



Dear Parents/Carers

We are in the last week of yet another academic year and getting ready to say goodbye to our lovely Year 6 pupils!



I would like to take this opportunity to say **thank you** to you all for everything you have done to support our school over this year. Your support is always greatly appreciated and it helps us keep our school the happy learning environment we have all come to value.

**A message to Year 6** – What a great group of youngsters you are and how your resilience has grown this year – well done! You had an amazing time in London and you will have made some brilliant memories of that time together. On the last day of term, we will cheer and clap you down the school drive to encourage you in the next part of your journey. We will really miss you all but everyone at St Thomas's wishes you all the very best and good luck in your new school in September.

**Mr Pemberton News!** – It is with great sadness that we will say goodbye to Mr Pemberton at the end of the autumn term. Mr Pemberton has been a valued member of the teaching team at St Thomas's for several years. He is now entering a new phase of his own teaching journey, as he is to become Headteacher of Broughton-in-Furness CE Primary School from January 2025. Mr Pemberton will remain the class teacher of Year 5 until the end of December. We will advertise and appoint a new teacher early into the new academic year and will inform parents of the appointment then.

#### **Last day of Term Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

We want to ensure that our Year 6 children get a good send off this year! The Year 6 **Leavers' Service** will take place in St Thomas' church on Friday morning. All parents of children in Year 6 are invited to join us.

**Lunch time** will be a whole school picnic for the children outside.

**End of the day** - The whole school will be outside on the playground at 1.45pm; Year 6 parents welcome to join us. We will then say our fond farewell to Year 6. The children will be dismissed from their door/gate as usual at 2pm, after we have said goodbye to Year 6.

#### **Back to School for the New Year**

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school for the start of our new academic year on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

September 2024 classes will be staffed as follows:

Nursery:	Miss Bryson
Reception:	Mrs Cunliffe
Year 1:	Mrs Beresford
Year 2:	Mrs Hope
Year 3:	Mrs Wright & Mrs Massara
Year 4:	Mr Parker
Year 5:	Mr Pemberton
Year 6:	Mrs Taylor & Mrs Massara

#### **Here is some important information for the new Academic Year 2024 - 2025**

- **School attendance is compulsory.** We will follow up any non-attendance immediately through either Seesaw or telephone. Please make sure your child



attends school every day unless they are ill. ***On no account am I allowed to authorise 'Holidays' unless there are exceptional circumstances.*** Parents will need to set out the exceptional circumstances in a letter to me, as Headteacher, at least 6 weeks prior to any leave of absence being requested. There are strict new guidelines for attendance that come into being on August 19<sup>th</sup>. There is no longer an authorised code for holidays. I am hopeful that a letter from the Local Authority will be sent out before the end of term to let parents know of the changes and their implications.

- **Larks and Owls** will resume in September to support working parents. Please remember to book your child's place in advance. Larks and Owls gets very busy and places may have to be limited.
- **News on Larks opening times** – We have decided to open Breakfast Club from 7.30 am following some requests from parents. Please contact school as soon as possible to let us know if you wish your child/children to attend this earlier session. There will be additional charges and we will get these to you as soon as possible (hopefully by the end of the week)
- All pupils will be expected to wear full school uniform **unless it is their class PE day** in which case they will need to come to school in their **School PE uniform**. Please could you ensure your child has the correct **PE uniform** for September. This is available to purchase through Identity.
- Start and finish times for each class will remain staggered to ensure our school site does not get regularly too overcrowded. This helps all children, particularly those with SEND, come into school in a calmer and more settled manner, ready to begin their learning promptly.
- Your child's new class teacher will communicate with you (through Seesaw/email) any essential information before the beginning of the next academic year.
- Resources and equipment will be provided for each child to use. **Please do not send your child to school with any pencil cases, toys or other items from home.** Children just need their school book bag and a refillable water bottle containing water only please.
- Parental queries and concerns can be emailed or telephoned through to the School Office or Class Teacher. You can also communicate with class teachers through Seesaw.
- **Safeguarding Note:** No Parents or Carers will be permitted to enter the school premises/building **without an appointment.**

Finally, have a lovely Summer Break – when it eventually arrives! Enjoy family time together and cherish the memories you will make.

Thank you for your continued support.

Maggie Cole

