



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

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

Mark 9:23

## Newsletter

Issue 14: Spring 2020



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

Welcome to the Spring version of the Trust newsletter. As always, we have had a busy term but sadly due to the need to close early due to Covid-19 schools were unable to hold their usual Easter celebrations. However, in this very difficult time we need to take a moment to reflect on God's love for us all by sacrificing his only son.

At the time of writing this newsletter we are still uncertain of the impact of Covid-19 virus on our schools, despite our closure to most pupils. All the decisions we make for any school in the Three Saints Trust are made with the safety of pupils and staff as the highest priority. It is for this reason we will be following all Government and Health advice and directives. We would like to thank all our staff for the calm way they have gone about their work ensuring pupils are safe and happy in school, we also thank all our parents for their support and patience during these unprecedented times and for the wonderful support and kind messages we have received.

This term we have been working together to develop our LUNAR curriculum. All teachers have worked in year group teams with a curriculum consultant and with subject specialists from Rainford High. This has allowed us to create a very exciting

Trust curriculum which is being trialled in some year groups but will be launched in September across our 3 schools.

We had planned to have our very first Trust Arts evening in June where we would showcase the considerable talent in our 3 schools. However due to Covid-19 virus and the uncertainty this brings we have postponed this event until January 2021.

We hope you enjoy reading about the exciting work that has been going on in our schools in this newsletter, this is just a flavour of the fantastic work our children do, we are very proud of them all.

We encourage you to visit our Trust website where further information about our Academy Trust can be found. Visit our Trust website on [www.three-saints.org.uk](http://www.three-saints.org.uk)

We wish you and your families the very best during this difficult time, please stay safe and healthy and we look forward to seeing everyone soon.

*Kirsty Jennyson*

*Chief Executive Officer*



# News from St Mary & St Thomas

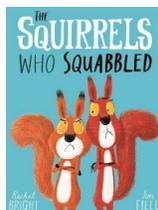
*Believe, Achieve, Shine*

## MUSIC APPRECIATION DAY

In January, we held our music appreciation day. Mrs Parry planned a fantastic day for us all and the theme was 'SMST at the movies'. Each class was given a famous composer to focus upon including the likes of Hans Zimmer and Randy Newman who have composed music for films such as The Lion King and Toy Story. The classes listened to some of the music that the composers had created and then composed some pieces themselves. They focussed on the main characters and the children were interested to find out how individual pieces of music are written for main characters. At the end of the day, all pupils came together to share the work they had completed.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

This term we have been celebrating all things books and focussing on both reading and writing for pleasure. Each teacher has read their favourite book to different classes, pupils have taken part in a writing competition and our favourite activity of the week has been creating a whole school book based upon the story: 'The Squirrels Who Squabbled'. It is a story based upon two squirrels, Bruce and Cyril, who learn the importance of sharing. Each class then wrote a rhyming story which teaches Bruce and Cyril another life lesson such as the importance of compassion and kindness etc. Please have a look at the finished product on Twitter! We also had our costume parade which involved children dressing up as a book character. Thanks to all the pupils and staff who got dressed up- we loved seeing you in your costumes.



In January, we had a visitor to school to have a look at the standards of our teaching and learning and to quality assure some of the things that we do at St Mary & St Thomas. I am pleased to say that our visitor was very impressed by the standards of our teaching and the extremely positive attitudes of children and staff here. Here are some of the things she had to say:

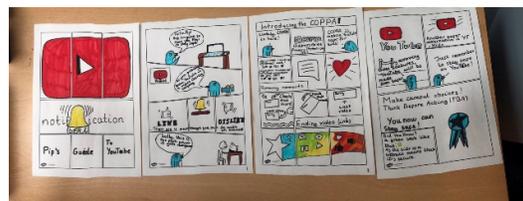
*'There are highly positive relationships between pupils, staff and parents. The pupils have a very strong sense of moral codes and appreciation of right and wrong; this underpins their excellent behaviour.'*

*'The teachers observed have excellent subject knowledge and they are clear about the progression in knowledge and skills children need to acquire in order to make good or better progression through the curriculum.'*

We were really pleased that in only two days, our visitor managed to capture the essence of our school.

## INTERNET SAFETY DAY

We held several activities in school linked to internet safety reinforcing some very important messages around how to stay safe online. We then had Y6 pupils deliver some workshops to each class focused on a different topic such as YouTube, CEOP etc. We also held some workshops for parents and carers showing Murder games and talking to parents about what to look out for when deciding if a game is appropriate for your child to play. Below is a picture of one of the internet safety guides created by our Y6 pupils.



## WHOLE SCHOOL REVIEW



# News from St Ann's

Always our best for God, each other and ourselves.

## ASPIRATIONS FOCUS DAYS

Children across the school enjoyed thinking about the world of work. Our Early Years and KS1 pupils dressed up as a professional 'who helps us,' while KS2 attended a careers fair. The overarching theme was equality in the work place. Huge thanks to all our parents/ carers who participated in our careers fair.



## WORLD MATHS DAYS

World Maths Day was as popular as ever this year with the Break Out Rooms challenge being back due to popular demand! Children excitedly used their number skills to solve the clues hidden around the room to escape out of their classroom door.

## SAFER INTERNET DAY



Our whole school took part in Safer Internet Day – a hugely important national campaign. We were fortunate enough to secure the Ariel Trust who led a KS2 assembly and workshops for Y4 -6. In addition to this children took part in an e-safety lesson delivered by their class teacher and our Director of Well Being held viewings of 'Murder Games,' a docu-drama, for parents and carers.

## STAND UP, SPEAK UP



This year we introduced a new focus week called 'Stand Up, Speak Out'. During the week children learned about global issues impacting on the rights of children all around the world. Alongside this children were introduced to child activists who are making a difference, and campaigned for change themselves. We supported the charity 'Our Warm Welcome' which provides food and essentials to refugees living in St Helens, and celebrated our learning in a KS2 worship and during our STAR Day Church Service. Many thanks to everyone who donated money or food items to 'Our Warm Welcome,' they were very gratefully received.

## READING FOR PLEASURE

This half term we celebrated World Book Day. Children completed various activities in class, took part in the creation of a whole school class novel and entered our kitchen roll character competition. In addition to this we also had pupils across the school join us in a sponsored read, which we are delighted to say raised a massive £1493. All monies raised will be spent on new book band books. Thank you to everyone who supported this event!

## HARRY POTTER NIGHT

Once again our annual Harry Potter night was a huge success. Children enjoyed the opportunity to dress up as a character from one of the books and taking part in a wealth of activities including the sorting hat, scavenger hunt, a drama workshop, quiz and much more.





# News from St Michael with St Thomas

*Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe*

## WORLD BOOK WEEK

This term we celebrated World Book Day as part of our wider celebrations for our whole school book week. During this week, children took part in a range of activities linked to books and developing our love of reading. Staff shared book reviews of their favourite books each day in worship and we launched our 'Bedtime Book Box' initiative with parents joining us for an afternoon of reading stories, to introduce the boxes which each class have for pupils to take home and share, complete with book, teddy and hot chocolate! The week culminated in a fancy dress day where the pupils came dressed as their favourite characters – the staff came dressed as characters from Alice in Wonderland!



## Y4 ANCIENT GREEK DAY

This term, as part of their Ancient Greeks Lunar topic, Y4 held a theme day to support their learning. The pupils came dressed as Athenians and Spartans, and held a debate where they argued which side were the most superior, before using these arguments in their discursive writing. They also tasted traditional Greek food, performed their Greek dances which they have been working on in PE sessions and held their own Olympic games, in which each group introduced their own sporting event, teaching the rest of the class the rules, which was then evaluated by their peers. All of the children had a great day applying their learning from the term.

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

As part of our commitment to the 5 Ways to Wellbeing, we celebrated Children's Mental Health week this term by looking at

different ways to ensure good mental health. In classes the children explored the 5 Ways, looking at how we can build these into our every day lives. The children took part in lots of new activities that can help us in staying healthy, both in body and mind, and Reception, Y1 and Y2 held a joint Yoga session which was so relaxing that some children fell asleep! We also launched our parent course on Mental Health and Wellbeing in conjunction with the Healthy Schools Team, which has been attended by a number of families and will run each week throughout the half term.

## RIGHTS RESPECTING DAY

This term we have begun our journey to become an accredited Right's Respecting School. Our Rights Respecting Steering group launched the project with a letter to parents explaining what it means to be a rights respecting school, and a whole school Rights Day, where each class explored the Convention of Children's rights through various activities. As part of this day, we chose rights that we felt were particularly important to us as a school: the right to – no discrimination; an education for all; health care, clean water and clean environment; food, clothing and a safe home; share thoughts freely; and to relax, play and have cultural experiences. Y2 wrote letters to Miss Slingsby about how they could help refugees as they felt very strongly about a news story they had seen!

