



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

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

Mark 9:23

## Newsletter

Issue 10 Autumn 2018



St Ann's Church of England Primary



St Mary & St Thomas' C.E. Primary

## Message from the Chief Executive Officer

We are delighted to welcome you our 10<sup>th</sup> edition of The Three Saints Academy Trust newsletter and the first for this academic year.

This term has been a busy one, as usual for all our staff and children and we are very proud of the fantastic work that goes on in our schools. You will get a flavour of this amazing work on the following pages.

We are very pleased to announce that Spinney Avenue; the school we have been supporting for the last 2 years, have been approved by the Board of Education of Liverpool Diocese to join our Trust. The process for them to convert to academy status and join The Three Saints Trust is now well under way and we hope the conversion process will be completed in the new year. When the school converts it will change its name to St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School, we believe this name better reflects the school Christian character.

Staff from both schools have been working together this term on a variety of training and development activities, as always this has all children at the heart of any improvements or developments we make.

We have now submitted our application to the DfE to open a Free School in the West of St Helens. The application that was submitted was for a 2 form entry primary

school with 2 year old and 3-4 year old nursery provision. If approved the free school will be an additional school in The Three Saints Academy Trust and will not affect or change our existing schools in any way. We will find out in January if we are being invited to attend an interview with the DfE for the next stage of the process.

We were very pleased to receive a letter from the DfE this term congratulating St Ann's on their excellent achievement in the Y1 Phonics screening 2017-18. The children at St Ann's were placed in the top 10% of schools nationally. This is excellent recognition for the fabulous work staff do and our hardworking children, well done!

Congratulations to Mrs Lewis on the birth of her first child on November 15<sup>th</sup>, both Mrs Lewis and William Joseph are doing very well. Mrs Rynn is doing a fantastic job as Interim Headteacher at St Mary & St Thomas whilst Mrs Lewis is on maternity leave.

All the staff, Directors and Governors would like to extend their best wishes for the festive season and thank you for your continued support

*Kirsty Haw*  
CFO



# News from St Mary & St Thomas

## Believe, Achieve, Shine

### Year 5 Mini Police

Selected Y5 pupils are currently taking part in the Merseyside Police 'Mini Police' Programme. This is a unique opportunity for these pupils to take on a wider citizenship role and affect change in their local area. Their first project was to identify areas for improvement out in the local community and make recommendations to the local police. They've even had the opportunity to enjoy afternoon tea with the Chief Constable of Merseyside Police!

### All Together School Gold Status



We are delighted to announce that St Mary & St Thomas have been awarded the 'All Together School Gold Status' award in recognition of our work around anti-bullying. The school has been highly praised for its focus on pupil well-being and the many strategies in place to promote positive relationships across the school. To find out more read our blog on <https://teaching.blog.gov.uk/author/linda-smith/> written by our Director of Well Being.

### Arts Week

To kick off this year's annual Arts Week, all KS2 pupils benefitted from a visit to New Brighton to see Liverpool's Dream – the Giants! During the week that followed, the children enjoyed exploring this stimulus through the arts, and hosting an Arts Exhibition for parents/ carers.

### Lunar Skills Day

Last half term, on Lunar Skills Focus Day, all classes experienced six different workshops focused upon the Personal Development Skills within our Lunar Curriculum. As well as the children fine tuning their skills in these areas, posters were produced to promote use of the skills across the curriculum.

### National Parliament Day

Children learned all about the fundamental British Value of Democracy during National Parliament Day. We are delighted to announce, that the outcome of the referendum the children took part in, is that the 'weekly mile' initiative will be brought in from the new year.

### Fit 4 All & Healthy Weight for Life

This half term our Reception and Year 3 pupils have benefited from projects designed to promote positive health and well-being.



Parents/ carers were provided with the opportunity to work alongside their child in health-related workshops led by health care professionals to encourage good health for life.

### Year 4 Forest School Sleepover

After benefitting from Forest Schools sessions, Year 4 pupils had the chance to put their recently learned skills into action at our Forest Schools Sleepover! After erecting tents, playing games in the dark and toasting marshmallows, the children settled down to watch a film before taking to their sleeping bag for the rest of the evening. What a fantastic and memorable experience for the children! #excitedchildren #tiredteachers

### Christmas Celebrations and Enterprise Week

It is fair to say that Christmas is in full swing at SMST! Children have enjoyed using their design and technology skills to create a Christmas related product to sell at the Enterprise Fair. They have taken part in a cultural experience



with a visit to the local Panto. We've had the KS1 Nativity and EYFS carols round the tree. The children have even enjoyed a Christmas dinner and party, and all while wearing Christmas jumpers and party clothes! Merry Christmas one and all!



# News from St Ann's

Always our best for God, each other and ourselves.

## CLONTER OPERA



In September, Y6 attended Clonter Opera as part of their first Cultural Offer of the year. The children took part in a 'Set Design and Lighting Workshop' where they learnt how to correctly scale objects and backdrops down, along with developing their creative design skills. The children then

participated in a singing and acting workshop. The day ended with the children watching the cast perform a number of songs from a range of operas. A great day was had by all!

## ACE (Africa Children in Education)

Representatives from ACE came into school to do a whole school assembly. They presented the children with updates on the school in Africa and how the money people raise has helped to complete the school, give the children breakfast and lunch and provide running water for 400 children. They visited the school in March this year and were able to show us current pictures of the children and explain what the next project is. They are now raising money to buy chickens and goats to provide eggs and milk for the school



## JUDAISM DAY



Year 2 had a fantastic cultural visit from Mr Cohen who worked with them all day and taught them all about Judaism. Children from Year 2 would like to tell you about some of their highlights.

"We learnt that the men sit downstairs in the synagogue and women sit upstairs. "We also learnt that men wear a Kippah, which is like a small hat, to remind them that God is above them". "We

had so much fun, especially when Mr Cohen played the guitar and sang songs to help us learn. He showed us lots of interesting pictures and gave us Jewish sweets to take home. We loved learning about Jewish Shabbat. We ate delicious challah bread and drank grape juice too!"

## SANTA DASH



Four members of staff took part in the annual Santa Dash. After getting a few funny looks on the train, they soon joined the majority in Liverpool and raced 3 miles around the city centre. Despite the rain, they had great fun and kept each other going!

## FOOD BANK DONATION

Many thanks to everyone who brought in donations for the St Helens Foodbank at The Hope Centre. The staff at the Foodbank were very grateful for the donations and wanted to let parents know how much they appreciated the time and expense parents had gone to.



## LIVE NATIVITY

What a huge success our Live Nativity was!



The event also saw the culmination of our Enterprise Week for 2018 as the children sold their Christmas/RE-themed products in

'Bethlehem Bazaar'. The children's enterprising efforts have been superb and they produced some excellent work linked to their products. Well done everyone!