



St Thomas More School Newsletter

13th September

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents and Guardians

A great start to the new academic year!

The new academic year has started with lots of energy and enthusiasm and we look forward to a wonderful term of learning, growth and fun. Our new Reception children have been settling in well and exploring various areas of the classroom including the reading corner, creative arts and the outdoor space. We have focused on helping the children to get to know one another and making new friends which has been wonderful to see. It was lovely seeing our new parents join us for the coffee morning and a big thank you to all the parents and staff who have helped make the transition to school so special.

I would like to thank Father Pawel and our Year 6 children who led our Welcome Mass this morning. Our church was blessed with beautiful sounds and it was truly a wonderful and heart-warming celebration.

What's been happening this week in the classrooms?

We are very lucky to have a passionate and dedicated team of staff who believe that not all learning needs to take place indoors and so they put their 'Muddy Puddles' training to good use by taking some learning outdoors.

Year 1 have been reading the Gingerbread man and they told me that they had learned the word 'sequence' and were able to order the pictures in the story to develop their language and storytelling skills. They've built bridges using blocks for him to run across and practised their motor skills by colouring him. They also created shapes using elastic bands on our Geoboards.

Our Year 2 children amazed me this week by welcoming me into their class in French! They continued their story of The Bear and the Piano and they were designing their own book marks for their 'reading for pleasure books'. They also learned about our core values and I must say, they have been amazing role models this week.

Our Year 3 children explored the thoughts and feelings of characters in their book, The Stone Age Boy, and engaged in role-play, to develop those all-important speaking, listening and language development skills. They then took their learning outdoors to explore how hunting tools may have been used and also had their maths lesson outdoors creating number lines with chalk on the play-ground for others to use.

Our Year 4 children have been reading The Iron Man and used the outside space to visualise how big he was from the description in the book by using chalk to draw the size – he was BIG!!

Our Year 5 children took their learning outdoors by exploring Roman numerals using natural resources and already they are making super progress! They have also been busy with solving problems and working together and have amazed me with how much work they have completed already!

Our Year 6 children took their learning outdoors to use oral rehearsal and movement opportunities to explain the human circulatory system of how blood is pumped around the body and were using words such as 'oxygenated' and 'deoxygenated' and I think we have some doctors and scientists in the making!

If you haven't already, please join and like our Facebook page to find lots of photos of the amazing work our children are doing each week – we are all extremely proud!

Mrs P Le Breton
Acting Head of School

Prayer



Heavenly Father,

We come before You with hearts full of hope and compassion, lifting up all those who are sick. May your healing hand rest upon them, bringing comfort in their pain and strength in their weakness. Grant wisdom to the doctors and nurses who tend to them, guiding their hands and hearts with compassion and surround the sick with the love of family, friends and community, reminding them they are not alone. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our healer and redeemer.



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Merit Award

- 1S Noah
- 1C Aria
- 2D Alice
- 2D Daniel
- 2F Lamiya
- 3B Mollie
- 3L Lily
- 4L Arora
- 4S Sophia
- 5W Kayson
- 5C Hope
- 6B Faith
- 6F Oscar

Education Sunday



On Sunday, we celebrated education and prayed for all those in education and those who work in education. Children from St Benedicts and our school were invited to read bidding prayers during Mass. Well done to Andy, Gbemi, Lyanna, Ben and Elias for representing our school.



Punctuality Peacock
RR 3L 6B



Attendance Anteater
3B & 4L



Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

- 1** Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app
Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select a specific primary school or select 'Schools in Need'.
- 2** Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com
Asda will donate a percentage of your shop to your chosen school each time you shop and scan.
- 3** Asda does the rest
The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to schools to spend on what they need most. This won't affect your own Cashpot earn.

Once opted in and selected a school, we will add £1 to your chosen schools Cashpot to help get them started.
Each school will get an additional £50 added to their Cashpot, after at least one customer has shopped and scanned their Rewards app.

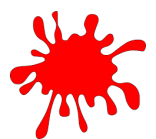
Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

Whole School Attendance

97%

Parish News

Monday 16th September 2024 is creative church for pre-schoolers and their parents or guardians. Come along and get creative from 8.45am-9.50am.





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Term 1

16th September 2024

EYFS in full time

17th September 2024

Medway Test in school Y6

8.30 start

18th September 2024

Medway Test in School Y6

8.30 start

19th September 2024

Flu vaccines

23rd September 2024

EYFS & Y6 height and weight

25th September 2024

Y6 Chessington Trip

4th October 2024

Harvest Festival Mass
9.30am—Church

9th October 2024

Y6 Liturgy 9.15-9.25—Hall

10th October 2024

Individual School photos

10th October 2024

Y3 Stoneage workshop

11th October 2024

BYPT Reading/Phonics Y1-6
workshop 9.15-9.45

11th October 2024

Reading workshop—Hall
2-2.30 followed by Phonics
workshop 2.30-3

16th October 2024

Parents Evening 4-7

17th October 2024

Parents Evening 5-8

18th October 2024

Last day of Term 1

Term 2

28th October 2024

Term 2 begins

30th October 2024

Y5 Liturgy 9.15-9.45

1st November 2024

All Saints Day & All Souls
Mass in Church 0.30

8th November 2024

BYPT Maths Y1-6 9.15-9.45

8th November 2024

Maths Workshop for par-
ents—Hall 10-10.30

20th November 2024

Y4 Liturgy 9.15-9.45

25th November 2024

Book Fair

2nd December 2024

EYFS PJ Day

2nd December 2024

KS1 Panto

6th December 2024

Christmas Fair KS2 Play-
ground 3.30-4.30

11th December 2024

Christmas Productions

EYFS & KS1 9.15-10

KS2 10.15-11

£2 per ticket

12th December 2024

Christmas Production

EYFS & KS1 3.30-4.15

KS2 4.30-5.15

£2 per ticket

13th December 2024

Mass—Church 9.30

16th December 2024

KS2 Panto Central Theatre

17th December 2024

Children's Christmas lunch

19th December 2024

End of Term 2

20th December 2024

SDD





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SEN support

Individual provision and school-based support plans were sent home for children with additional needs who are maintained on the school SEN support register at the end of last term. Should you have any questions regarding the targets set or the support in place for your child, please discuss this with the Class Teacher.

Mrs Austin our SENDCO is also available if required to discuss any questions or queries that you may have. If you would like to arrange a call or meeting please call via the office **01634864701** or email sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk

Safeguarding

Safeguarding

Dear Parents

Please sign up to our fantastic resource The National College where you can find lots of useful information to support young adults, children including those with SEN and yourself. There is a whole host of information about Disney+, Snapchat, Roblox, YouTube, Whatsapp, conversation starters to help parents talk to their children about their mental health, cyberbullying, tips for stronger passwords, artificial intelligence and much, much more.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's online habits, speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance or contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy Head, Mrs Le Breton if you believe a child is at risk of harm.

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-thomas-more-catholic-primary-school-8>

If your child has been a victim of online bullying and has had a nasty message, picture or video posted about them, you can ask the school for support to help find out who might have posted the content. In addition to your child speaking to you, they may wish to talk to someone outside of the family about what has happened to them and how it made them feel. Let them know that they can always call Childline with any worry, big or small on 0800 11 11. Within school, all children have posters available to them with the telephone number and also who to speak to if they're worried. Children also have a safeguarding notice board and have had a safeguarding assembly at the start of this academic year to support them.

If you are worried about a child, please contact Medway Safeguarding Children's Partnership to report your concerns or contact the school's safeguarding team for further support in doing so. You can also report through the NSPCC.

https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200170/children_and_families/600/concerned_about_a_child/2

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/>

Mrs Le Breton Designated Safeguarding Lead/Acting Head of School

Mrs Deamer (Jody) Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/Pastoral Manager