



Welcome back – we hope you've had a lovely Christmas break. The children have returned to school eager for learning and it's been a great start to the term. Next week we have our first school mass of the calendar year, which will be led by our Year 4 pupils. We also have St Paul class assembly on Friday at 10am. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

### Important Dates for Spring Term

Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Start of Spring term
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	St Paul class assembly
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	St Therese class assembly
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	St Francis class assembly
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Online safety week begins
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	INSET DAY (no school for pupils)

### 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> Feb Half term

Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	St Anne class assembly
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Ladybirds class assembly
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Book Week begins
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	E-safety workshop for all parents (6-7pm)
Thu 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	World Book Day (dress up)
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Butterflies class assembly
Thu 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parents Evening
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Comic Relief Red Nose Day
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Passion of the cross service (Yr 5 leading)
Thu 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Parents Evening
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	School disco Yr 1 & 2 (3.30pm)
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	School disco Yr 3 & 4 (5.30pm)
Thu 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Easter Bonnet parade / assembly
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	End of term (2pm)

### Year 4 football

Our Yr 4 mixed football team had a great win in our local mini-league on Thursday, with a comprehensive win against John Wood. The game was played in great spirits with both teams showing great enthusiasm, respect and skill. Thanks to all the parents who came along to support, and to Mr Bonnar for managing the team.



### Speech & Language Drop-In

On **Friday 19th January** Elizabeth, our speech and language therapist, will be running a parent workshop to discuss how to support a child with speech and language difficulties.

We will start at **10.30am** with tea and coffee. If you are not sure whether this meeting will be useful for you and your child, please contact Mrs Lorimer for a quick chat. Please RSVP to the office if you think you would like to attend.

### Reception Application Deadline Day Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January

If you have a child who will turn 4 after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024, the deadline for applying for a place is the coming Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Even if you already have a child at St Thomas Becket school, you still need to fill in both the e-admissions online form and the supplementary information form, which you will urgently need to fill in and return to the office by Monday.

### Shooting Stars



<b>Butterflies</b>	Royal Emeka	<b>St Bernadette</b>	Talia Sheridan
<b>Ladybirds</b>	Abigail Jeanty	<b>St Paul</b>	Anna West
<b>St Joseph</b>	Azmera Ndjoli	<b>St Therese</b>	Fionn Richardson
<b>St Elizabeth</b>	Bernardo Miorelli	<b>St Martin</b>	Neriah Smith
<b>St Francis</b>	Thea Rodrigues	<b>St Cecilia</b>	Amaya Yague Ray
<b>St Anne</b>	Karina Lovaszi	<b>St Benedict</b>	Corey Calleb
<b>St Peter</b>	Alda Zavalha Lazzaris	<b>St Brigid</b>	Marizu Egwim

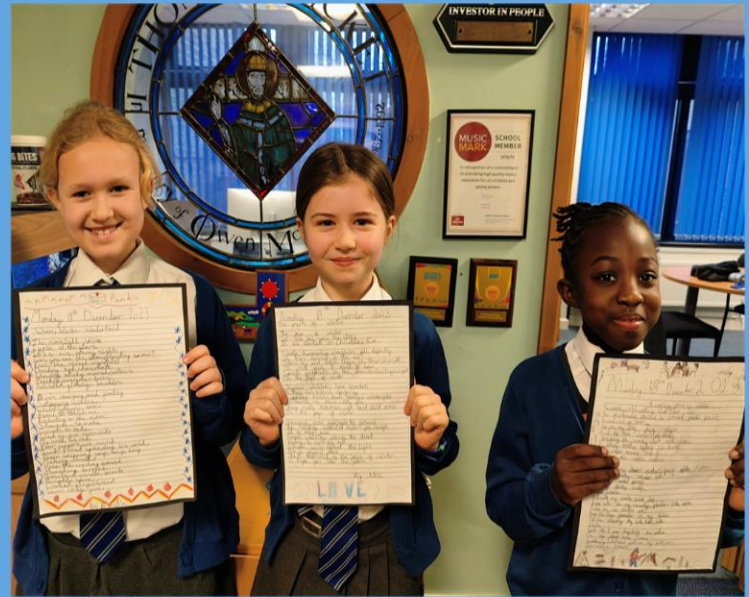
### Indoor Athletics' Finals

A group of Yr 5 & 6 children travelled to Royal Russel school on Wednesday afternoon to take part in the Croydon sports hall athletics' finals, having qualified before Christmas. They took part in a range of track and field events. The standard was very high, as you would expect for a final, and our team finished a very creditable 6<sup>th</sup> place. Well done to everyone involved and thanks to coach Mairtin, Mrs. Haywood-White and Mrs. Taylor.



### Poetry Award Winners

Well done to Emelia, Nell and Gracelyn (all Yr 4) for being awarded headteachers awards for their beautiful descriptive poems about winter. The selected poems were full of beautiful descriptive language, poetic devices and were also presented beautifully – well done girls!



### Wednesday Word

Our Wednesday Words this week were 'New Start' and we heard that Peter was going to be the rock on which Jesus built his church. In assembly we discussed how we could make our own 'new start' for the year.

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024



As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God." Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, "What do you want?" They answered, "Rabbi," - which means Teacher - "where do you live?" "Come and see," he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two (who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said) was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, "We have found the Messiah," - which means the Christ - and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, "You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas," - meaning Rock.

### Achievement Awards

Well done to the following children who have celebrated achievements out of school in recent weeks. Oscar was the 'Jodoku of the year' at Addiscombe Judo club, Jake got his level 1 and level 2 swimming badges, Preston earned a swimming certificate. Niamh also earned her level 1 swimming badge and Remy won an award for his dedication in football club. Well done to all of you.

