



St Thomas More School Newsletter

17th December 2021
Issue.14

Dates for your diary

20/12/2021-31/1/2022

Christmas Break



4.1.2022

Staff development day (no children on site)

5/1/2022

All children return to school

11/02/2022

Term 3 finishes

21/02/2022

Term 4 begins

School fund is now due and is £15 per family. Please make payment on school gateway.

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of term I would like to share some messages of thanks...

Mr Hughes, our site manager, and all of our cleaners for keeping the site safe and tidy and our classrooms spotless

Jody, our Pastoral Manager, and Mrs Austin, our SENCo, for putting the needs of the children at the forefront of all they do

The senior leadership team, Mrs Le Breton, Mrs Murphy and Mrs Austin, who tirelessly support myself and all the teachers in making sure our days run as smoothly as possible

The office team for being flexible and organised, for working hard to keep our school systems working each day and for communicating and sharing information with parents

The teachers, for their dedication to the children and to each other and for their determined drive to provide the best learning possible

The learning support assistants, for their hard work in supporting the children every day with their learning

The fundraising team, who have provided much needed, enjoyable, fundraising activities

The parents who have been so understanding and supported us during these challenging times

And last but not least, our children, who have been so resilient and determined in the face of so many challenges, who bring joy to all of our lives and smiles to our faces

Thank you all so much

Have a wonderful Christmas,

Mrs Ebdon

Are you a sledgeineer?

Take part in a Sledge Making Competition, open to Primary Schools!



For tips, ideas and how to enter including step by step tutorial, PowerPoint and Lesson Plan.

Please visit this direct

link: <https://thestemhub.org.uk/xmas/06lkjksdf-day-6/>

Engage in sledge making festive fun, all the while learning about friction, forces and properties of materials!

The aim of the competition is to design the best model sledge that can be used on a steep slope, without gaining so much speed, that a nasty accident could happen.

All submissions will receive a certificate and prizes will be awarded to submissions that are placed in our gallery.

Please send all submissions

to: thestemhub@canterbury.ac.uk by Friday 14th January 2022.



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Head Teacher Award

Mollie P RS

Tomi O RR

Mila C 1D

Amaziah O 1J

Tyger D 2F

Maya L 2S

Eleanor T 3C

Isla B 3B

Munachi N 4T

Eva A 4S

Jake B 5H

Zayn M 5M

Maxwell I 6B

Tawana M 6C

Well done everyone

Christmas Events

We would like to thank the parent volunteers who worked tirelessly to put on all of our Christmas events. Mrs Forest, Ms Fish and especially Mrs Blaber, thank you very much for all of your hard work it was much appreciated by the whole school.

All of the winners from the Christmas Fayre have been notified.

We raised an amazing **£3641**

Our Christmas productions were held this week and were a huge success the children worked so hard and this all paid off when they performed in front of their family and some special visitors to the school.

PC Rowan Cornwall was in the audience on Tuesday and she said that she absolutely loved the production, especially the Brussel song. Pc Cornwall said she had never seen such a fabulous array of Christmas jumpers.



Christmas card project



The children have been working to create Christmas cards for NHS workers, to say thank you, and for those who may need some extra Christmas cheer. The cards were delivered by two parents to Maidstone and Medway hospital and by teachers to a local nursing home. We are so proud of our children, thinking about the wider community and using Advent as a time for kindness and reflection



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A big Happy Birthday to..

Kayson D

Moses P

Thomas T

Bailey B

Annabelle C

Koby S

Isabella R

Poppy P

James T

Lanika B

Amila M

Isla B

Logan M

Oluwabusola O



We look forward to seeing you all in school on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

Term 2 Attendance

RS	RR	1J	1D	2F	2S	3B
93.7	94.2	93.2	90.5	94.9	94.6	94.3
3C	4T	4S	5M	5H	6C	6B
96.4	94.7	95.8	93.6	91.7	93.8	93.3

Well Done

3C

Attendance Winners

Term 2



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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 answerphone.

Earrings: Please remember that earrings need to be removed for school everyday. We will call parents to come in to school to removed earrings if children have them in when they arrive.

Attendance & Punctuality

Our current whole school attendance is **93.9%** which is below the National target of **97%** please help us improve our attendance by ensuring your child is in school every-day ,on time. We have had an increasing number of late students coming through the office recently. We realise that Covid-19 has a negative effect on a child's attendance and this makes it even more important that they are in school on time at all other times.

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

*Wishing you all a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New
Year*