



Monday 16 th September	Music lessons – ukulele, brass Parents Association meeting at 3.30pm in school
Tuesday 17 th September	Class 4 Ukulele lessons After School Activities – Rugby for year 1, 2 and 3 children and Choir
Wednesday 18 th September	After School Activities – Rugby for year 3, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday 19 th September	Music lessons –String and guitar After School Activities – Drumming
Friday 20 th September	



Stars of the Week



Branden Fraine, Sebastian Monteiro-Gooder, Pheobe Finch, Darcy Howarth, Reggie Marshall, Ernie Kazckowski, Ella Halliwell, Alfie Baxter, Adam Sanderson and Millie Halliday

Attendance Trophy



This week's winner is class 4 with 99.7%. Well done

Class 1 - 99.26%

Class 2 - 94.4%

Class 3 - 99.68%

Class 5 - 98.24%

The overall attendance for the school is 98.26%

Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to come into school to help with reading. There is an increasing number of children who are finding reading very difficult or who are not reading at home. This is having a big impact on progression in school.

If you are able to spare a couple of hours a week to hear some children read, we would be very grateful. Volunteers do need to be DBS checked. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs Whittles in the school office.

Thank you to those parents who have already put themselves forward to help with this.

Website details

All important information is put onto the school website:

www.stthomasce.rochdale.sch.uk the information includes all of our school policies, calendar dates and specific class information as well as useful links and Governors information. The newsletter is uploaded weekly and it is our main communication tool.

Water Bottles

All of the children have now been given a water bottle. This bottle will be given to your child on a Friday to take home to be washed and must be returned on a Monday ready to use. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parking



Parking has been a problem around school this week, making it dangerous for all of our children. As I have already mentioned there have been several near misses because the adults bringing and collecting children from school feel that they need to park as closely to the school gates as possible – all without a thought for safety.

There are plenty of places to park near school – they just require a little bit of a longer walk!

I have politely requested that you do not use the school car park between 8.00am and 4.00pm to allow staff access. This is a private car park, for which school has to purchase parking permits for staff. It has been brought to my attention, that when staff have approached parents/grandparents about parking there, they have been met with a rude reception. This will not be tolerated. Any adult being abusive towards staff will be banned from the premises.

Social Media – Tiktok

All children from year 4, 5 and 6 have been given leaflets about the app TikToc. It has been brought to my attention by D.C. Hayfield, who works within the complex safeguarding team in Rochdale, specialising in exploitation cases that TikToc leaves children exceedingly vulnerable to grooming and exposes them to inappropriate content – even on the highest level of privacy settings. I have viewed the app myself and I am horrified at the sexual nature of a lot of the content, the language that is used and the ease of accessibility that the children have. These videos automatically appear when the app is accessed. I know I would not want my primary aged child exposed to the disgusting content that is available to view. I am writing individually to the parents of the children I know have access to this app to make them fully aware of the content that their child is viewing.

Exposure to such content does have a big impact on the mental health of young people and their behaviour.

Notes from the Office

- School dinner orders for next week need to be completed by midnight on Sunday. Thank you.
- Parents of year 3 children who owe money for school dinners must pay by Friday 20th September as we can only hold arrears for two weeks. School policy states that further dinners cannot be ordered whilst there is outstanding debt.
- Orange emergency contact cards were sent out this week. These need to be completed and returned by Friday 20th September. It is important that we have up to date contact details in case of an emergency.
- School Spider – logins for new parents will be issued shortly. In the meantime you can still download the app and receive instant messages without logging in as a parent.

Head lice

Unfortunately, we have a higher than usual number of children with head lice. The only way to control this problem is if everybody works together by checking hair regularly and treating accordingly (the whole family).

Putting long hair in plaits and buns can also help as lice are transferred by hair contact.