



8TH MAY 2026  
NEWSLETTER



UNITY



LOVE




PERSEVERANCE

Matthew 5:14-16

SHINE BRIGHT YOUR LIGHT



## Exploring Our Vision

 Our vision is that we enable every child to 'shine bright their light.' This is a key message from Matthew 5:14-16. It combines the message of, 'You are the light of the world' and 'let your light shine.' We are clear about our mission -lighting up lives so that they may share the light.

Jesus calls us to be like a candle held in God's hands, bringing light to His world. Love represents the flame, unity is represented by the wick and perseverance the wax which together provide the light to follow our vision.

### PRAYER

Dear God,  
Thank You for the joy of learning and growing together each day. Help us to show kindness, courage, and respect in our classrooms and playgrounds. May we always support one another, try our best, and remember to be grateful for the people who care for us. Amen.

## KEY EVENTS

- Monday 11th - 15th May**  
Y6 SATs week
- Tuesday 12th May**  
Y2 Farm Trip
- Wednesday 13th May**  
Y1 Farm trip
- Thursday 21st May**  
Y3 & Y5 Hay Festival trip
- Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May**  
Half term
- Friday 29th May**  
Poetry by Heart at Hay Festival
- Tuesday 2nd June**  
School Nurse in to see parents - please contact the office to book.

## MESSAGES

We kindly remind parents that children do not bring in sweets or food items to share for birthdays as we have a range of allergies and religious dietary requirements within the school. We're in the Tesco Blue Token Scheme, and your tokens really do add up. If you're shopping in Tesco, please pop a token in for us! Thank you.

## THIS WEEK



Class 4 have thought about how to represent their personalities through art. They are all so marvellous and individual! [#ArtSTC](#) [#LoveSTC](#)

YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
97.7%	99.1%	96.5%	100%	99%	99.2%	98.3%


ATTENDANCE: STC 97.7% NATIONAL 94.7%



**ST THOMAS CANTILUPE**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

 Coningsby Street, Hereford HR1 2DY

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 01432 268400

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 [www.st-thomascantilupe.org](http://www.st-thomascantilupe.org)



# STC Curriculum Focus



**Training days:**  
Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2025  
Monday 5th January 2026  
and Friday 17th July 2026  
May Day: Monday 4th May 2026



## Nursery & Year R

Reception have been busy planting flowers to brighten our lovely outside area! #EYFSstc



## Year 1 & Year 2

Class 2 investigated the continuous line technique on Tuesday, using drawing pens, graphite and oil pastels to create detailed insect drawings. Focusing on the key concepts 'shape' and 'line', their creativity really came to life! #artstc @accessart.bsky.social #ks1stc #lovestc



## Year 3 & Year 4

Class 3 have worked so hard in their swimming lessons, we have seen such fantastic progress. They enjoyed the walk to and from the pool too. #lovestc #pestc #swimming #MayFair #RiverWye



## Year 5 & Year 6

Class 6 have been comparing sound waves. They used the ukuleles to create loud, quiet, high-pitched and low-pitched sounds and discussed how and why the sound waves would be different. They've also been busy with final revision before the SATs next week. #ScienceSTC #perseveranceSTC

### Term Dates:

#### Autumn

**Starts**  
3.9.25  
**Half Term**  
27.10.25 - 31.10.25  
**Ends**  
19.12.25

#### Spring

**Starts**  
06.01.26  
**Half Term**  
16.02.26-20.02.26  
**Ends**  
27.03.26

#### Summer

**Starts**  
13.04.26  
**Half Term**  
25.05.26-29.05.26  
**Ends**  
16.07.26



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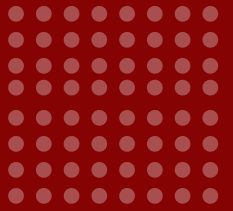
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LOVE



We loved welcoming Emma of Radway Bridge Garden Centre, where we shared our knowledge, love and enthusiasm for gardening and looking after nature. She was delighted to tour our grounds with our Garden Gang Leaders. They have kindly donated compost, seeds and recycled pots. We look forward to visiting the experts at Radway soon!  
#nationalgardeningweek #lovestc

**'God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.'** John 4:16

**Jesus has the brightest love of all: God is love. Jesus is God with us. He is God in human form. He is the very definition of love. He has the brightest love ever!**

**Love brings light: Love is the flame of the candle, making the world brighter. The more we love God and love one another, the brighter we shine.**

**Love is our purpose: To shine bright with light is the purpose of a candle. To shine bright with love is our purpose as people - as Jesus shows us.**



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# STC Rights Respecting School



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is an important agreement by countries who have promised to protect children's rights.

It explains who children are, all their rights, and the responsibilities of governments.

All the rights are connected. They are all equally important and they cannot be taken away from children



**12** I have the right to be listened to, and taken seriously

When adults are making decisions that affect me, I have a right to say what I think and be listened to.

I have a right for my views to help inform decisions about what happens to me, at home, in school, in my community and in my country.

Adults should support me so that I can give my views in a way that is best for me to do so.

The ABCDE of rights:

- A: Rights are for ALL children (Universal)
- B: Rights are there at BIRTH (inherent)
- C: Rights CANNOT be taken away (inalienable)
- D: Rights DO NOT have to be earned (unconditional)
- E: All rights are EQUALLY important (indivisible)

If you're interested in getting involved, please contact Miss East or Miss Scott, our RRSA lead teachers.



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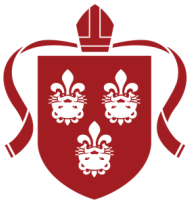
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### Clubs

#### PE days

Year R

Wednesdays

Year 1

Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 2

Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 3

Monday & Tuesday

Year 4

Monday & Tuesday

Year 5 & 6

Thursday & Friday

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Y1/2 Outdoor Games	Y3/4 Tag Rugby		Y3-Y4 Doodle Club
Y5/6 Craft Club	Y3-6 Drama		

## GENERAL NOTICES

Clubs start Monday 13th April for 6 weeks. Any uncollected children will be taken to ASC and there will be a charge for this. If children are not collected from ASC by 5:15pm there will be a penalty charge.

- **Purchase uniform items** (jumper, tie, bookbag) from us via [www.eduspot.co.uk](http://www.eduspot.co.uk)
- **Illness/absence** Parents must call the school office before 10am each day of absence to give an update
- **Lunches** book by Friday the week before via [www.eduspot.co.uk](http://www.eduspot.co.uk) cancel before 8.30 am on the day by calling AIP 01568 610432
- **Clubs Y1-Y6 finish at 4pm.** Uncollected children will be taken to ASC and a charge of £5.00 will be payable.
- **Breakfast and after school care (ASC) Call 07547093255** Book in advance via [www.eduspot.co.uk](http://www.eduspot.co.uk) **3.15-4.15pm (Mon-Fri), 4.15-5.15pm (Monday-Thursday only)**
- **ASC for Nursery pupils** is only available **3.15-4.15pm**
- **Drop offs and pick-ups at nursery** If you arrive after 8.45 am or pick up before 3.15 pm ring the nursery team on **07547093255**
- **TAX-FREE CHILDCARE** Find out more about your eligibility here: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>
- **FREE SCHOOL MEALS – DO YOU QUALIFY?** If you qualify for Free School Meals, financial support is available from Herefordshire Council for school holidays which should be used to purchase local supermarket vouchers; as well as having school lunches free each school day. If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals go to: **Free school meals – Herefordshire Council** to apply or talk to our office staff
- Foodshare every Tuesday and Wednesday provided we have stock. Please bring your own bags. All food is free.



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Should I keep my

# child off school?

## Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

## No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
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SCAN ME

Advice and guidance  
To find out more, search for



## REMINDERS FOR PUPILS

### School uniform

- School jumper (V-neck dark grey with logo and collar piping)
- School tie (plain red- elasticated or standard)
- White buttoned shirt (short or long sleeved)
- Black trousers, skirt, or pinafore dress
- Black socks or tights
- Smart black shoes

### Be proud and smart

- Hair decoration should be kept to a minimum with simple hair bands only, in natural hair colours.
- No jewellery should be worn apart from **plain** stud earrings. This includes no Smart watches. A simple standard analogue watch may be worn to help pupils with learning the time. Pupils are not allowed phones in the school, if pupils need access to a phone after school, they must be given into the office on arrival for safekeeping.
- No nail varnish should be worn.
- Longer hair should be tied back.

### Second-hand uniform

- We encourage families to donate good quality school uniform for others to the school office. By donating uniform you are helping keep good clothing out of landfill and recycling uniform to children who need it.
- Please ask us if you need support with obtaining school uniform
- Herefordshire Free School Uniform has a [website listing current stock](#) available for collection.

## Attendance

At St Thomas Cantilupe CofE Primary, we are committed to ensuring that your child receives the best possible education and support. We strongly believe that regular school attendance is crucial for the educational progress and overall wellbeing of our pupils.

### Expectations



As parents/carers, you have a legal duty to ensure that your child attends school regularly.

The Department for Education (DfE) provides clear guidance for parents regarding attendance expectations. Unauthorised absences can negatively impact your child's education.

### Term-Time Holidays



We understand that family time is important, but according to Department for Education (DfE) guidelines, term-time holidays are not permitted as they impact your child's education.

Absences due to holidays disrupt learning and result in missed opportunities in the classroom.

### Potential Penalty Notices

If the national threshold of 10 unauthorised absences in a 10 week period is met, the school has a duty to notify Herefordshire Council Enforcement Team and you may face a penalty notice and/or other legal action.

Please be aware that unauthorised absences may lead to local authority penalty notices. A penalty notice is issued to each parent for each child. A fixed-penalty notice of £80 may be issued if paid within 21 days, increasing to £160 if paid within 28 days. If you get a second fine in 3 years it will be £160. If you do not pay the fine in 28 days you may be taken to court for keeping your child out of school.

If your child is off school 3 or more times within the 3 years you will not be fined but may be taken to court.

This is in line with DfE guidance and is intended to deter unnecessary absences. Herefordshire Council policy and guidance can be found here: [School attendance and absences information for parents and carers – Herefordshire Council](#)

## Term Length 2025-26

### Autumn Term 1

3 September 2025 to 24 October 2025 (38 days)

School holiday: 27 October 2025 to 31 October 2025

### Autumn Term 2

3 November 2025 to 19 December 2025 (35 days)

School holiday: 22 December 2025 to 5 January 2026

### Spring Term 3

6 January 2026 to 13 February 2026 (29 days)

School holiday: 16 February 2026 to 20 February 2026

### Spring Term 4

23 February 2026 to 27 March 2026 (25 days)

School holiday: 30 March 2026 to 10 April 2026

### Summer Term 5

13 April 2026 to 22 May 2026 (29 days) Bank holiday 4 May

School holiday: 25 May 2026 to 29 May 2026

### Summer Term 6

1 June 2026 to 16 July 2026 (34 days)

## Messages

We are delighted to be able to share with you the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report. The report highlights how well the STC enables all pupils and adults to flourish, living up to its foundation as a Church school. You can read the full report at: [SIAMS Report Library: National Society for Education](#). Our January 2026 Ofsted report is available to read via the Ofsted website and also our school website.



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**Make your vote count!**  
Every group gets support.  
Your choice makes a difference.

**Vote now**

**Connetus**  
Take Service Together  
Building a secure future for vulnerable 16-25 year olds who have moved from social housing to independent living. Promoting confidence and social skills.  
Hereford  
Vote in-store until 31 July 2026

**Hope Support Services**  
Cooking Classes for 10-16s  
Young people aged 10-16 will learn healthy, nutritious cooking skills and recipes in a fun environment. To help feed the whole family, unless a child has a life-threatening illness.  
Based on WPA  
Vote in-store until 31 July 2026

**St Thomas Cantilupe Primary School**  
School Sensory Garden  
A sensory garden where primary-aged children can grow vegetables, nurture plants, and explore nature - promoting hands-on learning, wellbeing, and environmental awareness.  
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Hereford

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Term dates 2026/27

**AUTUMN TERM 2026:**

**Term Starts:** Thursday 3rd September 2026  
**Half Term:** Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2026  
**Term Ends:** Friday 18th December 2026

**SPRING TERM 2027:**

**Term Starts:** Wednesday 6th January 2027  
**Half Term:** Monday 15th to February to 19th February 2027  
**Term Ends:** Thursday 25th March 2027

**SUMMER TERM 2027:**

**Term Starts:** Monday 12th April 2027  
**Half Term:** Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027  
**Term Ends:** Tuesday 20th July 2027

**Other dates:**

Good Friday 26th March 2027  
May Day 3rd May 2027

**Staff Training Days:**

Tuesday 1st September 2026  
Wednesday 2nd September 2026  
Tuesday 5th January 2027  
Wednesday 21st July 2027  
2 twilights

**MESSAGES**



**ADHD and ASD assessment – Right To Choose**  
**Right To Choose**  
**Information on alternative referral options for ADHD & ASD assessment**  
If you are based in England under the NHS you now have a legal right to choose your mental healthcare provider and your choice of mental healthcare team, this includes for referrals relating to Autism and ADHD assessment. This service is offered through the NHS and is free.



**SEND Newsletter**



Find information from the Herefordshire SEND team via this link.

You can keep up to date with our day to day learning and enrichment activities by following the school's BlueSky account. We post lots of photographs, video and information about what's happening in school on the platform. To find out more about how to create your own account click the [link here](#) or come in and chat to Mrs Higgins. We use the handle @st-thomascantilupe.bsky.social search for us to follow us.

**How do I join Bluesky?**



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# FREE MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WORKSHOP

We are Farming Minds Charity want to help challenge and break down the stigmas associated with Mental Health in the farming community.

We want to help and guide as many people as possible, and let people know that it is ok not to be ok.

Our free workshops are open to anyone in the farming community or those who may come in contact with those in the farming community.

### Topics Covered

- What is Mental Health?
- Mental Health in Agriculture
- Impacts of Mental Health
- Barriers and Stigma
- Suicide and Self-Harm
- Stressors and Warning Signs
- Strategies to manage your emotions
- Support Networks and useful contacts

If you would like to find out more about the workshops or to book a place, please contact:

Call/Text: **07354 978344**  
 Email: [office@wearefarmingminds.co.uk](mailto:office@wearefarmingminds.co.uk)  
[www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk](http://www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk)

The workshops are run in partnership with Herefordshire Mind, a local mental health charity.



Taking the bull by the horns to tackle Mental Health in the farming community  
 Registered charity number: 1199431

## Halo's BIG OPEN DAY

### Saturday 9th May

halo

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AT HALO LEISURE

Every school holiday we have a fantastic lineup of activities to keep kids active, engaged, and having a blast!

- FAMILY FUN SWIMMING
- RACKET SPORTS
- JUNIOR GYM SESSIONS
- JUMPING INDOOR SOFT PLAY
- INTENSIVE SWIMMING LESSONS
- AND MORE...

Halo Leisure are here to keep your kids active and having fun!

To find out more and view timetables visit [www.haloleisure.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.haloleisure.org.uk/whats-on)

halo

## The Hereford Hub

### School Holiday Club

For children age 4 - 12yrs

Hinton Community Centre

Friday 29th May 8.45am-3pm

21st & 22nd, 23rd & 24th July 8.45am-3pm

BOOK NOW TO SECURE YOUR PLACE

## MAY HALF TERM INTENSIVE SWIMMING LESSONS

Get 50% OFF your booking — only £17.50 total for 4 lessons!

Limited spots — don't miss out! Call us on 01432 842075, or pop in to your local pool to secure your child's place.

halo

\*Terms & conditions apply. Offer ends 17th May 2026.

The Conquest Theatre Presents

# CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

Music and Lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman  
 Adapted for the Stage by Jeremy Sams  
 Music by Special Arrangement with Sony/ATV  
 Based on the MGM Motion Picture Licensed Script Adapted by Ray Rodriguez

## AUDITIONS

Auditions are now open for anyone aged 10 and above!

Pre-audition workshop - Sunday 17th May 2.30pm  
 Youth audition - Sunday 24th May 2.30pm  
 Adult audition - Tuesday 2nd June 7.00pm  
 Adult audition - Sunday 7th June 2.30pm

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang - This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI - [www.MTIShows.co.uk](http://www.MTIShows.co.uk)

# ST. MARTIN'S MESSY Church

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH HALL, ROSS ROAD, HERFORD

FRIDAY 8TH MAY 4-5.30PM

ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, GAMES, FOOD AND A BIBLE STORY  
 FUN FOR ALL AGES  
 CHILDREN MUST BRING AN ADULT

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