books in clear sections to make them easy to locate. Congratulations and thank you to the two classes and their teachers, Mrs Gough, Miss McAnally and Mrs French!



# Sporting Corner



# Upcoming Sports Events

After a really busy few weeks in the world of sports at St Thomas', it is safe to say that all of the children that have represented our school have done is with amazing sportsmanship and demonstrated all of our school values, in every competition and match. We have been so proud of all of them.

On Monday (17th November), we played an away match against Woodside Academy, and after a competitive match, goals from Micaiah (5N) and Omari (6FM) allowed us to run out 2-0 winners. Every player played well and contributed to another fixture. Our Player of the Match was Omari, for a really good performance and showcasing the sporting values we look for at St Thomas'.



**24.11** - Football match - Abbots (A)  
**1.12** - Champion Day Cross Country  
**8.12** - Football match - Mossbourne (H)  
**18.12** - Football match - Bonnygate (H)  
Letters will be given out to children selected to represent our school.  
More sports event will be added in the New Year.

As you will see from the photo (see right), we have started wearing our brand new home and away kits. All of the boys wore it with such pride on Monday and we are so appreciative to HW Wilson for sponsoring our football team's shirts.

Thanks as always for your support.

Yours in sport,

**Mr Boulden**



## Catch and Clap 60 Second Challenge



How many times can you throw a ball up, clap once and catch it in 60 seconds?



The ball must go above your head.  
If you drop the ball, carry on counting your score from where you left off.





# *Christmas Celebration Dates*

**04.12.25 - Year 5 & 6 2:15pm - Carol Concert for Year 5 Parents/Carers**

**05.12.25 - Year 5 & 6 2:15pm - Carol Concert for Year 6 Parents/Carers**

**10.12.25 - EYFS Nativity 2.15pm for All Reception Parents/Carers**

**11.12.25 - Year 1 & 2 Nativity at 2.15pm for Year 1 Parents/Carers**

**12.12.25 - Year 1 & 2 Nativity at 2.15pm for Year 2 Parents/Carers**

**17.12.25 - Class Parties**

**18.12.25 - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day**

**19.12.25 - School closes at 1.30pm**