



St Thomas More School Newsletter

5th July 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

RC Sophia

RR Paul

2D Theo

2F Max

3B Arabella

3L Lila

4L Elias

4S Jasroop

5M Scarlett

5M Gbemisola

5C Lois

6C Tise

6C Kacey

Dear Parents,

It has felt like a very long week! It was fantastic to see so many of our parents at Sports Day on Monday and we hope you enjoyed the day as much as the children did!

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Robertson who organises and runs our Sports Days, as well as the children's sport clubs and tournaments – the amount of time and effort she puts into these events is phenomenal and we are incredibly lucky to have her.

Year 5 and Year 1 have both had their school trips this week, Year 5 went to Hever Castle and Year 1 went to Chatham Dockyards. Although both year groups had to contend with the rain, all the children had a fantastic time and, as always, were brilliant ambassadors for our school whilst out in the community.

Our Reception child held their first liturgy with their parents on Tuesday and they did a fantastic job! The scripture the children shared and reflected on was Matthew 10:40-42 which is about welcoming others and the children helped their parents to make a 'Welcome' card which they could give to their next visitor.

We had our annual visits from students from Baptist Lui Ming Choi Primary School, a school in Hong Kong, this week and the children thoroughly enjoyed showing them what school is like in the UK, as well as learning about what school is like in Hong Kong. The children have reflected that this links with Pope Francis' encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti' where we see ourselves as one global family.

The children had their first transition session with their teachers for September yesterday and are very excited for their second transition session next Thursday. As you would have seen in the email informing you of your child's class next year, we have some new staff joining us as some of our staff are leaving.

Miss Carter has excitingly been offered a teaching job in Dubai, Mrs Antoncini is taking up a teaching post at another local school following Mrs Bickmore's return after her maternity leave and Mrs Martin, who runs our Learning Pod, is also moving to another local school following Mrs Baxter's return after her maternity leave. We would all like to say a huge thank you to Miss Carter, Mrs Antoncini and Mrs Martin for their hard work and dedication to supporting our children in their learning this year.

We would also like to thank Mrs Forrest, one of our librarians and midday meal supervisors, for bringing insect week to life for us! Mrs Forrest has been running workshops over the last 2 weeks so that all of our children have had the opportunity to meet, and learn about, a huge variety of unusual insects from her personal collection!!

Next week we will have our annual Talent Show, Year 1's class liturgy and Bastille Day on Friday, we look forward to telling you all about them in next week's newsletter!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon.

Request for donations

We are desperate for PE t-shirts in all house colours. If your child has outgrown their's and it is still in a wearable condition and you are willing to donate it please drop it into the office.

Thank you

Fratelli Tutti: A Prayer to the Creator

*Lord, Father of our human family,
you created all human beings equal in dignity:
pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit
and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,
dialogue, justice and peace.
Move us to create healthier societies
and a more dignified world,
a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.*

*May our hearts be open
to all the peoples and nations of the earth.
May we recognize the goodness and beauty
that you have sown in each of us,
and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects,
and shared dreams.*

Amen





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Year 5 & 6—The City of Rochester Symphony

On Wednesday 3rd July, a group of Year 5 and 6 children had the amazing opportunity to attend the Primary Music Concert at The Central Theatre. The City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra played pieces of music including Hedwig's Theme from Harry Potter and Peter and the Wolf by Sergei Prokofiev. We also waved our flags and sang our hearts out to the hymn "Jerusalem." We are hoping that it will inspire a few of the children to become composers or musicians in the future!



Year 5 Trip to Hever Castle

The children explored the castle and grounds, learned lots of new information about the Tudors and then even managed to have some fun in the water maze before the rain started!



Year 1 are Pirates

Greyson showing his fantastic map making skills. This map had everything. Well done Greyson and thank you for sharing it with us.



Please ensure that you send your child in with the appropriate clothing for the weather. We have had many children this week with no coat despite the heavy rain predicted. The weather can be very changeable so please send your child in with a light rain coat each day. On hot sunny days please ensure you have applied a daily sun cream before school. Children should be in full school uniform with appropriate footwear there should be no trainers worn unless it's with a PE kit for PE day and there should be no sandals or open toed shoes. Thank you





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Term 6

9th July 2024

Year 1 Liturgy

17th July 2024

Y6 Production

18th July 2024

Leavers Mass

19th July 2024

End of the academic year

Academic Year 24/25

2nd September 2024

SDD no children in school

3rd September 2024

Start of T1—children return

18th October 2024

Last day of Term 1

Term 4

22nd April 2025

SDD –No children in school



A big Happy Birthday to..

Aida

Freya

Tyler

OG

Amelia

Darasimi

Olivia



Attendance Anteater

5M

Punctuality Peacock

5C 3B

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



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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.