



St Thomas More School Newsletter

5th December 2025

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Knowledge-rich, skills-led learning for all
Christ at our heart
Serving everyone in our community
Partnership of love, ambition, joy and peace



Dear Parents & Families

The festive season is upon us, and what a wonderful time it is to reflect and prepare! We began this week by marking the start of Advent—a season of hope and anticipation as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Last year, our Gospel readings followed the Gospel according to Mark (Year C). This year, we enter **Year A**, where most of our Gospel reflections will be from the Gospel according to Matthew. This week, we have been thinking deeply about how we can prepare our hearts and minds during this special time.

In our reflections, we also looked back to the Old Testament and the story of Moses, considering how he prepared for the great flood. The children shared their thoughts beautifully—especially our younger pupils, who delighted us with their knowledge about the animals going into the ark two by two!

As always, we are so proud of the children's engagement and understanding. Their insights remind us of the joy and wonder of this season.

Elf on the Shelf Update

We are delighted to share that we passed our annual "*Elf and Safety*" check and were warmly welcomed by our three mischievous elves again this year!

However, there was a little drama midweek—several children touched the elves on Wednesday, and as you know, that means they lost their magic! They had to return to the North Pole for 24 hours to recharge. They're back and already up to mischief.

Robin Hood Panto Brings Laughter and Cheer to Our Infants!

This week, our infant pupils were treated to a fantastic visiting pantomime with the theme of **Robin Hood**. From the moment the curtain went up, the hall was filled with excitement, cheers, and plenty of laughter!

The children were captivated by the lively characters, the fun storyline, and the interactive moments that make pantomimes so special. Experiences like these not only bring joy but also help spark imagination and a love for storytelling.

A huge thank you to the performers for delivering such an engaging show and to everyone who helped make this memorable event possible. It was truly a day to remember!

Please do pay any outstanding monies otherwise we will not be able to provide these events in school for the children in future.



St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

KS2 Pantomime – Let's Make It Happen!

One of the highlights of the year for our KS2 children is the annual trip to the **Central Theatre in Chatham** for the pantomime. It's a magical experience that brings stories to life, sparks imagination, and creates wonderful memories for every child.

The excitement is building, and we can't wait to share this special day with them! However, there are still some outstanding payments. If you haven't yet paid, please do so **by today via MCAS** to ensure your child can attend with their peers.

These events are only possible with your support. While the school subsidises part of the cost, we cannot fully fund all places. Without contributions, future trips like this may not be able to go ahead.

Thank you for helping us keep these enriching experiences alive for our children!

Thank You for Supporting Our Christmas Fayre!

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents, families, and staff for your incredible support at this year's Christmas Fayre. Thankfully, the rain held off, and it was wonderful to see so many of you joining us for this festive event.

There was plenty to enjoy, from the ever-popular **bottle tombola** and **toiletries & treats tombola** to the fun games—including the **Elf in Goal challenge**! A special thank you goes to our amazing **choir** for their beautiful performance, which truly added to the festive spirit.

We'd also like to give a **special thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle**. We have a fantastic selection, including:

- A **huge hamper of goodies**
- A **£50 Smyths Toys voucher**
- A **£75 meal voucher**
- An **Amazon Fire HD 8 Kids tablet**
- **And lots more.....**

Tickets were drawn today and winners notified. . .

We hope you had a fantastic time and enjoyed everything on offer. Your support helps make events like this possible, and we are so grateful to our school community for coming together to celebrate.

Carol Concert at Rochester Cathedral

This week, some of our children had the wonderful opportunity to represent our school at the annual Carol Concert held in the magnificent Rochester Cathedral. It was a truly special occasion, bringing together schools from across the area to celebrate this festive season.

The children sang beautifully and embraced the spirit of Christmas, reflecting on its true meaning. Families who attended shared in the joy and warmth of the event, making it a memorable experience for all.



St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

We are so proud of our pupils for their participation and for helping to make this celebration so uplifting. Thank you to everyone who supported this event and joined us in marking this special time of year. A special thank you to Mrs Davies and Mrs Wilson for organising this event for the children.

Festive Note

As we approach this joyful season, let us take a moment to celebrate the spirit of togetherness, gratitude, and hope. May this time bring peace to your heart, joy to your home, and renewed strength for the year ahead.

Prayer

"Lord, we thank You for the blessings of this year and the opportunities to grow and serve. As we enter this festive season, fill our hearts with kindness, our minds with wisdom, and our lives with love. May Your light guide us into the new year with faith and courage. Amen."
Have a super weekend and we look forward to welcoming you back next week.



Head over to our Facebook page to catch up on learning this week too!

Kind regards
Mrs Le Breton

My Childs Art



So far our parents have raised £154.74 for our school just through purchasing items through My Childs's Art. There is still time to place an order and what family member doesn't love a mug with a piece of unique art work on it for Christmas. You can place your order until 31st December 2025. The username to access the site is **StThomasmore** and the access code is **3naeyd5s**.

Little Recyclers

We have booked another collection from The Little Recyclers it is on

Thursday January 15th 2026



If you are having a post Christmas clear out then please fill your bags with Good quality clean clothing, shoes (paired), bags, hats & scarves, belts, fashion accessories, swimwear, jewellery, lingerie, bras, perfumes.

They do not accept work wear, underwear, socks, duvets, linen, towels etc

Please see the full list on their website www.thelittlerecyclers.co.uk



St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

RB Sienna

RC Angelica

1B Daisy

1C Judah

2B Luke

2D Bella

3C Joel

3S Toby

4D Teti

4D Elliott

4F Andrew

5RP Ben

5RP Max

5W Arora

6F Alex

6L Anthony

6L Lola



Punctuality
Peacock

4F



Attendance

Anteater

4F



Please see our Facebook page for photos of learning and good news

CHRISTMAS TAG DAY!

We're excited to announce our festive Christmas Tag Day at school! Children are invited to come in wearing their favourite Christmas jumpers, sparkliest outfits, or festive colours to help us celebrate the season.

Instead of the usual £1 donation we will be offering a festive shop for children to visit throughout the day if they wish, a price list of what's available will be posted soon. Let's fill the school with Christmas cheer, glitter, bright colours and smiles! Thank you for your support and festive spirit! PTFA





St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Term 2

9th & 10th December 2025

Secret Santa

Tokens will be handed out to swap for the gifts

11th December 2025

Meet Father Christmas

12th December 2025

Advent Mass 5W leading

Followed by Coffee morning run by the Union of Catholic Mothers in the Church Hall

17th December 2025

Christmas Performance KS1

9.15am-10.15am

Christmas Performance KS2

10.30am-11.30am

18th December 2025

Christmas Dinner Day

18th December 2025

Christmas Performance KS1

3.15pm—4pm

Christmas Performance KS2

4.15pm—5.15pm

19th December 2025

PTFA Christmas Tag Day

Pocket money items will be on sale throughout the day

Term 2 finishes

Term Dates & SDD

Term 2

27/10/2025 – 19/12/2025

Term 3

5/1/2026—13/2/2026

Term 4

24/2/2026—2/4/2026

Term 5

20/4/2026—22/5/2026

Term 6

1/6/2026 - 17/7/2026

SDD—No children in school

Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 22nd June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026





St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

St Simon Stock Parish in Walderslade

Our Parish is primarily a place of worship. The very centre of our prayer is Jesus Christ whose Eucharist we celebrate nearly every day. Listed below are the times of our weekly Masses and Services. For more details you can look at our [Parish Diary](#) Masses are celebrated as follows:

Weekends:

Saturday 6.00 pm
Sunday 9.00 am
11.00 am

Weekdays:

Monday 10.00 am Mass
Tuesday 10.00 am Mass
Wednesday 10.00 am Mass
2pm – 10pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday 8.00 pm Mass

Holy Days of Obligation:

8.00 pm Vigil Mass
10.00 am Morning Mass
8.00 pm Evening Mass

During holiday periods, please consult the weekly newsletters for the times of all the Services.

If you wish to have a Mass celebrated for a special intention, please [contact](#) the Parish Office. The Archdiocese of Southwark guideline for a Mass intention stipend is £10.00. Reconciliation (Confession) is available on Friday from 7.15 pm -7.45 pm and Saturday from 5.15 pm – 5.45 pm also by appointment , please call: 07305 831925. Thank you

Children's Liturgy will be held every Sunday during 11am Mass during Advent.

As usual the children will be acting out the Nativity during the Gospel at the Christmas Eve 6pm Mass. If your child would like to take part there will be rehearsals from 10.30am to 10.50am every Sunday during Advent so please come along on 30th November and sign up.

Safeguarding

If you're worried about a child or would like some family support, please contact us:

Our Safeguarding Team

Mrs Le Breton Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
Mrs Murphy Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & Acting Deputy Head
Mrs Austin Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & Assistant Head
Mrs Ronja Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & EYFS Lead

Mr D'Souza Governor Safeguarding Lead

You can also contact Medway's Children's Safeguarding Partnership

https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200170/children_and_families/600/concerned_about_a_child#:~:text=If%20you%20think%20the%20child,hours%20on%2003000%20419%20191.

Or via telephone - **In an emergency phone 999.** If you think the child is at immediate risk of harm contact Medway Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm on 01634 334 466 or out of hours on 03000 419 191.