



St Thomas More School Newsletter

23rd May 2025

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents & Carers

This week in our collective worship, we delved into the message of John 13:34–35, where Jesus imparts a new commandment to His disciples: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. This passage is pivotal in understanding the essence of Christian discipleship. Jesus emphasises that the hallmark of His followers is not rituals or traditions, but the depth of love they show towards each other. In our worship, we reflected on how this commandment relates to our own lives and the deliberate choice to act in the best interest of others, even when it's challenging.

As parents and guardians, your role in modelling this love is invaluable. Children learn by observing the actions and attitudes of adults around them. By embodying Christ-like love in your daily interactions, you not only nurture your child's spiritual growth but also contribute to building a compassionate and loving community.

We encourage you to engage in conversations with your children about the significance of loving one another. Reflect on ways to practice this love within your family and the broader community. Together, let's strive to live out the new commandment, fostering an environment where love is the defining characteristic of our relationships.

EFYS Celebration of the Word



Today marked a significant milestone for our Reception classes as they held their Celebration of the Word. We were delighted to welcome so many of you to join in this special occasion.

The theme of our celebration centred around the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 5, where Jesus calls Simon Peter and his companions to follow Him. Despite their doubts after a fruitless night of fishing, they trusted Jesus' guidance and experienced a miraculous catch of fish. This story beautifully illustrates the power of listening to and trusting in Jesus, even when circumstances seem uncertain.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents and carers who joined us today. Your presence and support made this celebration even more meaningful for our children. We are especially proud of all the children who participated, reading with confidence which was truly inspiring, especially considering their young age.



Thank you once again for being part of this memorable event. We look forward to sharing more moments of faith and learning with you in the future.



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Honouring Mary in the Month of May – Prayer Opportunities

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who joined us this month in our special moments of reflection, prayer and devotion to Mary and in particular, a thank you to Miss Bowles who gave up her time to support us.

First Holy Communion



On behalf of the entire parish community, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the children who received their First Holy Communion last Sunday. This sacred milestone marks a significant moment in their spiritual journey, and we are blessed to have shared in this joyous occasion with you and your families. I would also like to express my profound gratitude to the dedicated staff members who have supported our children. Your unwavering commitment and nurturing guidance have been instrumental in helping them understand and embrace the significance of this sacrament.

As we continue to walk with our young communicants in their faith journey, let us keep them in our prayers, that they may grow in wisdom and grace. We look forward to supporting them as they continue to grow in faith and community. We look forward to seeing those who are preparing for their First Holy Communion tomorrow and the 31st May.

If you're interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and the significance of the Eucharist, please do contact us.

Breakfast and After School Club

I would like to thank you for supporting us in following the right procedures and keeping up to date with payments when booking into breakfast or after school clubs. Your support has lessened the additional pressures on the office. There are still some outstanding monies and we thank you in advance for settling debts as soon as possible. As with any debt, it comes out of the school's own budget which impacts on what we can provide for our children so please do pay promptly if you would like to keep this valuable service.

On Friday afternoon we celebrated outdoor play and learning with a free-play session for all year groups. Giving them the opportunity to play in all of the school grounds with both key stages able to play together. We had a brilliant afternoon including scooters, dressing-up, messy play, sand and water, small world, football and target practice, mud kitchen, dancing to music and getting creative with paint chalk.

Please head over to our Facebook page to find out more about what's been happening. Have a fabulous break and I look forward to welcoming you in Term 6!

Mrs Le Breton



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A Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

Faithful God,
You guide us on the path of life
and your goodness is our constant companion.

Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV,
in his service of the Church.
Fill him with the power of your Spirit,
the peace of your presence
and the compassion of Christ.

May he walk with you,
in wisdom and humility,
and lead us, together with all God's people,
to embody your love for the world.

Amen.



St Simon Stock Parish in Walderslade

Our Parish is primarily a place of worship. The very centre of our prayer is Jesus Christ whose Eucharist we celebrate nearly every day. Listed below are the times of our weekly Masses and Services. For more details you can look at our [Parish Diary](#) Masses are celebrated as follows:

Weekends:

Saturday 6.00 pm
Sunday 9.00 am
11.00 am

Weekdays:

Monday 10.00 am Mass
Tuesday 10.00 am Mass
Wednesday 10.00 am Mass
2pm – 10pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday 10.00 am Mass
Friday 8.00 pm Mass

Holy Days of Obligation:

8.00 pm Vigil Mass
10.00 am Morning Mass
8.00 pm Evening Mass

During holiday periods, please consult the weekly newsletters for the times of all the Services.

If you wish to have a Mass celebrated for a special intention, please [contact](#) the Parish Office. The Archdiocese of Southwark guideline for a Mass intention stipend is £10.00. Reconciliation (Confession) is available on Friday from 7.15 pm - 7.45 pm and Saturday from 5.15 pm – 5.45 pm also by appointment, please call: 07305 831925. Thank you



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Merit Award

RC Rhylee

RR Freyah

1C Mary

1S Chloe

1S Chloe

2D Kayla

2F Oakley

3B Esther

3L Spencer

4L Lyla

4S Tireni

5W Sirri-Anna

5C Felicity

5C Sophia

6B Michaela

6F Sofia

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



Punctuality Peacock

RC, 3B, 3L, 6B, 6F



Attendance Anteater

3L

Whole School Attendance

95.3%

We are aiming for at least 97% whole school attendance.

Jody's Father's Day Gift Shop

10th June 2025

£3.50

On MCAS now



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#:~: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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Term 5

17th, 24th & 31st May 2025

First Holy Communion

Term 6

4th June 2025

Parent Forum 5.45pm

Understanding Assessment at STM

6th-8th June 2025

Yr 6 Residential—Norfolk Lakes

10th June 2025

Fathers Day Gift Shop

17th June 2025

Yr 5 Trip—Hever Castle

18th June 2025

Yr 2 Trip—Shorne Wood Country Park

Friday 20th June 2025

St Thomas More Mass 9.30am

23rd & 24th June 2025

SDD—No children in school

25th June 2025

Yr 5 Aylesford Priory for A Festival of Hope

Friday 18th July 2025

Leavers Mass 9.30am

School Holiday Dates

24/25

SDD

23rd & 24th June

Summer Term ends

22nd July 2025



Tuck Shop is back

Every Thursday

There will be 50p bags and £1 bags, all sweets will be prepacked. Please bring loose change with you.



Secondhand Uniform Sale

Thursday 22nd May

Can you help us?

We are looking for a large gazebo for our outdoor area in Year 1 if anyone has one please could you let one of the Year 1 team know.

Thank you

