



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

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

Mark 9:23

## Newsletter

Issue 4 Autumn 2016



St Ann's Church of England Primary



St Mary & St Thomas' C.E. Primary

## Message from the Executive Principals

Welcome to the first trust newsletter of the academic year.

This term our brand new curriculum 'The Lunar Curriculum' has been launched in both schools and is proving to be very popular both with pupils and staff alike. The new curriculum is providing the children with increased ownership of what they learn. It is also helping the children to develop and refine their oracy skills.

Staff from both schools have benefited from some high quality joint Continual Professional Development. This has included Safeguarding, Poetry and Spelling. They have also taken part in some joint moderation of pupils' maths work.

The Executive Principals have assumed the roles of Chief Executive Officer (Mrs Haw) and Chief Operating Officer (Mrs Wilkinson) and have been in consultation with the Regional Schools' Commissioner at the Department for Education. In addition to these roles the Executive Principals are continuing to support the work of the Head teachers within their respective schools. Directors and Governors of both schools have been working together to develop our strategic plan. We are keen to ensure that we sustain and build upon the excellent practice that both schools have to offer.

Several schools have expressed interest in joining the Three Saints Academy Trust and Directors are looking at this carefully. The Trust is currently working with a school in Widnes which is experiencing challenges and Mrs Haw has taken on the

role of Executive Principal to support the school for 3.5 days a week, until the end of January. We will of course keep everyone up to date on how this is progressing.

Kind Regards

*Rebecca Wilkinson & Kirsty Haw*

### Vision Statement and Aims of the Three Saints Academy Trust

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

**Mark 9:23**

The Three Saints Academy Trust creates belief in all by:

- Having high expectations in all we do
- Instilling a love of learning, through fun and memorable experiences
- Creating nurturing relationships built on trust, care and respect
- Providing an environment of opportunity where all can grow and succeed



# News from St Mary & St Thomas'

## *Believe, Achieve, Shine*

### **Enterprise Week**

Once again, we held our popular enterprise week in which the children designed and created a range of Christmas products to sell. During the week, the children had the opportunity to develop team-work and apply real-life maths and English skills. Y1 were the winning class and will receive money to buy some resources of their choice for the class. Thanks to all of our parents who showed their support during the market place.



### **Billy Elliot Theatre Trip**

In November, a group of KS2 pupils visited the Palace Theatre in Manchester to watch Billy Elliot. It was a wonderful show and the staff and pupils were stunned with the phenomenal acting.

### **Fun in the Forest**

Y4 enjoyed a trip to Benedict Wood in November which was followed by Forest Schools sleepover in school. This was an opportunity to practise the skills learned in Forest School by cooking on the camp fire, singing songs around the campfire and making forest crafts.

### **School Council Film Night**

In November, our School Council organised a film night for the whole school. They showed 'Finding Dory' and it was very well attended. It was a lovely example of how our school councillors are developing their leadership skills and are listening to pupil voice.

### **Anti-bullying Week Workshops**

To tie in with anti-bullying week, we invited Altru Drama into school where they performed for the children and held workshops to explore the different forms of bullying. As a school, we read 'Tyrannosaurus Drip' by Julia Donaldson which taught the children the importance of treating everybody as an individual.

### **'Safe Skills' Launch**

Miss Smith organised for our Y6 class to work with Ariel Trust to try out a resource called 'Safe Skills' designed to keep pupils safe in the community. Teachers from other schools were also invited to an event, held in our Teaching School pod, to train them to use the new resource. Children were spoken to about their awareness of dangers both online and in the community. The launch was so successful that our pupils featured on Granada Reports talking about what they had learnt!



### **Christmas Time at School**

The whole school has enjoyed their Christmas party in December. Reception to Y6 visited the pantomime to watch Aladdin which everybody thoroughly enjoyed. We held a Christmas-themed dress day in which children donated items to the foodbank.

KS1 children will perform their annual nativity and Y6 will lead our Christmas Carol service at St Thomas' Church in the last few days of term which will ensure that we are in the Christmas spirit!



# News from St Ann's

*Always our best for God, each other and ourselves.*

## Foundation Stage Colour Run

Foundation Stage children, parents and carers had great fun taking part in a Colour Walk to launch their Lunar Curriculum topic on Colour. White T-shirts were worn and coloured powder paint was splashed liberally at everyone as they walked around the track. It was fantastic to see the smiles and hear the laughter as an array of colours were added to the T-shirts. It certainly was a memorable event for all.



## Forest Fridays

Here at St. Ann's we have introduced 'Forest Fridays'. Forest Fridays provide our pupils with the opportunity to work outdoors with Miss O'Shea, our Forest Schools Practitioner. During Forest School sessions, children investigate, explore and discover in a wild but safe outdoor space. Forest school activities aim to develop the whole child as well as specific skills.



## Dedication of the School Year Service

Our Dedication of the School Year Service took place at St. Ann's Church back in October. At this service our Foundation Stage pupils and any other children new to our school were officially welcomed to St. Ann's. All our new starters received a Bible funded generously by the Parish Church Council. A wonderful occasion!

## Lights, Camel and Action!



After taking part in a variety of Christmas themed activities throughout December the children are feeling festive. This half term has seen our EYFS and KS1 Nativities, the Year 1 Panto Cultural Visit, the Santa Stroll, the Christmas Fair and Coffee Morning, and various choir performances.