

Love God, Love learning, Love One Another
Friday 28th February

This week's Round up...

This week we welcomed everyone back after the February half term break. Members of the school choir took part in the Young Voices concert at the Coop Live arena on Tuesday – they had a great time. The children displayed exemplary behaviour on the long tram journey and were a credit to the school during the rehearsals and concert. Well done to all who took part. It was the last Crafting Heritage Day on Wednesday and year 5 pupils from Emerald Class took part in a workshop run by an artist from the Congo. The work from all of the Crafting Heritage workshops will be displayed in Touchstones as part of Refugee Week. Amethyst children had great fun launching rockets on Friday afternoon.

Collective Worship

'From Lent to Easter'

The focus is on the life and teaching of Jesus. Glimpsing images and ideas about the Kingdom of God through some of Jesus' parables aims to deepen an understanding of how we can live our lives in ways which make a difference to ourselves and to those around us.

This week we leaned about Fairness and Justice. We used God's wish of 'Love thy Neighbour' to explore the meaning of Fairtrade goods. The children have requested that we look into becoming a Fairtrade School following on from what they learned in collective Worship.

This week we sang 'He's Got the Whole World in His Hands' to help us understand that our neighbours are worldwide.

Next Week's Diary...

Monday

Keyboard, Guitar and Ukulele lessons

After School choir

Tuesday

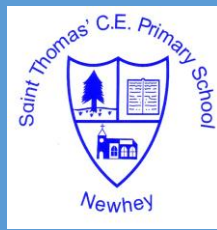
Emerald Class Swimming lessons
String and Woodwind lessons

After school Clubs: Football

Wednesday

Brass lessons

After School Clubs: Basketball



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Awards

Stars of the Week

14.2.25

Hallie, Willow, Anna, Jack, Loui, Rose, Martha, Oliver, Joseph & Reggie

28.02.25

Archie, Hunter, Freddie B., Paddy, Hector, Sebastian, Stevie, Frankie B.-W., Kornelia, Raeann and Christian

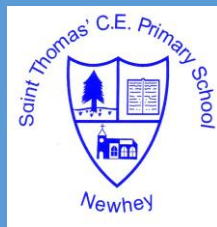
Congratulations also go to **Erin** and **Maddie** who have raised £45.50 for Springhill Hospice and to **Teddy** for a football commendation.

Neave and **Maddie** have worked with Rochdale Recycling to earn their Eco Warrior Brownie Badge, **Landon** earned a football trophy, **Katie** was awarded a trophy for acting and **Ellie-May** shared a 1st place rosette awarded by Broad Carr Riding Stables.

Iris T. and **Emily S.** made a 'My Happy Mind' Glitter Jar for their classroom, following instructions from the My Happy Mind Parent's page.

Lily and **Frankie Bishop** are taking part in a 1.5km 'swimathon' at the end of March to raise money for cancer research. Below is the link giving more information about their endeavour.

<https://www.givengain.com/project/tom-raising-funds-for-cancer-research-uk-marie-curie-and-swimathon-foundation-96970?fbclid=IwY2xjawloZodleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHSnGfy-xPrsr1OyswUgTi9tgD3eBy4zNSK8IYsJg-PatIMcHJnh9XM Cw aem 0SW r6FabiHZXpdDnwg8Q>



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Times Table Rock Stars (14.02.25)

Charlie and Christian who achieved **Rock Legend** status, Elliott and Brendan who are now **Rock Heroes** and Gosia who is a **Break**

TTRS of the week

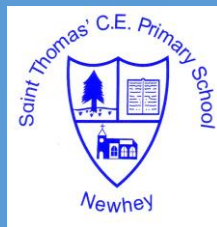
	Fastest 1 st Place	Fastest 2 nd Place	Fastest 3 rd Place	Effort 1 st place	Effort 2 nd Place	Effort 3 rd Place
Year 3	Brady (1.58s)	Louie (1.64s)	Anna (2.01s)	Hugo	Holly	Iris
Year 4	Brendan (1.12s)	Freddie (1.19s) Quicker than last week	Anthony (1.22s) Quicker than last week	Anthony	Brendan	Freddie
Year 5	Maddie (0.57s) Fastest in the school	Oliver (0.58s)	Scarlett (0.59s)	Scarlett H.	Maddie	Christian
Year 6	Austin (0.57s) Quicker than last week	Freddie (0.75s)	Reggie (0.83s) Quicker than last week	Freddie	Codie	Elliott

World Book Day

We are celebrating all things book related on **Thursday 6th March**.

Children can come to school dressed in their pyjamas. They should wear normal school uniform, if they don't want to wear pyjamas. Children can also bring a favourite book with them to share with their friends.

We will be hosting special book events across school on that day.



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Social Media

Social Media continues to cause problems in school. Children are being exposed to content which is too adult in nature (sexual and violent) or encourages children to be materialistic, to present themselves a certain way or gives the children the opportunity to be bullied or to be a bully online. All of these things can lead to mental health difficulties in children.

Please use these links to find support and guides for parents on the pitfalls of social media and how to better protect your child.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/social-media/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides>

Please help to safeguard your children from harm online by being proactive about the content that you allow your children to be exposed to.

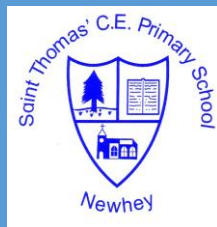
Most social media platforms have an over 13 age restriction on them and WhatsApp is 16.

Attendance

All parents should have received a copy of their child's attendance record along with accompanying letters.

All absence from school is included in the figures. Lateness after 9.00am is counted as an absence. Both authorised and unauthorised absence count as the same when looking at overall attendance.

If you are struggling to get your child to school, please let us know and we can support you.



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Aspirations Fair

We are hoping to hold an aspirations fair on Tuesday 25th March. In order for this to be a success we are looking for volunteers who will be willing to spend some time in school talking to the older children about their jobs. We aim to do this in the style of a careers fair, where the adult will talk to small groups of children for approximately 15-20 minutes explaining all about their jobs and what skills are needed to be able to the job.

The event is scheduled to take place in the afternoon from 1.30pm.

If you feel you can help, or know someone who can, please email the school office with a brief outline of your job.

Volunteers will have to adhere to our safeguarding policies and practices and will be supervised by school staff at all times.

Forward As One

It was confirmed with the DFE, on Wednesday, that the conversion date of Tuesday 1st April is set. This is a very exciting time for us all and something that has been two years in the making.

As part of the conversion, some of the systems that we use will change. Please bear with us as we get used to working in a new way. We will let you know as soon as we can of any changes that will directly affect you.

The children will not notice anything different on Tuesday 1st April. For them, St Thomas' will be exactly the same. In time new opportunities will be opened up for the children and they may get used to a few other faces who may become frequent visitors to school.