

13th December 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents & Carers

Can you believe that we are nearly at the end of term! Christmas is truly upon us with the children performing wonderfully this week. Witnessing our younger children standing on the stage in front of a hall packed full of loved ones, was a real delight to see and I am sure that you will agree, all children sang and performed beautifully. I would like to thank the children, teachers and support assistants for their hard work and enthusiasm.

We ended our week with our Advent Mass led by the children and Father Pawel. It was truly a special time, filled with beauty and reverence. The hymns evoked a sense of hope, peace and joyful anticipation for Christmas. It was a moment to reflect on the coming of Christ and the deep meaning of the season. Thank you for attending and sharing this special time with us.

If your child would like to be involved in the Nativity during the 6pm children's Mass on Christmas Eve in church, children have started rehearsing. For those of you who have not experienced this beautiful and moving event before, older children narrate the story from the lectern as other children (all ages welcome) act it out in costume. Please let the office know if you are interested and they will pass on your interest to Mrs Wilson. We will aim to practise between 10.15am and 10.45am but Mrs Wilson and/ or Mrs Law (another catechist who works at St Benedict's) will be there from 10am and will be happy to serve light refreshments (tea, coffee, squash, biscuits etc.) to anyone who is waiting for practices to start. More information can be found on the parish newsletter. https://stsimonwalderslade.co.uk/

Next week, you will receive our end of term data sheet informing you of your child's progress since September. I have reviewed the document following parent feedback to make it simpler to understand. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any queries. You will notice that the new format includes next step targets so you can support your child at home too.

If you would like your child to have Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 17th, please pay via Caterlink. Only children in KS2 pay for school dinner.

Reminder – Please remember that After School Club on Tuesday 17th will close at 4.30pm.

Our final day is on Thursday 19th with our Staff Development Day on Friday 20th (no children in school).

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Le Breton

A Child's Prayer

My little Lord Jesus, I love You and thank You for this Advent season. Please help me to understand all that You have done for me. Your loving mother held You in her heart and brought You into this world. Help me to do the same.

Amen



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1C Damilola 1S Bella 2D Harriet 2F Amy 3B Max 3L Savannah 4L Ebun 4S Ben 5W Elliott 5C Aidan 6B Tomi 6B Derick 6F Asees

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







Punctuality Peacock 6B

Reminder

We are a nut free school so please do not bring nuts in to school.



Attendance Anteater 6F Whole School Attendance 95.5%

We are aiming for at least 96% whole school attendance.

Christmas Events

KS2 Panto Monday 16th December

KS1 Meet Father Christmas Monday 16th December

KS2 Meet Father Christmas Tuesday 17th December

Christmas Dinner Tuesday 17th December

Christmas Dinner needs to be paid via Caterlink. Only KS2 pay for school dinners Year R-Year 2 are universal infant free school meals.

Tuesday 17th December There will be Jody's Christmas Gift and Tuck stall on the KS2 playground from 2.45pm. We will have stocking fillers, tuck bags and cans on sale. There will be deals to be had.





'Love one another as I have loved you'

Parish of St Simon Stock Walderslade

CHRISTMAS 2024



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY – SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER

6.00pm Vigil Mass (Sat 28th December) 9.00am Mass 11.00am Mass

> SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD -WEDNESDAY 1ST JANUARY 2025

> > 10.00am Mass

No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

<u>Solemnity – The Epiphany of the Lord</u> <u>Sunday 5th January 2025</u>

6.00pm Vigil Mass (Sat 4th January) 9.00 am Mass 11.00 am Mass

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE Sunday 5th January 2025 at 3PM



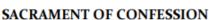
May the humility of the Shepherds, the faith of the Wise Men, the joy of the Angels and the peace of the Christ Child be God's gift to us, this Christmas and always.

Wishing you Marry Christmas!!!

Father Pawel Sobol Deacon Martin Smith

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Please note that the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Advent is available on Wed, Thurs from 9.30am - 10.00am on Friday 7.15pm - 7.50 pm on Saturday 5.15 - 5.45 pm also

Reconciliation Service on Monday 16th DECEMBER at 6pm

MASSES OF CHRISTMAS

<u>CHRISTMAS EVE</u> – <u>TUESDAY 24th December</u>

6.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas
9.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas in Polish
11.15 pm Christmas Carol Service
12.00am Mass of Christmas Night

CHRISTMAS DAY-WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER

9.00am Christmas Dawn Mass 11.00am Christmas Day Mass

No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN – THURSDAY 26TH DECEMBER

10.00am Mass

FEAST OF SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE -FRIDAY 27TH DECEMBER

8.oopm Mass

St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Closing date for applications to primary school is

5pm on Wednesday

15th January 2025

16th December 2024 KS2 Panto Central Theatre 17th December 2024 Children's Christmas lunch 19th December 2024 End of Term 2 20th December 2024 SDD

Term 2 Term 3 6th January 2025 All children back in school 27th January 2025 BYPT writing 9.15-9.45am

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#:~:t ext=lf%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.