



The Three Saints Academy Trust

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

Mark 9:23

Newsletter

Issue 16 Spring 2021



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 to our 16TH edition of The Three Saints Academy Trust newsletter and the second for this academic year.

All our schools and staff were excited to welcome back all our children on 8th March, it was lovely to see the children with their teachers and friends, we have missed being able to be all together in school. The pandemic has taught us not to take each other for granted and to cherish time spent together with family and friends. We are hopeful that we can now move forward with no further school closures and the roll out of the vaccine gives us hope that this will be possible. Everyone is working hard to settle children back into school routines and ensure that we begin to recoup lost learning.

I would like to pay tribute in this newsletter to the outstanding commitment of all the staff in our schools. They have worked tirelessly to do the very best for all our children and our home learning systems are something we can be very proud of. Staff have come into work and put their own personal circumstances and worries aside and continued to do everything they can to support children and their families, this is something we are very proud of as a Trust.

It has been wonderful to see how the schools within the Three Saints Trust have supported each other during this extraordinary year, it has made us all very thankful that we are part of a Trust where together we are stronger than schools standing alone, this has been clearly evident during the last year.

We are very grateful to our wonderful families who have been so supportive and understanding, especially when we have had to make decisions in order to protect everyone. We know that some decisions have sometimes been hard for our families, this is something we absolutely recognise and we are thankful to our families for their support. Families have thrown themselves into home learning with enthusiasm and commitment and we again recognise how hard this has been for everyone. We hope in the Summer term we may be able to have some events; for example sports days. We will keep this under review and let our families know as soon as we have further information.

Thank you for your kindness and support and we hope you have a restful and healthy Easter break, we look forward to working with all our schools and families in the summer term.

Kirsty Tennyson
Chief Executive Officer
The Three Saints Academy Trust



News from St Mary & St Thomas

Believe, Achieve, Shine

LEARNING IN SCHOOL OR AT HOME

The spring term has brought it's challenges, but we are proud to say that our school community has pulled together to embrace online learning, and some amazing work has been produced both at home and in school.



in. On the Friday, the children shared their learning with each other through a whole class 'zoom' and celebrated what they had achieved.



SOLARPUNK

Our Key Stage 2 pupils have taken part in a music project hosted by St Helens Music Service; a creative exercise generating exciting ideas of how St Helens could look and sound in the future. The ideas generated are being fed into a virtual reality music experience – we can't wait to hear the final product!

CHRISTIAN VALUES

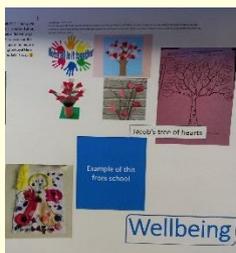
Two of our Christian values have been explored over the spring term, forgiveness and compassion. In these difficult times we have tried to be more forgiving towards ourselves and show compassion towards each other.

READING FOR PLEASURE

We were delighted to welcome all of our children back to school on 8th March. To make the week extra special, we postponed *World Book Day* so that everybody could be there to



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK



During mental health week the children were encouraged to think about their own wellbeing and happiness. This included taking part

in

activities such as yoga and mindfulness, as well as making decisions about healthy choices and considering their own resilience.



enjoy it. The whole school enjoyed dressing up as their favourite book characters with every class having a prize winner. The children raised over £400 in sponsorship which will be

spent restocking our class libraries. A perfect end to a wonderful first week back together.

EASTER 'EGG'STRAVAGANZA

As well as thinking about the events of Holy Week, the children have enjoyed learning about how Easter is celebrated around the world. In addition to this, an afternoon of Easter fun was enjoyed by all, including egg hunts, Easter bingo and Easter crafts.



News from St Ann's

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

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK



Week commencing Monday 1st February we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. As the large majority of our pupils were learning from home, Miss Foster introduced the week with an online worship, and during the week each child was encouraged to have a screen-free afternoon. During the afternoon children chose a screen-free activity to complete from a list of 25 suggestions.



HARRY POTTER AFTERNOON



On Thursday 4th February, to give children a well deserved break from their remote learning and to promote their wellbeing and a love of reading, we celebrated Harry Potter Book Night – only during the afternoon! Children took part in a range of activities ranging from inventing a new magical sport to getting creative and drawing a dragon's egg. All activities were designed to allow everyone to take part.

STAND UP SPEAK UP WEEK

Week beginning 8th February was Stand Up Speak Up week. The aim of the week was to introduce our children to advocacy – ensuring all children have their voice heard on issues that are important to them. Each year group focused on one Article taken from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and one Sustainable Global Goal. The

aim was to help our children understand global issues and how they und a beautiful book called 'He We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. The children's learning was celebrated through our online Stand Up Speak Up church service.



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD



Last half term every child in the school took part in Hot Chocolate with the Head. Hot

Chocolate with the Head is usually a reward at the end of a half term for one child in each class, for good work, behaviour or attitude to learning. However, given that everyone had worked hard learning remotely, we decided to reward everyone! Each child received a sachet of hot chocolate in the post, and enjoyed drinking it while listening to Mrs Rynn share a story.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

On the 9th February we celebrated Safer Internet Day. With much of education taking place remotely during that time, there was never a better reason to focus on how to stay safe online. The campaign focused especially on how we can know what to trust online, supporting young people to question, challenge and change the online world.





News from St Michael with St Thomas

Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

World Book Day and Storytelling Day

Despite being in lockdown, we still took part in World Book day with some fantastic activities to celebrate our love of stories and books. This built on the work that we did the previous month for National Storytelling Day, where every class had a whole day of fun activities linked to stories from across the world and throughout the ages! We saved the the fun of dressing up until we were all back together in school, and had our costume day as a celebration of our first week back together and what a celebration it was! We loved seeing everyone dressed up as their favourite book characters and the creative ideas for costumes – and the staff even joined in with a Mr Men and Little Miss Theme!

Friendship Friday

To celebrate the end of our Friendship Christian Value theme last half term, we held 'Friendship Friday' to say thank you to all of our wonderful friends by letting them know how special they are to us. We drew pictures, wrote letters to our friends that we were missing and created word clouds of each others' best qualities to show people how amazing they were. We also planned ways to be fantastic friends to everyone when we returned to school, as we have all recognised how important our friendships are, especially during lockdown!

Science Week

This term we held our school science week, where all classes had a focus on developing our scientific enquiry skills, linked to the theme of sustainable living goals and sanitation. Our pupils even designed and made water filtration systems that could be used to help people with out access to clean



water. Not only were we super scientists, but we all had fantastic fun too!

Day of Reflection



On 23rd March, we observed a minute of silence as part of the National Day of Reflection, thinking about the impact of the last year, the people we have lost and the changes we have all made to our lives, but also looking towards the future. The children also enjoyed a range of activities to mark this special day. For example, some classes used art & design to create yellow flowers & our youngest children planted seeds to represent the hope we have for a brighter future.

Twitter Tuesdays!

This half term we have launched 'Twitter Tuesdays!' This is a new and exciting opportunity for our school family to share their home learning & activities with us each week, as well as looking at how families are living out our Christian Values when they aren't in school. #SMWST



Easter Activities

During Holy week we explored the Easter story, with each class taking one of the key events from the week and producing an interactive display around it. The classes then virtually 'visited' each display, where the children in that class talked them through that part of the Easter story. This week also saw the return of our annual Easter Bingo, with all of the children enjoying a virtual bingo with their class and lots of Easter prizes!