



# St Thomas Community Primary School Newsletter



Summer Term 1, 2024

Issue 65 - 24/05/24

## Head Teacher's Message

It's been a busy half term, with a bank holiday thrown in! As you can see with the list of dates in this newsletter, our next half term will be busy too! I hope you all have a lovely half term and we will see you very soon!

Best wishes,

## Animal Cwtch

To begin our whole school topic on animals and habitats, we were excited to invite some brilliant creatures in to school to meet the pupils. They learnt about snakes, geckos, hedgehogs and birds to name a few. Some were even braver than the adults! A huge thank you to Animal Cwtch for helping us with our learning.



## PC Fincher - Police Liason Officer

We are very lucky to have many fantastic friends of the school and one of these is PC Fincher. For many years, he has been a great friend helping to educate our pupils on how to stay safe in many different ways. We would just like to say a huge thank you for everything you have done.



## Young Readers

Our Year 4 and 5 pupils have just started taking part in the National Literacy Trust's Young Readers Program. We launched this with our 'Camp Darllen' 'Reading Camp' in the Hangout. Our pupils sat around the campfire to discuss the importance of reading and then made book choices before enjoying a quiet read in 'camp'.



## Grand Theatre - Academy of Barmy Composers

Year 5 enjoyed a lovely performance at the Grand Theatre! The live orchestra were wonderful and the children heard about the lives of 5 famous composers.



## Kilvey Hill Tree Planting



The children in Year 3 had a great day at Kilvey Hill and Jersey Park. Each child had the opportunity to plant a tree and positively contribute to the local environment. Everyone approached the day with enthusiasm as they got their hands dirty. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who came along with us.

## Year 1 - My School is at the Museum

We were delighted to resume our residency opportunity at the Waterfront Musuem, with our Year 1 children this time. The children had a great time and it was lovely to invite families to join them at the end. The children also had the opportunity to explore outside the museum. A big thank you to the museum and to our Year 1 families for supporting us.



## St. Thomas Savers

St. Thomas Savers continues to be a success. Every Tuesday over 50 children from Year 3-6 are bringing in money to add to their savings. It's not too late to join - children can start saving and practice a key life skill at any point!



## Sporting Events

This half term, girls' and boys' football and netball teams have attended festivals and participated in friendlies representing our school superbly. Great attitudes shown by all!



We support Children's Rights and the UNCRG.

Get regular updates on the Dojo app.



## RAF STEM

The RAF STEM workshop for Year 6 was brilliant and we were so proud of the skills the children demonstrated. They took part in a Lego build to race a car, an RAF paper plane competition, and also a coding challenge to create a steady hand game. These are fantastic experiences and skills that hopefully the children can build upon!



## Cardiff Senedd Visit

Our Cardiff trip was a fantastic day! The children got a tour of the Senedd including the main debating chamber and media rooms. We also met Mike Hedges, MS for Swansea East and asked him important questions about our area. They also had a mock debate about whether we should have a 4 day school week! Surprisingly, the children voted unanimously to no! We then finished off with a walk around Cardiff Bay!



## Year 5 and 6 Swansea U21 Football Match

We were extremely lucky to have been invited to watch the Swans U21 play at the stadium. The children were treated to some goals, brilliant weather and great memories. The day before, some of the players even came in to present us with the tickets and we asked some great questions; we even managed to get some autographs!



## UWTSD - Immersive Room

Year 4 had a wonderful start to their final term! They were sensible and enthusiastic during their trip to the University of Wales, Trinity St David SA1 campus. They were lucky enough to experience the immersive room for the start of their 'climate change' theme and talked about plastic pollution and how it impacts on our planet..



## Personalised Assessments

Over the last two weeks, children in Year 2 - 6 have been completing Personalised Assessments in Reading and Numeracy. We could not be more proud of their efforts and resilience. These statutory assessments obviously only give a snapshot of a child's achievements in a narrow area of learning but they help us identify areas to focus on, to support each individual's progress.



## Important Dates

Half Term - Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024  
 Start of Summer 2 - Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Year 6 Crucial Crew Visit - Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Year 4 and 5 - Story Telling Event - Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Year 6 Big Pit Visit - Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Year 2 Art Gallery and Victoria Park Visit - Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> June  
 Year 5 Residential - Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Year 6 Beach Rugby Festival - Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Year 5 Park Visit - Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Rec - Year 2 Sports Day - Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 - PM  
 Year 3 - 6 Sports Day - Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 - PM  
 Year 6 Residential - Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2024  
 Nursery Sports - Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 - AM & PM  
 Year 4 WW2 Museum Visit - Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Well Being Wednesday - Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Year 6 - Gorge Walking Trip - Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2024  
 Flying Start Sports - Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 - AM & PM  
 Cuppa and Chat with the Head - Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> June, 9 - 10am  
 Rec - Year 2 - Clyne & Blackpill Visit - Wed, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2024  
 Years 3 - 4 - Swansea Bay Visit - Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2024  
 Years 5 - 6 - Swansea Bay Visit - Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2024  
 Years 6 - Cefn Hengoed Transition Day - Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July  
 Nursery to Reception Transition Meeting for parents & carers -  
 Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 - 9am  
 Last Day for Children / End of Summer Term -  
 Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

Attendance Target for the Year - 93%

Attendance so far this year - 91.9%

Our attendance continues to improve - nearly 3% up from this point last year! Please help us to continue this excellent progress for the rest of the school year.

Have a lovely half term and we will see you back in school on... **Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024.**