



St Thomas More School Newsletter

10th February 2023

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents

Children have had an exciting week engaging in a range of workshops and creative PSHE and ART lessons linked to the theme 'Let's connect' for children's mental health week.

Mindful Minis visited the school, hosting workshops for every class. Younger children took part in breathwork & stretches, they particularly enjoyed breathing like a lion during their sessions.

Older children engaged in role-play activities, group empathy exercises and positive affirmations.

All children explored a range of mindfulness techniques, breathing exercises and stretches to support emotional regulation.

In class, lessons and circle times were used to discuss feeling connected, the importance of family and friends and having a safety net of trusted people to talk to.

Ask your child what they got up to, it has been a wonderful week of connecting.

Kind regards

Mrs Ebdon

Rare Breeds Centre

Year 4 had a wonderful school trip to the Rare Breeds Centre this week. They were able to pet lots of animals and managed to survive the mysterious marsh! Lots of fun was had by all!





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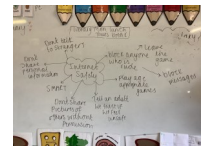
Parent coffee afternoon— fundraising

Thank you to the parents that attended the coffee afternoon, it was lovely to see some new faces, we also had some suggestions via email from people that were unable to attend which was really useful. I will send an update after half term to share what was discussed and future plans, watch this space!

Thanks, Jody

Internet Safety Day

We have raised awareness for Internet Safety Day this week. The children all took part in different activities to develop their understanding on how to stay safe online. The theme was '**Together for a better internet**'



Term 4 Dates

27th February 2023

STM World book day

2nd March 2023

NEU Teachers strike

3rd March 2023

Bring you parents to Geography

9.15—9.45

17th March 2023

Bring your parents to spelling

9.15-9.45

Spelling workshop KS2

10.15-11.15

Bring your parents to phonics

9.45-10.15

31st March 2023

Last day of Term 3

3rd April—14th April

Easter break

Term 5 dates

17th April 2023

SDD—School closed

28th April 2023

Bring you parents to History

9.15-9.45

1st May 2023

May bank holiday—School closed

8th May 2023

King Charles III Coronation bank holiday—school closed

9th-12th May 2023

SATS

26th May 2023

Last day of Term 5

29th May—2nd June

May half term

Term 6 dates

25th May 2023

Class photo taken

9-11th June 2023

Year 6 residential

23rd June 2023

SDD—school closed

26th June 2023

SDD—School closed



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A big Happy Birthday to..

Derrion I
Natanial P
Simona S
Jemimah T
Hollie W
Constance H
Edward M



Cake sale

Following our recent visit from the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, as a school we have made the decision to adopt an endangered animal. All classes have voted for which animal they would like to adopt and the Eco Team will announce the winner at the start of next term.

To raise funds for this we will be holding a cake sale on Friday 24th February (first Friday of term 4) we would appreciate any cake donations. Please can all cakes be brought into school Thursday 23rd ready to sell on Friday.



Opal relaunch

Please see our sperate attachment to see what the children have been up to in OPAL. Thank you for all of your donations to our play and learning areas.

Science week March 13th—17th

We are in need of donations of shoeboxes with detachable lids for our projects. Thank you.



Storytelling winners

Congratulations to

Arya C RR

Austin M 1D

Darasimi O 2F

Gbemisola O 4L

Annabelle C 5M

Our winners enjoyed a special library breaktime on Thursday and gained 10 house points each!

Thank you so much to everyone who participated - your videos were fantastic and made it very hard to choose! You will each receive 2





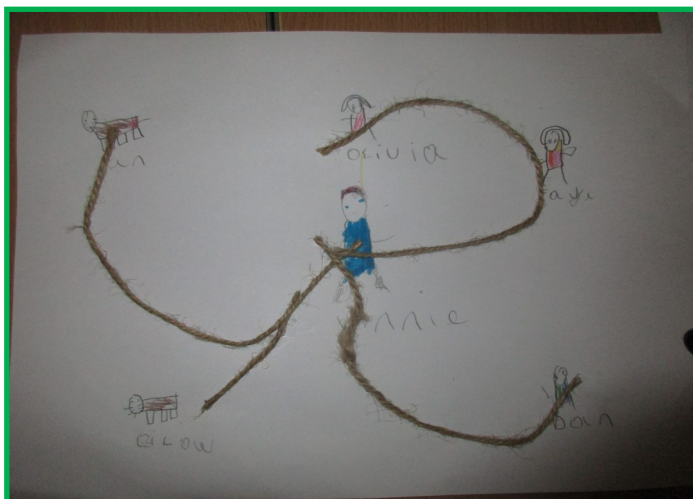
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Let's Connect

Please see some pictures below of what the children have been up to for children's mental health week.





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Hi there,

My name is Hannah and I'm a Casting Researcher at Love Productions; the company behind The Great British Bake Off, The Great British Sewing Bee and The Great Pottery Throw Down.

We are delighted to say, that we have recently opened applications for the 9th series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

With this in mind, we are contacting schools in the hope that you can help us spread the word regarding this exciting opportunity.

If you could share our casting flyer with the children, parents & staff at your school that would be really appreciated.

We are looking for young budding bakers between **9-12 years old**.

Filming would take place from July 2023, but our **applications close on Sunday 12th March 2023**.

Interested bakers can apply online at - www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk

Best wishes,

The Junior Bake Off Team

enquiries: applyforjunior-bakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk





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Merit award

Udoka O RC

Demilade O RR

Shae B 1J

Simona A 1D

Alanei B 2F

Layo S 2S

Nicole G 3B

Anthony H 3B

Isla L 3T

Blake A-B 3T

Destiny L 4L

Selvyn A 4S

Modesireoluwa A 5C

Jenson F 5M

Poppy P 6C

Seleem A 6F

Golden Welly Award



Thomas C 1J

Safeguarding

Safeguarding – Identifying Online Risks

Online safety is embedded within the curriculum and children are regularly taught how to stay safe online and how to identify online risks. To help at home, you can help children to identify and manage risks by discussing:

- the ways in which someone may put themselves at risk online
- risks posed by another person's online behaviour
- when risk taking can be positive and negative
- online reputation and the positive and negative aspects of an online digital footprint
- sharing information online and how to make a judgement about when and how to share and who to share with
- the risks of cyber crime, online fraud and identity theft

To support your child at home with this, you can sign up for free to our 'National Online Safety' platform by using the link below:

[Browse E-safety Training and Resources For Schools | National Online Safety](#)

You can also help your child by:

explaining how to identify trusted adults, access support from the school, the [National Crime Agency's Click CEOP reporting service](#) for children and 3rd sector organisations such as [Childline](#) and [Internet Watch Foundation](#)

reporting cyber crime, fraud and suspicious online activity, through organisations such as [Action Fraud](#) and the [Advertising Standards Authority](#)

reporting inappropriate contact or content for various platforms and apps

A list of media literacy resources for teachers and parents is available via the following link too:

[Online media literacy resources - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Please see the PTFA facebook page

Search St Thomas More fundraising team and ask to join.

