



The Three Saints Academy Trust

"If you can believe, all things are possible to those who believe."

Mark 9:23

Newsletter

Issue 21 Autumn 2022



St Ann's Church of England Primary



St Mary & St Thomas' C.E. Primary



St Michael with St Thomas C.E. Primary

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

We are delighted to welcome you our 21st edition of The Three Saints Academy Trust newsletter and the first for this academic year.

2022 has continued to present challenges to our schools and staff but as always I am in awe of the commitment all our staff show to the children in their care and we continue to go from strength to strength providing opportunities for our children to thrive.

In October we were able to come together as a Trust of schools for our joint INSET day. Although we have continued smaller scale training face to face our Trust training day has been virtual for the last 2 years. It was lovely to have all staff working together for the day and some great learning took place with some incredible guest speakers.

We are working closely with some new schools across Liverpool Diocese and beyond with a view to growing the Three Saints Academy Trust during 2023. We will keep you updated as this progresses.

We are as ever, very grateful to our families for their continued support and have been very happy to see our parents supporting Christmas events in our schools where we can all remember the true meaning of Christmas; the arrival of our saviour, Jesus Christ.

You will get a flavour of our school's amazing work during the autumn term on the following pages, all our schools are very special places and testament to the hard work of all staff and leaders.

All the staff, Directors and school committees would like to extend their best wishes for the festive season and thank you for your continued support. We pray that everyone has a healthy and happy 2023.

Kirsty Tennyson
Chief Executive Officer
The Three Saints Academy Trust



News from St Mary & St Thomas

Believe, Achieve, Shine

PRIMARY BEACON PROJECT

This term, 12 members of our Y5 & Y6 classes have been lucky enough to work with Merseyside Fire and Rescue to complete their Primary Beacon project. The aim of the project is to provide safe, fun and enriching experiences whilst encouraging self-development of the students by instilling fundamental Fire Service principles of self-discipline, leadership and teamwork. The course took place one day a week, over a six-week period and the children took part in a range of practical fire service activities including using hoses, hydrant skills etc. During the course, the children not only learned some valuable skills- such as first aid and community safety awareness- they also developed crucial life skills such as teambuilding and communication. At the end of the project, the children took part in a 'Passing Out' service which was to celebrate the work they had completed. The children invited their loved ones to help them celebrate. We are so proud of how much the children have developed over the period of the project. Have a look at the pictures below of the 'Passing Out' ceremony.



LUNAR PROJECT-BASED HOMEWORK

This term lots of our children have not only been working hard in school, they have also carried this on at home through their project-base homework. Each term, teachers design a range of

activities that will deepen pupils' knowledge and understanding of concepts and topics studied in school and then the children can choose a range of activities to complete. This term we have seen a range of high-quality projects that really demonstrate the depth of learning that has taken place. Below is a picture of Immy with a 3D model of a Benin village and Liv with a top-of-the-range bug hotel!



Y6 READY, STEADY, GREEN!

This term, Y6 have worked with St Helens Chamber to take part in their 'Ready, Steady, Green!' workshop. The workshop involved fun activities which focus on climate change, low carbon sector jobs and local initiatives that work towards net zero. The workshop also involved a visit from St Helens Council to show the children their innovative hydrogen refuse truck – the UK's first custom-built, hydrogen-fuelled waste collection vehicle. Seeing the vehicle allowed the children to see first-hand the work going on in their local area.

OUR READING ADVENT CALENDAR

We are always looking for ways to continue to promote reading for pleasure and this month we were able to combine our love of reading with our love of Christmas: a Christmas-themed Reading Advent Calendar. Every school day in December, a member of staff has read a Christmas-themed story to the whole school. It has been a wonderful opportunity for the whole school to gather, get into the festive spirit and immerse themselves in high-quality literature. A beautiful way to end the term!



News from St Ann's

Together, we aim high; with God's love, we can fly

BASIC SKILLS QUALITY MARK



We are delighted to share that after undergoing an assessment by the Basic Skills Agency, St Ann's has retained its Quality Mark Accreditation for English and Mathematics. Key strengths include whole school assessment processes, high level understanding of pupils, staff expertise, cohesive approach to teaching and learning and partnership with parents/carers.

Y1-Y4 VOCAL PROJECT



This term Y1-Y4 have taken part in a vocal project with St Helens Music Service. The children were immersed in different styles of music and

developed their vocal and performance skills and techniques. It also had an impact on the children's communication, language and listening skills. The project enriched our Music education beautifully

KS2 CHOIR

This year, following the restrictions around singing over the last 2 years, we have finally been able to re-establish our KS2 Choir! Our 50 strong choir have been enjoying their rehearsals as well as taking part in their first engagements, including singing at Amberley Care Home and the Willowbrook Hospice. They represent our *St Ann's Standard* so beautifully and are doing us proud!



ANTI-BULLYING DAY

To celebrate national anti-bullying day this year, Altru drama performed a powerful play for our KS2 classes, which Y6 explored further in a workshop. KS2 also benefitted from a talk from the community police all about online bullying via social media. All classes completed various anti-bullying related activities, including designing a poster to promote the all-important STOP message. Our Rights Respecting Parliament selected their favourite poster design, and this has been adopted as our whole school poster. To support the message that we are different, but all special – we all wore odd socks to school too!



EQUALITY ADVOCATES UPDATE



During their first Super Leaders session, our Equality Advocates designed a symbol to show that St Ann's is an inclusive school which promotes equality and diversity and which does not tolerate discrimination.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Here at St Ann's, we have enjoyed celebrating Christmas throughout the month of December. There hasn't been a week without something to look forward to. Nativities and Y3 Christmas Service, Christingle workshops and service, carol concerts, a trip to the panto, Christmas parties, Christmas crafts and even a visit from the big man himself! Merry Christmas Everyone!





News from St Michael with St Thomas

Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

History Week



This term, we participated in a whole school theme week, with all classes focusing on different periods of history. Y1, Y3 and Y5 explored elements of Local History: Y1 looked at the origins of Knowsley Park; Y3

delved into the Industrial Revolution, looking at the impact of this pivotal period; and Y5 learned about the Slave Trade in Liverpool. The children have found out some fascinating facts about our local area and learned so many new things about the history of the area surrounding us. Y3 and Y5 had their learning brought to life with trips to the Museum of Science and Industry and the Maritime Museum in Liverpool. The other half of our classes spent the week leaning about WW2: Y2 were looking at the evacuation of children and linking it to our children's rights work; Y4 spent the week exploring the role of women in the war and how this challenged stereotypes; and Y6 tackled the emotive topic of the holocaust and debating about the key themes of equality and diversity. The work produced by all classes has been amazing, and hearing the children talk with such passion about the history topics they have been learning about has been wonderful.

Y5 and Y6 First Holy Communion

During this term, 40 of our Y5 and Y6 pupils took the important next step in their faith, as they took their first Holy Communion. As a church school, this is significant event for our pupils and we are proud of how mature our pupils were in recognising this. The special service was held in church and led by Reverend Linda and Archdeacon Simon. It was lovely to have so many family members join us to mark

this occasion and we are looking forward to our whole school Eucharist in school next term, where the children will be able to take communion with all of our school family.

Reading Ambassadors - First Assignment!

Our newly appointed reading ambassadors took on their first job this week, when they represented the school



in a visit to Halton Stadium, to meet the renowned author Frank Cottrell Boyce! They were very excited to speak to him about his new book and find out all his tips and tricks of the trade. They even got their new books personally signed by Frank!

Lion King Trip



Some of our KS2 pupils had a fantastic trip to the theatre in Manchester to see the spectacular show of Disney's The Lion King. It was an amazing

show, and pupils and staff alike were wowed by the costumes, puppets and singing. We had a number of people at the theatre stop staff to tell them how impressed they were with the children's behaviour – we are very proud of our super school ambassadors!

Parent Insight Sessions

Throughout the term, we have welcomed parents into all of our classes to take part in learning alongside their child, in our parent insight sessions. The sessions this term were all based on reading and our parents couldn't believe how amazing our pupils are at using their reading skills to help them interpret texts. Some parents were also very surprised at how much life in the classroom had changed since they were in school! We can't wait for next term's parent insight sessions which will focus on maths.