

# St. Thomas's C.E. Primary School

Hodnet Drive, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan, WN4 8PQ

☎01942-201107 Fax: 01942-717824

e-mail: office@ashtonsaintthomas.wigan.sch.uk

At St Thomas's our children follow the Blackburn Diocese scheme of work which is endorsed by the Diocese of Liverpool. Collective worship is held every day and our vicar Rev. Jeremy Thomas and other members of the church lead one worship in school every week. We are very proud of our very close relationship with St Thomas's church and hold several services there which are planned and led collaboratively between church and school. Rev. Thomas or other members of the church community visit classes throughout school to teach and lead discussions with the children to enrich their learning. Our Y6 children also attend a Eucharist service as part of their curriculum work.

Religious Education at St Thomas's encourages children to develop their sense of identity as a person, developing a sense of community whilst considering their own place in the world. The principles of Christianity and their foundation from the scriptures form the ethos of our school and are evident in all aspects of school life. Our pupils also study other faiths and are taught to be tolerant and respectful towards them.

As a school we have chosen the **Christian Values** of **Koinonia** (fellowship), **Respect**, **Forgiveness**, **Truthfulness** and **Service** to explore in depth. Staff and children are encouraged to show Christian Values in all aspects of school life and we recognise the examples demonstrated in our weekly celebration assembly where a Christian Values Award and WWJD wristbands are given to the nominees.

Another aspect the school focuses on is **British Values**. The DfE have recently reinforced the need "to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental **British Values** of **democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.**"

At St Thomas's we aim to provide teaching and learning opportunities for all children, to explore and aim to 'live' by these values as we do our school values. Work and discussion on these social and moral values encourage children to focus on how we should live and question how they relate to other cultures, religions and our national life.

Representatives from KS2 assist in helping to maintain and develop our Christian ethos and promote Christian and British Values.

Useful web link-<http://christianvalues4schools.org.uk/>