



St Thomas More School Newsletter

17th May 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

RC Willow

RR Inioluwa

1C Laroy

1C Amy

1S Lucrece

2D Charlie

2F Andrew

3B Amen-Grace

3L Paige

4L Jaden

4L Logan

4S Sirri

4S Blake

5C Bentley

5M Tomi

6C Class

6F Class

Dear Parents,

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Logan, Ben, Nataniel, Elias, Leo, David, Anne, Amen-Grace, Jonathan, Amelia and Lyanna who have made their First Holy Communion over the last 2 weekends. They have worked extremely hard in preparing to receive this sacrament and took part beautifully in the services. Well done all of you!



We would also like to congratulate our Year 6 children on the successful completion of their SATs this week, they behaved fantastically all week and worked extremely hard to show all they have learned.

We have a busy week ahead of us next week for the last week of Term 5. Some of our children are taking part in the Medway Mini-Youth games rugby tournament, Year 4 have their class liturgy on Tuesday and their school trip on Wednesday, all the children will be having their class photos on Thursday and we round off the term with a Bring Your Parent to RE for Years 1-5 to celebrate the end of the month of May, the month of our Holy Mother.

Please make sure your children come to school fully equipped for glorious sunshine as well as torrential downpours over the next week as the weather continues to be unpredictable and we like the children to make as much use of OPAL and our school grounds as possible.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ebdon



Thursday 23rd May 2024

Class photos - all classes and Y6 individual.

Please remember full school uniform NO PE kits



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Term 5

21st May 2024

Y4 Liturgy 9.15

23rd May 2024

Class Photos/Yr 6 individual

23rd May 2024

Secondhand uniform sale

23rd May 2024

Y6 Residential trip meeting

5-5.30pm

24th May 2024

Topic afternoon RE—
parents in 2.30pm

Y1-6

24th May 2024

End of Term 5

Term 6

3rd June 2024

Start of Term 6

11th June 2024

Y5 Liturgy 9.15

17th—18th June

SDD-No children in school

19th June 2024

Children back to school

20th June 2024

Y2 Liturgy 9.15

21st June 2024

Feast Day of St Thomas
More Mass

25th June 2024

Y6 Liturgy 9.15

1st July 2024

Sports Day

KS2 AM

KS1 PM

18th July 2024

Leavers Mass

19th July 2024

End of the academic year



Attendance Anteater

3L 5M 6C



Punctuality Peacock

RC 2F 6C

Please note the attendance and punctuality figures are taken from the previous week

Parish News

Monday 20th May—Lets Play for God 8.45-9.50am bring your pre-schoolers along to St Simon Stock for some messy play. Grown ups must stay with their children.

Parish Feast Day 19th May Celebrations after 11am Mass on the Church field.

Today, our Beacons were excited to meet Father Pawel and ask him questions relating to our faith over juice and biscuits. They learned about his vocation and how he helps everyone in spreading the good news of Jesus in our parish. They also took his advice on how to continue to be religious leaders within our school. They had a wonderful morning in his company. Thank you Father Pawel!



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Can you spare a few hours a week to become a reading helper at a local primary school?

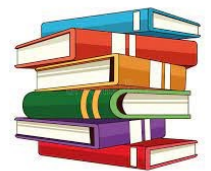
Soon, we will be working with the charity, Coram Beanstalk, to recruit and train volunteer reading helpers who can commit to an afternoon a week to come in to local primary schools to support reading. As a reading helper you will support at least 3 children on a one-to-one basis outside of the classroom environment. It's a fun role that's about much more than just listening to children read.

As a reading helper you will support children to become readers; helping children to switch onto reading, learn to read and become confident independent readers. You will be trained in a proven approach and will lead sessions for each child that bring fun and enjoyment to the reading experience, ultimately wanting the child to choose to read and be enthusiastic about it!

Reading helpers read to the child, talk about what they have read, check understanding and encourage thinking and conversation based on a book. They use fun book based activities to reinforce understanding, develop vocabulary and further cement enjoyment through a positive reading experience. We know this approach works and raises reading attainment, with one to one sessions bringing additional benefits of improving confidence, self-esteem and attitude to learning.

If you would like to become a reading helper at a local primary school, or you know someone, perhaps a grandparent or a neighbour who would like to join the friendly school community please do consider this role.

For more information or if you wish to apply, visit the website at www.corambeanstalk.org.uk/register-now or call 0207 729 4087.



Beacons

Today, our Beacons were excited to meet Father Pawel and ask him questions relating to our faith over juice and biscuits. They learned about his vocation and how he helps everyone in spreading the good news of Jesus in our parish. They also took his advice on how to continue to be religious leaders within our school. They had a wonderful morning in his company. Thank you Father Pawel!



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A big Happy Birthday to..

Kian
Lewis
Emmie
Jake
JD
Imogen
Manette
Sabrina
Macey
Logan
Aaron

Medway Education and SEND team will be celebrating the start of their new adventure!

Our local teams are moving into the Children and Family Hubs during May half term, and we invite you to come and meet with us to find out more.

We will be holding open events on the dates below:

28th May 10-2pm at Wayfield and Rainham Children and Family hub Wayfield Road, Wayfield, ME5 OHH

29th May 10-1pm at Gillingham Children and Family Hub, Woodlands Road, Gillingham, ME7 2BX

30th May 11.30-1.30pm Strood Children and Family Hub, Clifton Road, Rochester, ME2 2HG

EWT Understanding Anxiety

Just a reminder that the Emotional Wellbeing/Support Team will be facilitating an online parent workshop on **Understanding Anxiety** on **Thursday 23rd May, 5.30-7.30pm**. Attached is the poster for this workshop.

Fundraising coming soon.....



After the success of the Mother's Day gift shop, I will be running the same for Father's Day, I will send out payment details shortly. Jody's Fathers Day gift shop will be open on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th June

We have a small group of parents that organised a disco last year that have kindly offered to do it again this year.

We have decided on Thursday 20th June and it will be for year's 1 to 6, as last year we will group them into 2 groups and they will have allocated times. A letter will be sent out confirming timings and payment instructions next week.



We are hoping to organise a Quiz night for parents, carers, friends and staff towards the end of the summer time, once we have the date confirmed we will let you know.

Thank you for supporting these events.



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SEN support

Individual provision and school-based support plans were sent home for children with additional needs who are maintained on the school SEN support register at the end of last term. Should you have any questions regarding the targets set or the support in place for your child, please discuss this with the Class Teacher.

Mrs Austin our SENDCO is also available if required to discuss any questions or queries that you may have. If you would like to arrange a call or meeting please call via the office **01634864701** or email sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk

Safeguarding

Safeguarding

Dear Parents

Please sign up to our fantastic resource The National College where you can find lots of useful information to support young adults, children including those with SEN and yourself. There is a whole host of information about Disney+, Snapchat, Roblox, YouTube, Whatsapp, conversation starters to help parents talk to their children about their mental health, cyberbullying, tips for stronger passwords, artificial intelligence and much, much more.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's online habits, speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance or contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy Head, Mrs Le Breton if you believe a child is at risk of harm.

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-thomas-more-catholic-primary-school-8>

If your child has been a victim of online bullying and has had a nasty message, picture or video posted about them, you can ask the school for support to help find out who might have posted the content. In addition to your child speaking to you, they may wish to talk to someone outside of the family about what has happened to them and how it made them feel. Let them know that they can always call Childline with any worry, big or small on 0800 11 11. Within school, all children have posters available to them with the telephone number and also who to speak to if they're worried. Children also have a safeguarding notice board and have had a safeguarding assembly at the start of this academic year to support them.

If you are worried about a child, please contact Medway Safeguarding Children's Partnership to report your concerns or contact the school's safeguarding team for further support in doing so. You can also report through the NSPCC.

https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200170/children_and_families/600/concerned_about_a_child/2

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/>

Mrs Le Breton Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy Head

Mrs Ebdon Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/Headteacher

Mrs Deamer (Jody) Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/Pastoral Manager

Our Safeguarding team are:

Mrs Le Breton Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ebdon Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Jody Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Simon D'Souza Safeguarding Governor

Sinead Joshi Safeguarding Governor

If you have any questions, or are worried about a child, please speak to us.