



# St Thomas More School Newsletter

28th January 2022

*'Love one another as I have loved you'*

## **Dates for your diary**

### **Term 3**

**10/02/2022**

**Bring your parent to read  
(re arranged from 11/2/2022)**

**10/02/2022**

Term 3 finishes

**11/02/2022**

Staff Development Day  
(no children in school)

### **Term 4**

**21/02/2022**

Term 4 begins

**1/4/2022**

Term 4 finishes

**4/4/2022-18/4/2022**

Easter break

### **Term 5**

**19/4/2022**

Term 5 begins

**2/5/2022**

Early May Bank Holiday

**26/5/2022**

Term 5 finishes

**27/5/2022**

Staff Development Day  
(No children in school)

### **Term 6**

**6/6/2022**

Term 6 Begins

**22/07/2022**

Staff Development Day  
(No children in school)

Dear Parents,

Next week is National Storytelling Week 2022.

All of the children will be enjoying lots of activities based around different stories, characters and authors.

Remember to ask your children about what they're getting up to and perhaps share one of your favourite childhood stories with them too!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon

## **When Year 6 met 'the Googlers'**

This week, Year 6 had a fantastic opportunity to virtually meet 'the Googlers' - a group of people working for Google.

It was interesting to find out the different roles available within Google and many other technology companies. From creative marketing executives and events coordinators to software designers and engineers, they have inspired us to have high aspirations! Year 6 especially enjoyed a virtual tour of their London offices, which looked like a super place to work!





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## Merit Award

Blake B RR

Dideola I-O RS

Kieran-Lee R 1D

Tireni A 1J

Thomas T 2F

Alexandra D 2S

Andy B 3C

Sophie B 3B

Nehemiah M 4S

Indie R 4T

Molly Q 5H

Audrey P 5M

Teniola O 6C

Chukwunomunso O-E 6B

Well done everyone



The 14th Medway Scout Group meet each Thursday during Term Times at Saint Thomas More Catholic Primary School and St Simon Stock R C Church.

Beavers are aged between 6 and 8 years old; Cubs are 8 to 10 ½ years old, Scouts are between 10 ½ and 14 years old and Explorers are 14 to 18 years old.

If your son or daughter would like to come along and join the Fun and Adventures that scouting can provide, we have spaces available.

Any adults who would like to help in anyway are more than welcome.

If you would like any more information, please contact [fourteenthmedwaytowns@gmail.com](mailto:fourteenthmedwaytowns@gmail.com)

**Scouts**   
14th Medway Towns



## Childrens Mental Health Week Growing Together

This week we will be celebrating 'Childrens mental health week'. This year's theme is **Growing Together**. We will be encouraging the children to consider how they have grown, and how they can help others to grow.

### Parent information drop in session

The second coffee and chat save the date will be....

**Friday 31st January 2022 @ 1.45pm**

We are hoping to have the school nurse in attendance

Restrictions permitting.

Please email [sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk](mailto:sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk) to register your interest.

Please sign in at the office on the day.





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A big Happy Birthday to..

Deborah-Janet I

Isabelle I

Austin C

Rudi C

George F

Kian N



Would you like info on how to save money on your water bill? Come in for a cuppa and find out how!

Joe from Southern Water will be popping into your local community hub on the dates and time below



How you can pay less – answer these questions to choose the best payment option for you

Is your household income less than £21,000 excluding any income from Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence payments?

Does anyone in your house receive Pension Credits?

Does anyone in your household receive Means-tested Benefits or Tax Credits?

Do you currently owe us money for your water bill?

**Gravesend:** Mon 7th February: 10am - 12pm

**Sittingbourne:** Weds 9th February: 9am - 11am

**Gillingham:** Thurs 10th: 12pm - 2pm



**Can Southern Water help you save money?**



from Southern Water.



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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 an 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.

## Safer Internet Day 2022

Safer Internet Day 2022 will be celebrated on **8th February** with the theme '**All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online**'.

National Online Safety are here to support you, not just for one day, but all year round. With a wealth of **free resources** available for parents and children, they continue to provide you with up-to-date advice and guidance on the latest platforms, devices, games and apps.

As a school, we have paid for a subscription to this package and there is a wealth of webinars, guides and information that you can access as a parent. Click on the link below to access free resources or sign up by putting in the school's name, clicking forgotten password and then wait for an email to get you started. If you have any difficulty, please contact us for help.

There is also a free online safety course presented by Myleen Klass which engages parents and carers in online safety, helps to understand different risks that children might experience at different ages and enables you to stay up to date, feel confident and supportive in order to keep your child safe online.

[National Online Safety - Free Resources for Safer Internet Day](#)



## 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**