



St Thomas More School Newsletter

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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Merit Award

RC Samuel

RR Ire

1C Damilola

1S Bella

2D Harriet

2F Amy

3B Max

3L Savannah

4L Ebum

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



**Attendance
Anteater**

6F

Reminder

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

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.





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**Parish of St Simon Stock
Walderslade**

CHRISTMAS 2024



SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

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

**CHRISTMAS EVE –
TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER**

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**

8.00pm Mass



**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

**SOLEMNITY – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 2025**

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 Merry Christmas!!!

*Father Pawel Sobol
Deacon Martin Smith*



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Website: www.stsimonwalderslade.co.uk

Email: walderslade@rcaos.org.uk



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Closing date for applications
to **primary school** is
5pm on Wednesday
15th January 2025

Term 2

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 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=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.