



St Thomas More School Newsletter

29th April 2022

Dates for your diary

Term 5

19/4/2022

Term 5 begins

2/5/2022

Early May Bank Holiday

3/5/2022

Second hand uniform sale

9-12/5/2022

KS2 Sats week

26/5/2022

Term 5 finishes

27/5/2022

Staff Development Day

(No children in school)

Term 6

6/6/2022

Term 6 Begins

14/7/2022

Sports Day (weather permitting)

18/7/2022

Year 6 Production (PM time to be announced)

19/7/2022

Year 6 Production (early evening)

20/7/2022

Year 6 End of Year Festival

21/7/2022

Year 6 End of Year Mass (KS2 only)

22/07/2022

Staff Development Day

(No children in school)

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy day today, we had our first maths workshop for parents, 'Using MyMaths to Support with Learning at Home'. I hope that all who attended found this useful and informative, our next 2 maths workshops for parents will be about 'Written Calculations for KS1' and 'Written Calculations for KS2' on the 13th May and 20th May respectively.

Our Emotional Wellbeing Support Practitioner, Emily, delivered 'Understanding Your Child's Behaviour' parent workshop this morning and will be delivering 'Understanding Your Child's Anxiety' on 6th May. Please sign up to attend these workshops as those who have attended have found them extremely useful.

We have organised our parent workshops this year based on responses from the parental questionnaire that was sent out at the start of the academic year. If there are other workshops that you would find useful please let the office, or your child's teacher, know and we can then organise support based on what parents would like.

I would like to say a huge thank you to those who have offered to come into school as parent helpers, someone will be in touch soon to find out what days/times are best for you and when we can welcome you in! if anyone else is able to come in for a morning or afternoon a week please let your child's teacher or the office know, the more the merrier!

I hope you all have a lovely bank holiday weekend

Kind regards

Mrs Ebdon

Parent workshops for Mathematics

Friday 13th May 2022 9:15 – 9:45 am – Written calculations (KS1)

This session will demonstrate taught methods in school for the four operations within mathematics (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and discuss the importance of manipulatives in KS1. EYFS parents are also welcome to attend in readiness for KS1.

Friday 20th May 2022 9:15 – 9:45 am – Written calculations (KS2)

This session will demonstrate taught methods in school for the four operations within mathematics (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) using the concrete, pictorial and abstract approach.



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Merit Awards

Tomi O RR

Austin M RS

Emmanuella A 1D

Blake D 1J

Isabelle H 1J

Jaden O 2F

Akif K 2S

Aaron K 3C

Orlaith C 3B

Lyanna B 3B

Jeremiah D 4S

Ocean-Storm F 4T

Brandon BB 5H

David S 5M

Lionel F 5M

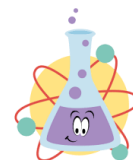
Sola A 6C

Peyia R 6C

Noah A 6B

Lucie A 6B

Well done everyone



Tireni – 1D

Zac, Sophia G, Elias, Koby, Felicity, Sophia C, Morire – 2F

Roslyne, William, Emanuel, Effee – 2S

Lili, Callum, Gbemi – 3C

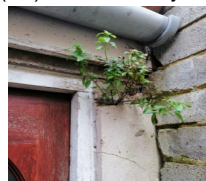
Anabelle—4T

Science Week Competition Winners!

During Science Week, we ran a competition for children to guess the job of some scientists, based on three items they showed and talked about. Congratulations to the children mentioned above who worked out what these scientists do

Thank you to all those who took part in the Finding Plants competition – you certainly found plants growing in strange places!

Our winner is Anne (1D) and her family. **Congratulations!**



During The month of May, Our Lady's special month you are **invited** to come and pray the Rosary with us in the hall before school at **8:30am** Please come and join us when you can.





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A big Happy Birthday to..

**Vinnie L
Alanei B
Lorraine G
Joshua I
Lenny H
Hope P
Didier-Dylan H
Darcy H
Eliana O
Andrew T**



SATS

During May, Year 2 and Year 6 SATs take place. In the summer term we also have our Year 1 phonics screen and our Year 4 multiplication tests that all schools are required to complete by the Government.

We work extremely hard to keep these tests as low key and stress free as possible. Throughout their school journey, we teach our children that measuring one aspect of our knowledge is in no way a measure of us as a person, that we are all unique and have been given our own range of talents that differ from person to person and these differences are what makes our world such a wonderful place.

We teach our children that our individuality is to be treasured and that we are no more, or less, than anyone else based on where our talents lie. We will be sharing this prayer with our children to reassure anyone who may be feeling anxious and to remind them how special they all are.

Dear Lord,

As I take this test, I thank you that my value is not based on my performance, but on your great love for me. Come into my heart so that we can walk through this time together. Help me, not only with this test, but the many tests of life that are sure to come my way.

As I take this test, bring back to my mind everything I studied and be gracious with what I have overlooked. Help me to remain focussed and calm, confident in the facts and in my ability, and firm in the knowledge that no matter what happens today you are there with me.

Amen



National Online Safety

Please don't forget to sign up to our free resource for parents from the National Online Safety platform. You can access it by signing up using your email and our school name. There is so much information which you'll find useful and informative. Please let us know if you have any trouble signing up as we can help you.

https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/certified-membership-ppc?utm_term=national%20online%20safety&utm_campaign=NOS+-+Online+Safety+PPC&utm_source=adwords&utm_medium=ppc&hsa_acc=1751242191&hsa_cam=14671965033&hsa_grp=127542835659&hsa_ad=546510075989&hsa_src=g&hsa_tgt=kwd-756102844771&hsa_kw=national%20online%20safe-ty&hsa_mt=b&hsa_net=adwords&hsa_ver=3&gclid=Cj0KCQjw06OTBhC_ARIsAAU1yOXCE7An0TDpNLEEO_pVTedOxPA-xPgft6tkcaazc1r9--fUj_K4Z4aAmyYEALw_wcB



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Reminders

Packed lunches—please could you try to use a wrapping other than cling film. Sandwich bags or foil are preferable. Please also remember to provide cutlery if your child has something in their lunch box that requires it as we do not have spares available in school. Please check your child's carton has a straw attached as we have had a few instances where a child has been disappointed that they have not been able to drink their juice carton and have had to have water instead. The PTFA have a limited amount of environmentally friendly sandwich wrap's, we are selling these in school for £3 each there are a variety of designs.

School dinners: Thank you for settling your dinner balances .

Office hours: the office is manned 8-4pm. Please use our absence line to report an absence. Please can any non urgent queries be emailed or if you do need to call please call between 10-12. Between 12-2 is our protected admin time and calls may be forwarded to answerphone.

Earrings: Please remember that earrings need to be removed for school everyday. We will call parents to come in to school to remove earrings if children have them in when they arrive.



An increasing number of children are bringing in items within their packed lunch box that contain nuts.

We have had to ask children to tell their parents that Nutella chocolate spread is not allowed in school. We have children with severe allergies to nuts. There are many alternative snacks and sandwich fillings that do not contain nuts and we politely ask that you use these instead.

Attendance & Punctuality

Our current whole school attendance is **93.4%** which is below the National target of **97%** please help us improve our attendance by ensuring your child is in school every-day ,on time. We have had an increasing number of late students coming through the office recently. We realise that Covid-19 has a negative effect on a child's attendance and this makes it even more important that they are in school on time at all other times.

SAFEGUARDING

What to do if you are worried about a child:

Members of the public and professionals can use a referral and contact form to report any safeguarding concerns about a child or a young person to Medway's First Response service. Once the form has been submitted, it will be reviewed and assessed and action will be taken. Please use the following link:

[Report a child safeguarding concern](#) | [Concerned about a child](#) | [Medway Council](#)

You can also phone 01634 334466 or use the 24 hour emergency number 03000 419 191. You can also call NSPCC on 0808 800 5000, Child Line on 0800 1111 or Medway Police on 01622 690 690.

Please remember to go to our Safeguarding section for parents/carers on our school website to learn more about keeping your child safe online. There is also a section for children too with some useful links.

Parents are encouraged to **T.A.L.K** to their children about the dangers.

Talk to your child about online safety. Start the conversation – and listen to their concerns.

- **Agree ground rules** about the way you use technology as a family.
- **Learn about the platforms** and apps your child loves. Take an interest in their online life.
- **Know how to use tools**, apps and settings that can help to keep your child safe online.

Discuss and agree on privacy settings for the platforms and apps your