



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

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

Mark 9:23

## Newsletter

Issue 22 Spring 2023



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

As we approach Spring and the new life and growth that this offers I hope you feel the optimism shared in this the 22<sup>nd</sup> addition of our Trust Newsletter.

We are very proud of all our wonderful staff across the Trust, so we always like to celebrate their achievements. The Family Support Worker at St Anns, Mrs Crowther was nominated for a Rainhill Good Citizenship award for the amazing work she does in our community.

Mr Holcroft, Y4 teacher at St Anns has achieved a Masters Degree in Education with a Distinction, he will graduate in July.

Three of our staff have achieved the NPQTDL (National Professional Qualification for Teaching Development & Leadership). Well done Mr Partington & Mrs Mclroy from our Central Team and Miss Chippendale Y6 teacher from St Michaels.

Our Director of School Improvement; Mrs Bradshaw successfully completed the 'Ambition' Trust Leaders Programme this term after working on this for the last year. Well done to everyone on these fabulous achievements, you've all been very busy!

**St Mary and St Thomas** is the lead school for **NW3 Maths Hub**, one of the 40 designated Maths Centres of Excellence across the country. Maths Hubs are a DFE initiative. Each Maths Hub provides support for maths teaching in their region. NW3 serves schools from all phases across St Helens, Wigan, Knowsley, Sefton and Liverpool. As a Maths Hub in our 9th year of supporting schools, we invited schools from across the NW region to observe Teaching for Mastery in Action at St Mary and St Thomas during March. 160 Head teachers, teachers and other practitioners from across all phases had the opportunity to attend across 2 days to watch our Y6 class during their maths lessons. Special guests from the Department for Education (DFE), Lead for the Maths Hubs Programme, National Director for NCETM and Cllr David Baines- St Helens Council Leader and

Members and Directors from Three Saints Trust were also in attendance.

Our Trust schools have been working together on a special project this term- a trust poetry slam. The project involved our Y5 pupils visiting the Shakespeare Theatre in Prescot to take part in listening, writing and performing poetry with the resident spoken word artist Charlie. Our pupils then continued to work on their poems back in school ready for the final at Edge Hill University. The winner was Abbie from St Michael with St Thomas however we are really proud of hard all our pupils worked.

On a more sombre note we are very sad to report of the passing of our first Chair of the Board of Three Saints and ex-Chair of Governors of St Marys; Elizabeth Collins. Elizabeth was a loyal and committed member of our Trust and school community she was instrumental in setting up The Three Saints Trust and she will be hugely missed by us all.

You will get a flavour of our school's amazing work during the spring term on the following pages, all our schools are very special places and testament to the hard work of all staff.

Wishing you a bright and restful Easter break, we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer term.

Kirsty Tennyson  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Three Saints Academy Trust



# News from St Mary & St Thomas

## Believe, Achieve, Shine

### ART EXPLORA- MUMO

This week our pupils from Y3-Y6 took part in a wonderful activity- visiting the Art Explora mobile museum which was based at St Helens Town Hall. The idea behind the mobile museum is to make art accessible to all. The theme of the mobile museum is 'Radical Landscapes' and the children had the opportunity to look at several pieces of art based on landscapes- we were even lucky enough to see last year's Turner prize. After viewing the artwork, the children had the opportunity to create their own landscapes using a range of resources.



### SCIENCE GARDEN MAKEOVER

We were very lucky to be approached by the community team at Knauf, a local business, to help us update our science garden. Our Y5 pupils thought about the space and how it could be improved. They then communicated this with Knauf and plans were made for a volunteer day to take place when the makeover would happen. Over 30 volunteers gathered (some from Virgin Media and O2), along with Y5 pupils and spent the day building new benches and a stage, painting, creating planters and laying bark in the area. The results were astounding and we now have an area which is well-used and wellloved.



### ST HELENS BOOKSTOP

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, pupils from Nursery to Y6 visited St Helens Bookstop, an independent book store located in the town centre. The pupils took part in some book-related activities and then spent their £1 WBD vouchers on a new book. They all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. If you are looking to buy a new book, please visit:

[The St Helens Book Stop - Welcome](#)

### Y4 Sleepover

Our Y4 pupils recently enjoyed their annual Y4 sleepover. On the day of the sleepover, the pupils go shopping to purchase the ingredients for their dinner, they then spend the afternoon preparing and cooking it ready for the evening. The children then spend time playing games and completing activities designed to help them develop their skills- a highlight this year was learning to light a fire. Later on the pupils enjoyed hot chocolate, making smores and watching a film before sleeping over in tents. The smiles on the children's faces told us what fun they had!



### Parents/ Carers Workshops

This term we held several excellent parent/ carer workshops. We were lucky to hold one during mental health week with Emma, our mental health worker. She spoke to parents and carers about life after Covid and the importance of high-quality interactions in the home. She provided them with some useful resources so they can promote positive talk at home.



# News from St Ann's

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

## STAND UP SPEAK UP WEEK

This year's SUSU Week focused on how we can repair our planet. Becoming courageous advocates, children explored the different ways we can act to protect Earth, including making ethical choices, taking our responsibility to be guardians of nature seriously and learning about plastic pollution and climate change. The week cuminated in a beautiful church service led by the EYs and KS1.



## STAR DAY



Towards the end of last half term our children became agents of change when each year group selected a charity to promote and fund raise for. We are very proud to announce that together our school community raised over £5500 for

Save the Children, WISH, WWF, Willowbrook Hospice, Our Warm Welcome, Young Minds and Africa's Children in Education. THANK YOU!

## SAFER INTERNET DAY



Once again we joined in with the hugely important national Safer Internet Day. Altru drama performed a thought-provoking play for KS2, which Y6 explored further during follow up workshops. Classes across the school completed an important unit of work about this very important matter. The Community Police led a session about keeping safe online. Mr Holcroft led two parent workshops and we launched our brand new monthly online safety newsletter for parents.

## INTERFAITH FOCUS DAY



This year we learned all about Sikhism during Interfaith Focus Day. Mr Singh led an awe inspiring whole school assembly about his faith, and KS2 benefitted from

individual sessions which focused on various aspects of Sikhism beliefs and culture. Mr Singh's teaching supported our ongoing focus on equality, diversity and fundamental British values.

## ASPIRATIONS DAY

Our Aspirations Focus Day enriched our children's personal development and provided them with the opportunity to consider the next stage of their education and even the world of work! It was delightful to see our younger pupils dressed up in future career options and fascinating to hear from our older pupils discussing how they will get into chosen professions when they are all grown up!



## CHOIR UPDATE

Our choir have been busy this half term preparing for and performing at 2 events; Lost in Music at St Helens Town Hall, and Rainhill Village Hall at our annual talent show. They were magnificent, as always! We are already thinking about songs for our next public engagement!



## ST ANN'S HAS GOT TALENT



Our annual talent show saw 17 acts as well as our choir perform at the Village Hall. Well done to all the winners, but also to everyone else who had the confidence to take part and perform to a live audience! Special thanks to our special guests; pianist Harrison Crane and members of Rainhill Rotary.



# News from St Michael with St Thomas

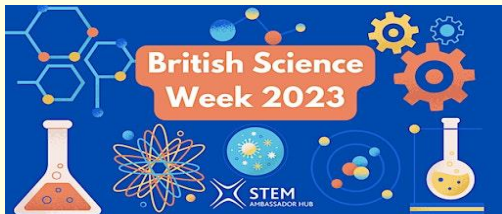
## Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe

### Rights Respecting School Award

We are very proud of our Rights Respecting work at St Michael's, and we are pleased to share that we have been awarded the Bronze Rights Respecting Award this term. We are already working towards the Silver standard and are looking forward to our visit from the RRSA team in June where we will hopefully be awarded the next level for our Rights Respecting work.



### British Science Week



Along with the rest of the country, our pupils celebrated British Science Week with some amazing workshops and magical science experiments, from Science Boffin visits and rocket launches, to Nitrogen Workshops and frozen sausages! Each class learned about key scientists and the contributions they have made to the world, as well as dispelling some of the stereotypes we have around scientists. Not only were our pupils amazed by the 'Wow' elements of science, but we definitely now have a number of students who want a career in science when they are older!

### Careers Week



This term we celebrated Careers Week by exploring lots of different careers and job paths that pupils could choose when they are older. We had a range of visitors in school to talk to the classes, including midwives, vets, fire fighters, police officers and website designers. The children thought about what skills they have and what

they enjoy doing, and how they could build on this in the future. We loved hearing their plans and aspirations for their lives!

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### Chester Zoo Project – Palm Oil



One of the highlights of this term has been the whole school project that we completed in partnership with Chester Zoo, to campaign for more responsible palm oil use. Each class took part in three workshops with zoo staff in school, to build their knowledge of this issue and to learn all about the impact on palm oil farming. Our pupils then became courageous advocates and took on their own class campaign to make a difference in our world. Some classes wrote to the mayor of Liverpool to share their views on becoming a sustainable city, some classes wrote to parents to share ideas about how small changes at home can make a huge difference, and Y1 wrote to the King! The week was finished off with a whole school trip to the zoo, to meet some of the animals that they had been working so hard to save. We are so proud of the dedication and conviction shown by our pupils during the project, using their voice to make a positive change in the world.



### Ashes to Go

Our worship teams worked alongside members of the PCC and Reverend Linda to hold our annual 'Ashes to Go' on Ash Wednesday. Members of the school community were able to receive the ashes outside of school during the morning drop off, without having to take time off work to attend the church service. It was lovely to have our school and church family working together.

