

St. Thomas' Leesfield Newsletter

9th January 2026



HEADLINE NEWS

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back to school. It hasn't been an easy week for our return with all the snow we have had but we will always do our utmost to keep school open whenever we can. Thank you to everyone who has made incredible efforts to get in. Congratulations on your 'resilience'!

STAFFING UPDATE

We have some news to share with you regarding staffing arrangements after the Easter break. We are pleased to announce that Mr Bunn has secured himself a new role as Headteacher of Knowsley Junior School and will be leaving St Thomas' at the end of the Spring Term. We are excited for Mr Bunn and know he will do a fantastic job, but we are also very sad to see him leave. We have already begun the recruitment process to find Mr Bunn's replacement and we will let you know once we have appointed a new Assistant Headteacher and therefore who will be teaching in Year 3 for the final term of the academic year.

Y6 TRIP TO ROBINWOOD

Our Year 6 children are all getting very excited for their residential trip to Robinwood in Todmorden on 19th—21st January. Parents don't worry, they will be warm, well fed and well looked after. The centre and staff are excellent and their vision is 'to make a really positive difference developing children through adventurous and themed activities.' Check out their website.

School attendance this week

Our whole school attendance this week is 93.2%. The class with the best Attendance is Reception with 97.8%.



NEW LUNCH MENU

We have a new menu this term for those who are on school dinners. Please see the website or noticeboard for details. You can also ask for a copy at the office or put your request in the planner and we will send it home.

Dinners are charged at £2.80 a day to Y3-6 unless you qualify for means tested free school meals. If you are on a low income have a look on Oldham MBC 's website or ring 0161 770 3000 to see if you qualify.

We require two weeks notice to swap to or from dinners.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS HALF-TERM

January

- 19th—21st: Y6 trip to Robinwood
- 19th—23rd: Bikeability in school

February

- 3rd: Y4 Collective Worship for parents 2.30pm
- 11th: Progress Meetings 1.30-7pm
- 13th: Young Voices Concert (choir)
- 16th—20th: Spring Half-term

TOM CATS B&A SCHOOL CLUB

Don't forget we offer our very own on site wraparound club, Tom Cats from 7.30am-5.45pm. You can just book an odd day or a regular slot. Find it on your School Gateway App. £7.00 after school, £5 before.

School staff provide relaxing and stimulating play for the children with snacks and drinks.

We have a very flexible booking system which allows you to book onto club up to half an hour before it starts and you can also cancel a booking up to half an hour before by swiping on the app. Unfortunately if you have not managed to cancel in this time, you will still have to pay for a booked session even if you no longer want the place.

In an emergency after the cut off, you can leave a message on Tom Cat's / Mr Hill's phone 0161 770 7410. He can add you to the register manually for a maximum of one session as this will put a debit on your account which must be cleared the same day. Otherwise all bookings must be made in advance. This is important for managing staffing requirements for the session.

MUSIC FEES

If your child has guitar or brass lessons in school, please note that the second term's payment is now due. Please go to your Gateway account and make payment of £100. Thank you.

ACHIEVEMENT COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Don't forget we still hold collective worship every Friday at 2.30 at which families are welcome to join us.

Parents of children who will be getting a certificate/award will be notified in advance.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS: SPRING 1

Permission slips are available at the office and must be returned.

After school clubs finish at 4.15pm unless otherwise stated.

♦ MONDAYS

Garden Gang: Please note that this club has finished for the half-term due to weather.

Y5&6 Fine Art Club (invite only)

Mrs Douglas is running her art club for talented artists every week. Invite only.

♦ TUESDAYS

Reception, Y1, Y2 Craft Club —NOW FULL

Club held in the Annexe. Maximum of 15.

Y6 Books & Biscuits Club (invite only)

This club is a small reading group designed to promote reading for pleasure and is by invite only.

♦ THURSDAYS

Y3&4 Blooket Club—NOW FULL

This is a computer programme quiz club.

Choir: Lunchtime

Miss Lawton holds choir practice every week. This is offered to Y3-6 children.

ETHOS THOUGHT OF THE WEEK: SERVICE

This term our focus is on the Christian value 'Service'



When you help someone, you make their day happy—and your heart happy too! Serving is one way to show God's love in action. Jesus said, "If you want to be great, you must be a servant" (Matthew 20:26). Jesus didn't come so people could serve Him—He came to serve and give His life for everyone. Let us follow Jesus' example by helping others every day!

**To Be The Best We
Can In The Sight Of God**

