



St Thomas More School Newsletter

10th February 2022

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dates for your diary

11/02/2022

Staff Development Day
(no children in school)

Term 4

21/02/2022

Term 4 begins

23/3/2022 & 24/3/2022

Parents evening

1/4/2022

Term 4 finishes

4/4/2022-18/4/2022

Easter break

Term 5

19/4/2022

Term 5 begins

2/5/2022

Early May Bank Holiday

26/5/2022

Term 5 finishes

27/5/2022

Staff Development Day
(No children in school)

Term 6

6/6/2022

Term 6 Begins

22/07/2022

Staff Development Day
(No children in school)

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy final week to the term! Thank you to everyone who attended this morning's 'Bring Your Parent to Read' session. It was lovely to see you all and I hope you enjoyed getting to participate in your child's reading in school.

This week has been 'Children's Mental Health Week', this year's theme has been 'Growing Together'. All the children have had an assembly linked to wellbeing and being mentally healthy and over the week they have looked at identifying their own support networks, the goals they would like to achieve, how to take small steps to achieve what they would like as well as participating in mindfulness activities. We are very fortunate to be able to welcome Emily, our Medway Emotional Support Team Practitioner, to our St Thomas More family, please read her introduction to you all and watch out for the video link (coming after half term) to find out a bit more about how Emily will be working with all of us.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to Jacob's Nanny! She has knitted a 'Worry worm' for every child in the school to have as an additional to support them – we are very thankful for her time (and knitting skills!) that she has put into this for our children!

I hope you all have a lovely half term break

Mrs Ebdon



Welcome to Emily our Education Mental Health Practitioner

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School welcomes the Emotional Support Team (EST) to your child's school. The Education Mental Health Practitioners, who are part of the EST, are hoping to get to know you and your child over the coming weeks and months, offering support when needed and finding out your ideas about how we can all work together to support the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School.

Your child may be included in whole school initiatives, for example, assemblies and classroom-based activities that raise awareness about emotional wellbeing and mental health. In addition, children with a specific identified emotional wellbeing need (e.g., worry) may be invited to join a group or workshop, and you will be informed if your child is included. Groups and workshops for parents (e.g., 'Understanding your child's behaviour') will be advertised by school.





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Merit Award

Ella M RR
Samuil S RS
Kian M 1J
Kara B 1D
Nicole G 2F
Thejal J 2S
Sabrina S 3C
Bella Y 3B
Lucy O 4S
Emevi U 4T
Jane D 5H
Olawale O 5M
Isla A 6C
Lucie A 6B

Well done everyone



Last weekend was a big weekend for Henry H in Year 2. Henry was part of the birth year 2015-2016 Floor and Vault team for his gymnastics club. Henry did amazingly well and came 2nd securing a silver medal.

He very proudly brought his medal and event photos in to show us.

Well done Henry we are very proud of your achievement.



Henry H Floor & Vault Silver Medalist

Thank you for joining us for bring your parent to read today, the children had a lovely time with their adults and classmates sharing books



Tomorrow is a staff development day which begins our half term—we look forward to seeing you all on 21st February 2022 for Term 4.



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A big Happy Birthday to..

Simona S

Ella B

Hollie W

Constance H

Edward M

Grace S

Nicole G

Ciel M

Michael L

Alisa T

Eliza C

Thalia-Rose M

Sara O

Sofia R



World Thinking Day 2022

We would like to invite all Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, & Scouts to celebrate World Thinking Day on the 22nd February 2022 by wearing their uniform to school. We look forward to seeing the children in their uniforms.



Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

Each year in the UK, Safer Internet Day explores a new issue or theme which is impacting the lives of young people in the UK. For 2022 the Day celebrated young people's role in creating a safer internet and the ways they are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of. The platforms young people use are spaces for connection, community and collaboration, which is why the Day challenges them to foster supportive relationships and respectful communities, whilst equipping them with the skills they need to keep themselves and others safe in these spaces.

As a school, we have been exploring different ways to stay safe online through discussion and activities. The children have thoroughly enjoyed all of the activities this week. Ask your children to see if they can give you any top tips on how to stay safe online!

OLIO

Please see the link below for the free sharing app that could help us reduce our waste. It can be downloaded from the Play store or from the App store

[OLIO – The #1 Free Sharing App \(olioex.com\)](https://www.olioex.com)



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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 ready for this term.

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 an 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.

Cars on site



Please can we remind you that no parent cars should be on site without prior permission, this includes dropping off and collecting for breakfast and after school club. This week a member of staff's car has sustained substantial damage in the car park. We would politely request that you consider parking outside of Bleakwood Road and walking into school.

No Nuts



Please remember not to give your children nut based products in their packed lunch. We have children with very severe nut allergies and for this reason we ask that you do not include nuts or nut products in your own child's packed lunch. These include (but are not limited to) peanut butter, **Nutella chocolate spread**, **peanuts**, **nut based breakfast bars**,

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