



St Thomas More School Newsletter

8th November 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents/Carers

What a busy week we've had!

Catholic Worship

On Monday we began our week with our First Reading taken from Deuteronomy 6:2-6, which is the fifth book of the Old Testament. In our Collective Worship, children were able to speak knowledgeably about the Commandments. Our second reading was taken from the New Testament, the Gospel according to Mark 12:28-34. There were two very important Commandments that we explored; 'Love the God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' And the second, 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' Each week, the children have the opportunity to reflect on where they are within the Gospel. When we speak about our neighbours, we refer to anyone who is around us so it is important that we show love people with interact with, people around us and people we come across.



Festival of Light



At the weekend, many families celebrated Diwali. Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' and you may have seen homes, shops and public spaces decorated with small oil lamps called 'divas'. It always falls between October and November. If you would like to find out more about Diwali, please follow this BBC link. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zjpp92p>

Remembrance Book at STM



Last week, as you know, we celebrated the feast of All Saints & All Souls. During the month of November, we remember those who are no longer with us but are very much still in our hearts. I have therefore set up a Book of Remembrance for parents, carers and children to write in. It will be kept in the front office at the beginning and end of the day if you wish to write a message. If you would like to prepare a message at home, include a photo, print and stick it in, there will be the opportunity for that too. There will be many opportunities for children to reflect on those who gave their lives during wars and conflicts too.

Bring Your Parent to Maths & Maths Workshop

Thank you for attending our Bring Your Parent to Maths session and workshop today. In primary schools, family influences have a bigger impact than school on children's attainment and research shows that children are motivated to learn about maths when their parents talk with them about the numeracy in everyday life.

Parent Forum

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended our welcome meeting. I am keen to develop a strong parent/school relationship through sharing of information and giving greater opportunity for parent voice through meeting virtually as we all have such busy lives. I look forward to meeting with you in the future.

Next Week is anti-bullying week and children can wear odd socks for the day on Tuesday 12th. On Friday 15th, children can wear their own clothes to support Children in Need – we will have buckets for collecting donations so if you can give, no matter how small, the charity would be grateful.

Staff changes

We have a couple of changes with staffing this term to mention as we say goodbye to Mrs Ibisi our ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) and Year 5 class LSA. We welcome back Mrs Richardson, a previous Year 6 LSA who is returning and will take the Year 5 Class LSA position.

We also say good bye to Mrs Walters who has been with us as a class LSA for some years. We wish them both every success as they move on to pastures new and thank them for their support and help to pupils here at STM.

Mrs Forest has joined the team as a Class LSA working across a range of year groups. Mrs Forest has been shadowing Mrs Ibisi and completing the ELSA training course. She will be taking over the ELSA role fully in the coming weeks.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Kindest regards

Mrs Le Breton



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Merit Award

- RC Leon
- RR Fraser
- 1C Arlo
- 1S Daniella
- 2D Rhea
- 2F Esther
- 3B Amaka
- 3L Sofia
- 4L Alora
- 4S Alanei
- 5W Blake
- 5C Logan
- 6B Daniel
- 6F Eyiloreoluwa

Please remember to return merit badges to school the following week. Thank you



Punctuality Peacock

Last week there were no classes with no lates, every class had a minimum of 10% of the children in each class late to school.



Attendance Anteater

1S

Whole School Attendance

94.3%

We are aiming for at least 96% whole school attendance.

Emotional Wellbeing Team

The Emotional Wellbeing Team are in school running a face to face workshop - all welcome. Please email sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk if you are attending so we can plan accordingly.

Wednesday 13th November 2024 09:30am Saint Michael's rcp school

Please email sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk to book on.

Anti bullying week 2024



12th November 2024

STM children are invited to wear odd socks.



Children in Need 2024

15th November 2024

STM children are invited to wear their own clothes

Collection buckets will be available before and after school.

Christmas Events

Every Monday up until Christmas we will be sending out a Christmas Newsletter. This will have all of the information about the upcoming Christmas events.





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Parish News

Please join the link to find out what's happening in our church, St Simon Stock. They will be holding their Christmas Fayre on Saturday 23rd November so please do come along and support this event and contact the church if you are available to help. More information can be found on the parish newsletter along with items to donate.

<https://stsimonwalderslade.co.uk/parish-newsletter/>

Masses are celebrated as follows:

Weekends: Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 9.00am or 11.00am

Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.00am (Wed 2pm – 10pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament) Friday 8.00pm



School Uniform

Remember, it is now a requirement that our winter uniform is worn (shirt, tie, jumper, cardigan, skirt/pinafore or grey trousers). Navy tights or socks can also be worn. Please look out for our pre-loved school uniform sales that happen regularly or do contact Jody, our Pastoral Manager if you need support with uniform. For more information, please follow our link:

<https://st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk/parent-information/school-uniform/>



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

Mrs Deamer Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & Pastoral Manager

Mr D'Souza Governor Safeguarding Lead

Miss Joshi 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#:~:ext=If%20you%20think%20the%20child,hours%20on%2003000%20419%20191.](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.



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Secondhand uniform sale

Monday 11th November

KS2 playground

From 3.15pm



Closing date for applications
to **primary school** is

5pm on Wednesday

15th January 2025



Term 2

11th November 2024

Secondhand uniform sale

12th November 2024

Anti bullying week

Odd socks day

13th November 2024

School nurse workshop-
Health Bladder and Bowel

At St Michael's RCP

15th November 2024

Children in Need day

Wear your own clothes

20th November 2024

Y4 Liturgy 9.15-9.45

25th November 2024

Book Fair

29th November 2024

Christmas Fair Tombola Tag
Day

2nd December 2024

EYFS PJ Day

2nd December 2024

EYFS & KS1 Panto

4th & 5th December 2024

Secret Santa Gift Shop

5th December 2024

EYFS Hartbeeps music and
sensory session

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

Prayer

Lord, remember your holy promise, and look with love on all your people, living and departed. On this day we especially ask that you would hold forever all who have suffered during war, those who returned scarred by warfare, those who waited anxiously at home, and those who returned wounded, and disillusioned; those who mourned, and those communities that were diminished and suffered loss. Remember too those who acted with kindly compassion, those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades, and those who in the aftermath of war, worked tirelessly for a more peaceful world.

And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord; grant us peace in our time and a longing for the day when people of every language, race, and nation will be brought into the unity of Christ's kingdom.

