



St Thomas More School Newsletter

10th November 2023

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

RR Tor Zion

RR Tiara

RC Tyler

1S Ninoula

1C Bogdan

2F Esther

2F Aida

2D Lucas

2D Orla

3B Amen-Grace

3L Arora

3L Ezekiel

4S Ifechukwu

4L Henry

5C Lyanna

5M Alisa

5M Amber

6C Julia

6F Erin

Dear Parents,

We started this week with a whole school assembly about Remembrance Day, we thought carefully about all the people who, over the years, have given their life and service to protect others.

The children discussed how the actions of these people - even over one hundred years ago - were driven by the Fundamental British Values that we still live by today, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

We incorporated History and Music into our assembly with the children looking at the chronology of the conflict in which British soldiers have served and our Year 6 children started our assembly by performing the songs 'The White Cliffs of Dover', 'It's a Long Way to Tipperary' and 'Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag' which they have been learning in their Music lessons linked to their learning in their History lessons about the World Wars. The recording of their performance will be on our school website and our Facebook page so do log on to watch.

There are poppies available to buy from the school office which will also be available on Monday so if your child has not yet purchased one please remind them of this.

Although we held a minute's silence in our assembly on Monday to think of all those who have served, please do talk with your children this weekend about Remembrance Day and partake in the two minute silence that we observe across the country.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon

Remembrance prayer for children

We remember those who stood for love and truth,
And thank you for the sacrifice they made for me and you.
Thank you that we can now enjoy peace and learn to love not fight,
Thank you that we can now sing and play, and not be scared or hide.
We pray for other countries where children live in fear,
And there is war and fighting and many are in tears.
Please help to make things better, and bring some peace to them.
Protect all those who try and help to make friends again.

Amen





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Term 2

13th November 2023

World Kindness day/Anti bullying week

17th November 2023

Children in Need—tag day

1st December 2023

KS1 Panto (in school)

4th December 2023

Advent Wreath blessing
assembly

5th & 6th December 2023

Secret Santa presents on sale

11th December 2023

Christmas project week
Tombola Tag Day
Hartbeeps Magic Sprinkles
Yr R

13th December 2023

KS1 Christmas Production
9.30

KS2 Christmas Production
13.45

14th December 2023

Meet Father Christmas
Christmas lunch
All year groups Christmas
production 4pm

15th December 2023

Advent Mass lead by 5M
Christmas Fayre

19th December 2023

KS2 Aladdin

20th December 2023

End of Term 2

Term 3

3rd January 2024

Start of Term 3

9th February 2024

End of Term 3

Term 4

19th February 2024

SDD—no children in school

Parish News

Please pray for the children on the First Reconciliation programme. Their third session is at 10am Saturday morning.

There will be Children's Liturgy at 11am Mass this Sunday.

Messy Church is every third Monday of the month. This month it falls on 20th November. Please save the date! The fun starts from 8.45am. There will be sensory play, painting, playdough, stickers and much more. The theme for this session will be Noah's Ark- God keeps His promises.

For prayer groups and other Parish information, please see the Parish website.



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Fundraising Team

You will see that we have added the Fund raising dates to the calendar, more information about these events/activities will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.



We are starting to plan the Christmas Fayre, if you have any ideas then please do either email me (Jody) flo@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk or message the Fundraising Facebook page. As usual we will be having a Christmas Raffle so are looking for donations, if you have links to a business that could make a donation it would be greatly appreciated, it does not necessarily have to be something that they sell/provide, last year we had a couple of business's that purchased a gift voucher and donated that, and of course we do share all the names of the business's that have donated to give them some advertisement.

Last year we also had some private stall holders so are thinking of trying this again this year, if you or someone you know would be interested in having a stall at the fayre please contact me so that we can discuss the pitch fee and what you will be selling.

Can you help?



Can you help?

We are in need of donations of the following:

Jigsaw puzzles for age 4-6 (30 pieces max)

Superhero action figures

Barbie or similar dolls

Playdough/plastcine

Duplo bricks

If you are able to help with any of these please drop them to reception.

Children in Need

To coincide with Children in Need day, the school council have organised a dress up in spotty, dotty clothes day. This will take place on Friday 17th November.



Please bring a £1 donation and any clean, spare teddies that you no longer want.

Donations of teddies will be donated to a cause chosen by the school council.

Year R

Year R held their own Remembrance day parade. The children pretended to be soldiers marching to the drum beat and standing to attention. They will be exploring poppies in memory of the soldiers who fought.



Library News

Our library assistants asked the staff who their favourite authors were for National Author's Day. The children thought about their favourite author.



We also celebrated...

Sirius Black's birthday (Harry Potter character)

Nell Gaiman's Birthday (Author of Coraline)

And of course

Remembrance day

Next week is Nursery Rhyme week so we will be doing some activities with KS1.



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A big Happy Birthday to..

Buddy

Cian

Alfie

Samuil

Jaden

Chelsea

Joseph

Do you have a child starting secondary school in September 2024?

(children born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013)

Friday 1st March—National offer day

Please visit [Medway.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.medway.gov.uk/admissions) for more information

Do you have a child starting primary school in September 2024?

You must apply to your home LA i.e if you pay your council tax to Medway you would apply to Medway if you pay it to Maidstone you would apply to Kent.

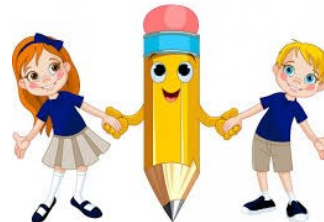
Medway residents can apply from 0am Monday 4th September

Monday 14th January 2024—Primary applications close

You can read about primary admissions at

[medway.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://www.medway.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Tuesday 16th April 2024—Primary offers sent out



Uniform reminder

Please remember that every child is to be in full school uniform everyday.

If children have earrings these should be removed by their parent/guardian or they should be taped over. Hair should be tied up.





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Safeguarding

Safeguarding

Parental Advice on Contacting Social Media Sites

It is easy for adults and young children to share things online that sometimes they may wish that they hadn't. If a child has posted something that they regret, you should advise them to delete it from their account as quickly as they can. Most websites and social media platforms provide an option for users to report to them to request removal of 'content' such as videos, pictures, comments or profiles that might be upsetting. However, it is important to know that making a report doesn't mean that the content will definitely be removed. Most websites and social media sites have a set of rules (Terms of Use) which they expect people using their site to obey.

Please click on the following link and scroll down to see the really useful guides of how to report, block or remove content.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Reporting-to-social-media-sites/>

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/Deputy Head

Mrs Ebdon Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/Headteacher

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

Our Safeguarding team are:

Mrs Le Breton Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ebdon Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Jody Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Simon D'Souza Safeguarding Governor

Sinead Joshi Safeguarding Governor

If you have any questions, or are worried about a child, please speak to us.