



The Three Saints Academy Trust

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

Mark 9:23

Newsletter

Issue 24 Autumn 2023



St Ann's CE Primary



St Mary & St Thomas' CE Primary



Blackmoor Park Infants



St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

We are pleased to welcome you our 24th edition of The Three Saints Academy Trust newsletter and the first for this academic year. We are delighted to announce that our 4th school; Blackmoor Park Infants in West Derby joined us on 1st December. This is the culmination of a long partnership between the Trust and the school and we are delighted that they are now part of our family of schools.

As a result of Blackmoor joining the Trust we have been successful in applying for some grant funding from the DfE. This funding has allowed us to make some appointments to our Central Team who work with all our schools. I am very pleased to announce the following appointments; Helen Costello joined us in September as our Head of Governance. Lorraine Brown joined us in November as our Head of Finance. Lorraine has a wealth of finance experience from working in secondary schools. Karl Ellias will join us in December as our Head of HR, he has a wealth of experience working in HR in the NHS and in secondary schools. Edd Naylor will join us in January as our Director of Early Years. Edd has worked with us for a number of years as a Specialist Leader, he currently is an Assistant Head in Halton. Natalie Parry will join us in January as our Director of English, she currently works at St Mary & St Thomas and came to us as a Schools Direct student many years ago. We are also pleased to welcome Paula Deane to our Maths Hub admin Team.

In November to Regional Director approved Willow Tree Primary School in St Helens to join our Trust, we are delighted at this news and hope this will be completed in the Summer term.

2023 has been a successful year for our Trust, we are very grateful for these successes which include St Michael with St Thomas having a very positive Ofsted Inspection in July. It was wonderful that Ofsted felt; 'Children blossom at this school.' The

judgement of good, with outstanding for behaviour and attitudes and personal development was very well deserved, thank you to the whole school community for their dedication.

We are always committed to developing our staff and we are pleased to announce that. Natalie Parry, Kim Murphy, Jenny Heaton & Lucy Bowen (St Marys) have successfully completed their NPQLTD.

In October we were able to come together as a Trust of schools for our joint INSET day. It was lovely to have all staff working together for the day and some great learning took place.

We delighted that our Trust devised reading programme; 'Are you really reading' which has SHINE funding to roll out to schools across the NW has won an award. Well done to Anthony Albrecht of St Ann's who has been designated a Teaching for Mastery Specialist and will work with our Maths Hub to support schools in the NW.

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 a baby King.

You will get a flavour of all 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 2024.

Kirsty Tennyson
Chief Executive Officer
The Three Saints Academy Trust



News from St Mary & St Thomas

Believe, Achieve, Shine

SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH AWARD

We are very proud to have, once again, been recognised for our hard work and commitment to mental health. In October, we were reaccredited with the 'Gold Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health'. We were assessed to be EXCELLING in all areas. The report highlighted the following:

'The school has continued to make progress in achieving an even stronger profile since their initial submission enhancing and extending the principles that had already been an integral part of their culture and ethos.'

We are so proud of our staff who go above and beyond to provide a wonderful environment in which our children can thrive. A huge thank you to our trust for all their support and mental health provision.

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY

This September we celebrated European Languages Day, we took part in some fantastic activities that developed our understanding of Europe as a continent, and different European languages. We had some excellent cross-curricular maths on the day- Year 6 were visited by employees of Yorkshire Building Society. They ran a 'Vacation Venture' workshop which explored the different currencies around the world. In groups, the children chose a destination for a holiday and set about



planning flights, hotel stays and activities.

They learned about exchange rates and the importance of budgeting.

We were so lucky to invite several parents into school, who are from different European countries. They spoke to the children about their country of birth, shared lots of interesting facts and had a go at teaching the children their respective language! We were joined by parents and carers from Bulgaria, Slovakia, Latvia, Albania, Romania and Greece. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children and highlighted how we benefit from a diverse school community. A huge thanks to all our parents who joined us for the day!

MUSIC APPRECIATION DAY

We held a music appreciation day this term which was full of music and wonder. Each class studied a different genre. We were particularly impressed with Y5's work, their focus song for the day was "Say my name" by Destiny's child. They spent some time listening and performing the song to understand the rhythm of it. The children discussed how R & B songs traditionally tell a story about artists' pasts and how it is usually inspired by a tough time in their lives. Y5 decided to write their own version of the chorus and perform it to the instrumental version. Some children chose to write about tough times but most of the class invented a new genre of positive R & B.

READING AT SMST

Friday is Book Club afternoon across school, where we explore our class libraries, read with children from other classes, review the books we've been reading, take recommendations from friends and teachers and generally immerse ourselves in the wonderful world of reading.



News from Blackmoor Park Infants

"Learning and Achieving Together"

We are so excited to have joined Three Saints Trust, a caring and supportive network of people and professionals who believe in the magic of childhood, and how important that is for young people to thrive and be successful in life.



On Wednesday 29th November children from kindergarten to year 2 took part in No Pens Day.

This was one of the biggest ever show and tell events, children had a day filled with chatter, talking, sharing, listening, laughing and learning with a strong focus on the power of communication skills. We had a wonderful day, and were able to raise money to support Speech and Language UK.



LIGHT UP A LIFE

On Sunday 3rd December our school choir made their first public appearance as part of a carol concert for charity Zoe's Place. The children sang Christmas songs, including 'Last Christmas' to the busy congregation at St Marys Church. Miss Sutton, (Year 2 teacher and choir leader) was delighted with the children's performance and impeccable behaviour at the event, we are all extremely proud of their achievement. We look forward to more concerts in the near future.



We were delighted to invite Greg Bottrill into school this term and become part of The Quest to reclaim childhood.

THE QUEST is an expansive and ambitious attempt to reclaim childhood, and has been created by childhood advocate and author, Greg Bottrill. We will be working with Greg across the year, and he will deliver a series of CPD using our school as the host. As a result for our recent session we have been developing a range of mark making and writing play opportunities with our kindergarten and reception children.

AUTUMN WALKS WITH THE DAY NURSERY

This term we have been wrapping up warm and exploring our local community. The children have enjoyed looking at their surroundings and expressing excitement at the world around them. We walked to St Paul's garden and looked at the flowers and talked about the changing of the seasons. Whilst walking we sang nursery rhymes and some of us even enjoyed a little nap on our way back to nursery after all the excitement.



Author and Storyteller Jude Lennon came into school to introduce Kindergarten 3+ and Reception children to a range of stories to begin the festive season.

Jude has close links with our school and the Bobby Colleran Trust after she wrote both 'Superbob' and 'Superbob S.T.O.P' promoting road safety.



News from St Ann's

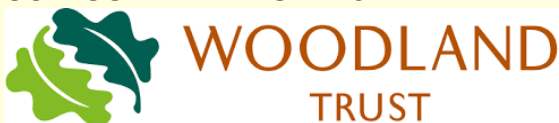
Together, we aim high; with God's love, we can fly

CHARITY CHAMPIONS



Proud to share the positive contribution #TeamStAnn's have made together this term through our charity work. In September Y6 raised £616.40 for Macmillan when they hosted a coffee morning (special thanks to our choir for providing the entertainment). We raised £366.72 for Children in Need and made two donations to our local food bank.

OUTDOOR LEARNING DAYS



This half term has seen our children plant 105 saplings from the Woodland Trust. We look forward to watching the saplings grow over the years and seeing the enhancement to our outdoor learning space. A great opportunity to get outdoors and enjoy the fresh air.

DEBATE ACADEMY



Y5 had a thoroughly enjoyable time when Debate Academy came to our school to teach the skills required to debate successfully. The

children who were selected to represent our school at the final debate competition at Calderstone's Park Masion House, really did us proud!

VALUES AMBASSADORS SHARED COMMUNION VISIT

Special thanks to our friends at St Michael's with St Thomas' for their warm welcome when they invited our Values Ambassadors to take part in Communion with them at their school.



PARENT INSIGHT



This term parents/ carers enjoyed seeing the teaching of Maths during a Parent Insight session. The children also enjoyed performing the poem they had learned for National Poetry Day to kick start or bring the session to a close.

KEEPING ON TRACK

Early on, this half term, we had a visit from a church schools inspector for a 'Keeping On Track' assessment. The inspector reviewed our Religious Education provision as well as our Christian distinctiveness and ethos. He undertook a variety of activities including looking at RE lessons, viewing the school learning environment and speaking with children, staff and members of our school committee. The inspector was extremely complementary about our school, and we look forward to receiving the full report in due course. A special mention of thanks to Mrs Preston for overseeing this important aspect of our provision at St Ann's and ensuring it is exceptional in quality.





News from St Michael with St Thomas

Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

Inter Faith Week



This term our pupils have been exploring their understanding of world religions during Inter Faith week.

Pupils learned about different places of worship, key festivals for different religions, different ways in which religions pray and key religious figures.

The week was fascinating and the pupils particularly enjoyed a special trip to the Buddhist Temple, where they had a tour by one of the

resident monks, and even had the opportunity to meditate with the



monks! A memorable experience for everyone involved.

Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day

This term we celebrated Anti-bullying week with our odd socks day, where pupils wore their odd socks with pride, demonstrating that we are all unique. Pupils also took part in our social media competition to get their pets involved in the odd sock day too! During the week, as well as reviewing our anti-bullying policies, pupils looked specifically at the role good mental health can play in preventing bullying behaviours,



and discussed ways to ensure that we take care of our own

wellbeing, as well as helping other people take care of theirs.

Lantern Festival

Our school took part in the very special Lantern Festival, held by our local church. This festival is a festival of light, and is to celebrate and bless our community. The

Lantern walk started at our school, and finished at the church, with a short service to bless and give thanks for our



community. Our head pupils and staff lead the readings and poems, and the choir led the singing for over 300 people who attended this special service.

Pupil Leadership Groups

Our pupil leadership groups have been working extra hard this term, fundraising, improving our school grounds, raising awareness of causes we support and making links with our local community. Our Community Crusaders have worked closely with the local care home, sharing board game afternoons and welcoming the residents in to school to talk to classes during local history week. Our Fantastical Fundraisers have worked together to raise money for a Silent Soldier for the school grounds. We held our Remembrance Day silence here as a mark of respect for those who have given their lives for ours.

