



St Thomas More School Newsletter

28th March 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Headteacher Award

RC Sophia

RR Mary

1C Sarah

1S Maisie

2D Cian

2F Samuil

3B Arabella

3L Leo

4S Phoebe

4L Sophia

5M Oluwatomilola

5C Eylloreoluwa

6F Ocean-Storm

6C Jenson

Dear Parents,

We have arrived at the end of Term 4! We have had a fantastic term centred on the Lenten period with so many rich and varied experiences to help our children prepare for the celebration of Easter this Sunday.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Wilson, she organised and ran an amazing 'World Maths Day' on Monday for our children as well as producing a performance of 'The Passion of Christ' with her performing arts club that they performed for the children on Wednesday and for the parents on Thursday.

The children had lots of fun hunting for eggs during their Easter egg hunt and we would like to thank the Fundraising Team for organising this and for also having the Easter Bunny himself in attendance as a special treat!

I hope you all have a lovely Easter weekend and holiday and we look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 15th April.

Mrs Ebdon

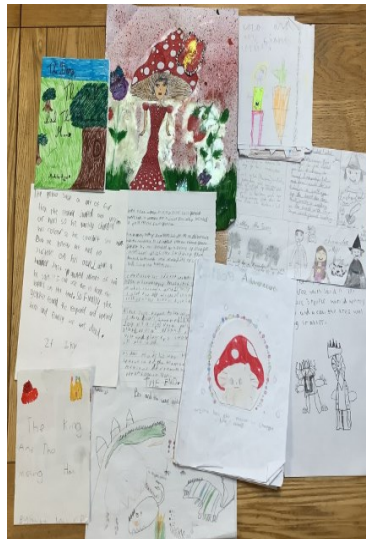
Uniform and Jewellery

Lots of children have been coming to school with earrings or other jewellery, please ensure that all jewellery is removed before children come to school.

I would like to remind all parents that PE kit for all children is the PE top in their house colour and plain black/navy blue shorts. In colder weather children are able to wear plain black/navy blue tracksuit bottoms and jumper.

Many children are being sent to school in tracksuits and t-shirts in a variety of colours with logos and brands. Children who attend school on PE days in anything other than their school PE top and plain black/navy blue bottoms will be given the correct items to wear from our spare kit stock so that they are in correct uniform.

Fairytale Story Competition Winners!



Well done to every single child who entered a story, plan or illustration for this competition. Every entry gained your house 5HPs.

It was an extremely difficult decision as all entries were of such a high standard!

Our winners are:

Story entries - Gbemi 5M, Akif 5S and Iky 2F

Story plans - Ellie 5M and James 2F

Illustrations - Alisa 5M and Austin 2F

Special prizes for presentation also go to:

Kacey 6C

Georgina 3B

Nadia RC

Well done to all of our winners!



St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Our Values in Scripture

During the Lenten period we have taken the opportunity as a school family to reflect on our Catholic life and mission through our Mission Statement and our school values.

The children have explored and reflected on our values through the messages that God gives us through scripture.

Respect



In **John 13** Jesus showed you can **respect** others by serving them. By doing this, Jesus gained the respect of his disciples and showed them respect by serving them when he washed their feet.



Respect means to love, in *the Book of Ephesians*, **Ephesians:6 verses 1 to 3**, the Bible children respect your parents in the Lord for this is right

Compassion



In **Matthew 8:1-4**, Jesus shows love and **compassion** to a leper by touching him which healed him from the disease.

In the Good Samaritan, **Luke 10:25-17**, Jesus told this story as an example of begin kind and **compassionate** to those in need whether we know them or not.



Resilience



In **Matthew 12:20** God tells us that although life can be difficult sometimes He gives us **resilience**. Like a stalk of wheat that bends in the wind, He gives us you the strength to bounce back, to bend but not break.

Exodus 14:13-15 teaches us of **resilience**, God told Moses "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.



Ambition



In 'The Parable of the Talents', **Matthew 25:14-30**, Jesus teaches that **ambition** is a good thing when we use the gifts God gave us for His glory.

In **2 Corinthians 5:9** it says "Therefore we also have as our **ambition**, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him" We should aim to please God wherever we are.



Happiness



Psalm 119: 1-3 tells us "Joyful are people of integrity who follow the instructions of the Lord, who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts. We find **happiness** in loving God and following His Word.

In **Romans 15: 13** it tells us "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."



Confidence



Luke 22:42 when Jesus Prayed on the Mount of Olives He said, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." He was **confident** that God would help him to do what was needed.

When David fought Goliath, **1:Samuel 17**, David had faith in God and this gave him **confidence** to know he would succeed.





St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Term 5

15th April 2024

Start of Term 5

18th April 2024

Tag day for book donation

6th May 2024

Bank holiday

13th May 2024

Year 6 SATS week

24th May 2024

Topic afternoon—parents in

Y1-6

24th May 2024

End of Term 5

Term 6

3rd June 2024

Start of Term 6

17th—18th June

SDD-No children in school

19th June 2024

Children back to school

19th July 2024

End of the academic year



Attendance Anteater

6F



Punctuality Peacock

RR, RC, 2F

Parish News

St Simon Stock Church—Easter Services

March 28th—Maundy Thursday—8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

March 29th—Good Friday— 9am Morning Prayer

10am—Stations of the Cross for Children

3pm—The Celebration of the Passion of The Lord

7.15pm Stations of the Cross

March 30th—Holy Saturday— 9am Morning Prayer

12pm—Easter Blessing of the Food in Polish

8pm—The Easter Vigil

March 31st—Easter Sunday— 9am—Easter Mass

11am Easter Mass

4pm Easter Mass in Polish





St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

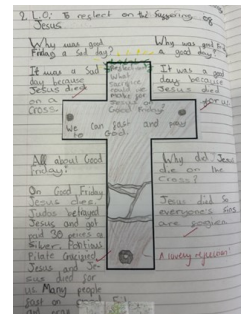
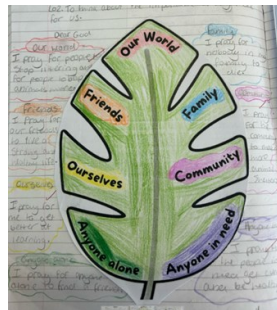
Holy Week

We have been very busy this Holy Week. The children have been doing a range of tasks to celebrate this special week and remember Jesus' final day. We have been reading scripture and acting out parts in class. We have been creative making Easter Garden and spinners and reflected on how important this week is to Christians.



A big Happy Birthday to..

- Ebun**
- Georgie-May**
- Leo**
- Eliza**
- Fikayomi**
- Zoe**
- Max**
- Toby**
- Sofia**



Passion Play

We were lucky enough to watch the performing arts club's Passion Play which was amazing. Well done to the children who worked so hard; Amen-Grace, Damilola, Lydia, Fikayomi, Jonathan, Alora, Lila, Jasroop, Sophia, Eloise, Lyanna, Rosabella, Chizaram, Maa, Danielle, Amelia, John-Anthony and Lucy.

Also a huge thank you to Mrs Wilson who has given up so much of her time to organise this special play.



We are taking part in this, to encourage more children to be active in their journey to school.

This week data has been collected and on average 46% of the school are active on their journey to school. We will be continuing to collect data next week and it would be good to see if we can improve on this score.

Currently 4L are leading the active journey count!

With the current level of roadworks and Medway's School Streets initiative it may help you to park further away and walk, scoot or ride to school.





St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Thank you

A big thank you to the fundraising team who ran our Easter Egg Hunt this week. The Easter Bunny was seen out and about on the playground joining in the fun.

Without our fundraising team these events wouldn't be able to go ahead. If you have time to spare and are available to help set up or run any of the events please let Jody or your class rep know.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break.



shutterstock.com - 592874138

Can you help us

We are in desperate need of larger uniform items i.e skirts, trousers, polo shirts, tights and we always need knickers and pants. We are looking for aged 8-9 upwards for uniform and all sizes in underwear.

If your child has been changed in school and has brought home any of our items please could you return to the class teacher.

Thank you

SEND update

National ADHD medication shortage and support/advice for parents and carers (below).

[Patient information for ADHD supply disruption :: NHS Kent and Medway \(icb.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/medway/medway-childrens-health/patient-information-for-adhd-supply-disruption)

Please be aware that the Medway SEND team and Medway Children's Health continue to experience high volumes of referrals which is adding further pressure to pre existing back logs. This does mean that many pupils are being held on waiting lists for long periods of time.

This is a nationwide issue and out of schools control.

If you have any questions or concerns about this please do speak to Mrs Austin our SENDCO
sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk

SENDIAS can also offer impartial support and advice - please see below.

<https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/medway-sendias/>



St Thomas More School Newsletter

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.