



St Thomas More School Newsletter

27th September 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents/Carers

I can't believe that we are already at the end of Week 4 of our first term! The children have been amazing and it has been lovely visiting classes to see learning in action particularly our EYFS who have explored the school grounds in a variety of ways - I particularly liked seeing their enormous ears on a headband when listening out for sounds to support their phonic knowledge! Year 6's managed to overcome some fears by riding the rollercoasters, taking on the mission to battle the Curse of the Mummy and were in 'hiss-sterics' on the Rattlesnake ride this week at Chessington! For more action, please go to our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063877132266>

Please remember to look at the dates section on the newsletter and school calendar online for forthcoming events. Our Harvest Mass, led by Year 6 is on the 4th October at 9.30am in the Church and this year we are supporting Medway's Foodbank who very kindly held an assembly on the amazing work that they do to support those in need. If children could **bring in items from the food list attached by the 4th October for our Mass**, we would be very grateful.

Our Year 6 Liturgy is on Wednesday 9th October at 9.15am in the hall and we look forward to welcoming parents/carers in to join us. Our Liturgies are led by children enriched with prayer, song and activities for you to take part in. The month of October is approaching and it is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Our Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on 7th October and falls during our liturgical season known as Ordinary Time which is represented by the liturgical colour green. This symbol of hope is the colour of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

Other news:

Miss Fenech, our Art Leader, has started the journey for us to achieve the 'Gold Artsmark Award' and we have already started to fill our frames on the wall in the front entrance. We believe that a child's imagination and creativity are enriched through their awareness of art, other children around them and inspirational people so do remember to take a look at the gallery next time you visit.

Our dedicated team of staff joined with other schools on Tuesday evening for our annual Deanery Mass hosted by St John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School. This was another opportunity to further cement the important relationships between our schools and communities and our prayer reflects this:



God our Father, Creator of all that we know, we praise and thank you for the gift of our schools. You call us together both spiritually and physically and we are each called by name to do the work of your hands. Just as you called our patron saints to testify, may we too stand tall in our faith, as a visible witness in your name. Pour your spirit upon us, so that as a strong community we can move towards our goals with a brighter, limitless future. Keep us safe in our mission and give us strength.

Amen

Safeguarding Information

What is Digital Resilience?

Digital resilience involves having the ability to understand when you are at risk online, knowing what to do if anything goes wrong, learning from your experiences of being online, and being able to recover from any difficulties or upsets. Children who are digitally resilient will be equipped to handle the challenges of the modern, digital world. Digital resilience grows through online use and learned experience and can't be developed through the avoidance of the digital world. In other words, you don't help your children to become digital resilient by keeping them away from the internet.

6 ways to promote digital resilience

- Help children understand what is good and bad behaviour.
- Help children understand the SMART rules when using technology including mobile phones and gaming devices.
- Teach children to think critically about what they have seen, read or heard online.
- Teach children to be kind online and to pause and think about impact of what they post may have on someone else so that they don't get caught up in things.
- Teach children to maintain a positive outlook when using the internet – if adults constantly criticise what children play online or apps they love, they're not going to want to talk about their online life.
- Children who can recover from an online mistake can learn and avoid making the same mistake again. Adults can make it easy for them to talk about their mishaps.
- Make sure children know where to or how to seek help if they need it and as adults recognise if a child is not recovering well so you can step in and get help for them.



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Merit Award

RC Harrison

RR Luke

1S Isla

1C Aida

2D Zuhayb

2D Darasimi

2F Penelope

3B Orla

3L James

4L Leo

4S Derrion

4S Isabelle

5W Noah

5C Elizabeth

6B Destiny

6F Temitayo

6F Selvyn



**Punctuality
Peacock**

3B, 4S, 5C



**Attendance
Anteater**

5C

**Whole School
Attendance**



Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

[Cashpot for Schools Terms & Conditions](#) [Asda Rewards terms & Conditions](#)

1

Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app
Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select a specific primary school or select 'Schools in Need'.

2

Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com
Asda will donate a percentage of your shop to your chosen school each time you shop and scan.

3

Asda does the rest
The money raised will be donated through Parentlink to schools to spend on what they need most. This won't affect your own Cashpot earn.

Once opted in and selected a school, we will add £1 to your chosen schools Cashpot to help get them started.

Each school will get an additional £50 added to their Cashpot, after at least one customer has shopped and scanned their Rewards app.



SEND news

SEPTEMBER TERM 1 UPDATE

Mrs Austin has been busy meeting teachers and reviewing pupils' support for the year ahead. Individual support plans and targets are also being reviewed and will be shared at parents evening.

Should you have any questions or would like to speak to Mrs Austin, please email

sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk



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Term 1

4th October 2024

Harvest Festival Mass
9.30am—Church

9th October 2024

Y6 Liturgy 9.15-9.25—Hall

10th October 2024

Individual School photos

10th October 2024

Y3 Stoneage workshop

11th October 2024

BYPT Reading/Phonics Y1-6
workshop 9.15-9.45

11th October 2024

Reading workshop—Hall
2-2.30 followed by Phonics
workshop 2.30-3

16th October 2024

Parents Evening 4-7

17th October 2024

Parents Evening 5-8

18th October 2024

Last day of Term 1

Term 2

28th October 2024

Term 2 begins

30th October 2024

Y5 Liturgy 9.15-9.45

1st November 2024

All Saints Day & All Souls
Mass in Church 0.30

8th November 2024

BYPT Maths Y1-6 9.15-9.45

8th November 2024

Maths Workshop for par-
ents—Hall 10-10.30

20th November 2024

Y4 Liturgy 9.15-9.45

25th November 2024

Book Fair

2nd December 2024

EYFS PJ Day

2nd December 2024

KS1 Panto

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 Decvember 2024

SDD

