



St Thomas More School Newsletter

4th November 2022

Dates for your diary

7th November 2022

Flu Vaccinations

9th November 2022

Year 5 Trip to London

10th November 2022

Year 2 Liturgy 9.15-9.45

11th November 2022

PTFA coffee morning (all welcome)

15th November 2022

Parents maths workshop

18th November 2022

PJ day for Children in Need

5th December 2022

Tombola tag day

6th & 7th December

Secret Santa gifts on sale

8th December 2022

Meet Father Christmas

9th December 2022

Christmas Fayre

3rd January 2023

Staff development day

(No children in school)

4th January 2023

Start of term 3

13th January 2023

Bring your parents to writing

3rd March 2023

Bring your parents to Geography

28th April 2023

Bring your parents to History

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see all the children come back for the start of Term 2, looking smart in their winter uniforms. We had our first school Mass of the term on Tuesday and 4S prepared and delivered a lovely service.

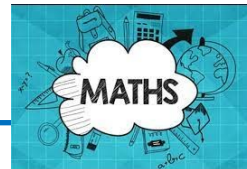
This morning we had our 'Bring Your Parents to Maths' session and an 'Understanding Anxiety' parent workshop delivered by our Mental Health Support Team worker. It was lovely to see so many parents attending these sessions and I hope you found them useful. Following on from our workshops or in-class sessions, we send out online questionnaires to help us know what aspects parents found useful and if there are any suggestions that we can implement for our future events. Please take 5 minutes to fill these questionnaires in so that we can make our parents sessions as useful as possible.

We have our next Fundraising Team coffee morning on Friday 11th November – please attend if you are able so we can finalise the plans for this year's Christmas Fayre!

I would like to say a huge congratulations to 4 of our Year 6 children, who took part in an 'Inter-School Maths Challenge' competition at Oakwood Park Grammar School in Maidstone. They performed amazingly well and came 2nd out of the teams who entered! Please read the report on this newsletter that the team have written to find out more about their day.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon



Maths workshops for parents/carers

Maths Calculations KS1 Tuesday 15th November

Maths Calculations LKS2 Tuesday 22nd November

Maths Calculations UKS2 Tuesday 29th November

9.15am start until 10.00am

Second hand school uniform sale

Monday 7th November

After school on the KS2 playground





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A big Happy Birthday to..

**Nehemiah M
Oluwalayomi S
Austin M
Amaziah O
Emmanuella A
Maria S
Cian L
Alfie Y**

Children in need 2022

The School Council have decided to raise money for Children in Need and so on Friday 18th November 2022 we will be hosting a Pyjama Day. Children can come to school wearing their Pyjamas but must wear outdoor shoes. Each child has been asked to donate £1 which will go towards the charity.



Our Christmas activity planning....



Please come along to our coffee morning on Friday 11th November at 9am. We need as many volunteers as possible to help run all of the activities we would like to hold.



Independent Craft Stalls

Do you make craft items to sell or do you have a family member or friend who would like to buy a stall at our Christmas Fayre?

If you do or know anyone that would like one please email us at

Parents@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk

Using the title "Christmas Fair stall"

Secret santa

Once again the dinner ladies will be holding a secret Santa gift sale. If your child/children would like to purchase a gift for their family members they will be able to purchase these on the 6th & 7th December.

Watch out for more information.

Please see our PTFA facebook page

Search St Thomas More fundraising team and ask to join.





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Merit award

Catherine M RC

Esther M RC

Asia M RR

Maisie R RR

Austin M 1D

Chimnanu E 1J

Ebunoluwa B 2S

Darasimi O 2F

Sophia C 3B

Tyger D 3B

Kayson D 3T

Michaela A 4L

Lanika B 4S

Caleb I 5C

Eliza C 5M

Rudi C 6C

Tobi A 6C

Emily B 6F

Golden Welly Award

Matthew O 5C



On Wednesday 2nd November, David, Sacha, Lizandra and I participated in a Maths Challenge that was organised by Oakwood Park Grammar School.

This was the first time our school attended this and 10 schools participated in the competition.

We were given lots of difficult & different maths challenges. It was a fun experience,

Our team worked very hard, performed extremely well and we managed to win 2nd place in the overall Maths Challenge competition. We are so happy about our achievement.

My special thanks go to Mrs Roberson for accompanying us and taking care of us on the day, I would also like to thank all the teachers who supported us for this event and my team.

We have now set a high standard for all our juniors.

I hope and wish that you all continue our success in the coming years.

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RBL Poppy Appeal 2022

We are supporting the RBL Poppy Appeal and have a selection of items for suggested donations. If you would like any of these items for your child/children please put the cash in an envelope with their full name and class and what they would like clearly written on the front.

We have a limited amount of the following items:

Slap Bands—£1.50,

Wrist bands—£1,

Reflective poppy—50p

Zip pull 50p,

Paper poppies—a donation.





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Safeguarding

We have had some enquiries recently about opening the back gate of the school which opens onto the alleyway at the start and the end of the day. School staff need to know who is on the school site at any point in time and members of the public should not be able to gain access to the school site. By having one point of entry and exit to the school it allows us to know who is on the premises and prevents people unrelated to school business being able to gain entry. We recently commissioned an external safeguarding review to ensure we were meeting the highest possible standards in safeguarding and the reviewer agreed that creating an additional access point to the school would fall short of these standards. We also liaised with PCSO Rowan about the issue who has given us the following statement to share with parents:

'I have been liaising with the school about the gate to the rear of the school grounds, where parents/guardians would like this open at the beginning/end of the school day. They have had an outside independent agency involved to conduct a safeguarding review. The result from the report was not to open the gate, as the school has appropriate safeguarding procedures in place at the beginning and end of the day. Please be mindful it was not the school that made this decision, it was the result of the independent review.' PCSO Rowan Cornwall Medway Community Safety Unit

Tuck shop dates

Support our PTFA and pick yourself up a sweet treat.

17th November

1st December

15th December

Junior playground after the end of the school day

Applying for a Secondary Placement

The process is now open for parents to apply for a secondary place for their child for September 2023. The deadline for applications is Monday 31st October at 5pm - here is the link to apply:

<https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200137/schools-and-learning/1061/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>



Reception Places

You can apply for your child to start school in year R (reception) if they were born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019.

Please contact the office if you could like to book a tour of St Thomas More in preparation for securing your child's place.

Here is a link for further information:

<https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200137/schools-and-learning/1059/applying-for-a-primary-school-place>