



St Thomas More School Newsletter

16th September 2022

Dates for your diary

19th September 2022

Queen Elizabeth II Funeral
School Closed

7th October 2022

Harvest Mass
MacMillan Coffee afternoon

End of Term 1

21st October 2022

Half Term

24th—28th October

Term 2 Begins

31st October 2022

3rd January 2023

Staff development day
(No children in school)

4th January 2023

Start of term 3

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have reached the end of our first full week and the children have had a fantastic start to the new academic year. They have all settled well into their new classes and are approaching their work in a motivated and enthusiastic way. We have welcomed our new Foundation Stage children for the morning sessions this week and they have had a super start to their educational journey at St Thomas More.

It was lovely to see so many of you attend our Curriculum Evening last night and I hope that you all found it useful. As all the teachers shared at the meetings last night, the children will continue to go outside in most weather conditions as part of our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme so please make sure that your child comes to school with appropriate outdoor clothing each day and if you have not already sent a pair of wellies into school, please do so.

We will all continue to hold the Royal Family in our prayers over this weekend as they prepare for the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Monday.

We are looking forward to seeing the children back at school on Tuesday.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon

If you have a daughter in school, please log onto Class Dojo as there is a link to a survey about girls attitudes to reading on there. Please take 5 minutes to help your daughter/s to compete this survey. Thank you!



Parking & Driving in Bleakwood Road



Please could we remind you to drive slowly and considerately. A number of parents have reported near misses when people have turned at speed into Bleakwood Road or reversed too quickly without being aware of their surroundings.

Could we also ask that you park considerately. Do not block residents driveways or park across their garages at the rear of the houses. Medway Council issued a number of fines last term, to cars parked illegally in Bleakwood Road.



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A big Happy Birthday to..

Jude B

Nicholas F

Blake B

Tianna W-S

David A

Alex D

Arora G

And for all of those children who celebrate their birthday in the holiday please see the separate sheet



Roald Dahl Day

13th September 2022

Year 1 made a wonderful display for Roald Dahl Day.

They were eager to share it with all of you.



Many more parents have signed up for the app My Child at School (MCAS) we are working through helping parents as their queries come in. The one common error we are seeing is when parents try to use their invitation code more than once. This is a one time code once you have redeemed it and have set a password you will not be able to use the code again. If you forget your password or login details please email us and we will be happy to send them to you.

We will not be using School Gateway anymore and all payments will be going through MCAS going forward.

We are in contact with School Gateway regarding refunding credit from accounts and also how we are able to use the childcare vouchers. We expect this to be resolved before October.



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Merit award

Max G 1D

Charlie G 1J

Isabelle H 2F

Leo C 2S

Elizabeth A 3B

Noah F 3T

Rosie –Leigh M 4L

Oscar H 4S

Alfie Y 5C

Sofia M 5M

Gabrielle C 6C

Harry H 6C

Morgan S 6F

Well done everyone



STEM

Check out our new weekly science newspaper The Daily STEM!

Latest copies can be found on the Science Curriculum area of our website [St Read](#) about STEM in the News and STEM Careers; solve puzzles, challenges and work out what mystery photos are [Thomas More Primary School \(st-thom\)](#)

Read about STEM in the News and STEM Careers; solve puzzles, challenges and work out what mystery photos are [as-more.medway.sch.uk](#)



The Daily STEM

Volume 5 Issue 2

September 4, 2022

STEM in the News

New technology will allow people to take trips to space. Maybe you think flying to space would be fun but think the launching and flying would be a little scary. World View is one company designing space capsules carried by balloons to take people to the edge of space. They plan to fill the balloon with very light gas, like helium or maybe even hydrogen, to slowly lift passengers. The capsule will be shaped like a hexagon with big windows, giving everyone a view of Earth below. They even plan to limit the number of digital screens inside, so the focus can be on the natural beauty outside the windows. They hope to start the \$50,000 flights in 2024. Would you fly to space in a spacecraft like that? How would you design a spacecraft? Learn more: [bit.ly/3MkU900](#)



STEM Career: Drafting

Do you like drawing? Did you know that besides drawing books or comics, you can draw buildings, bridges, or circuit boards as a career? Drafters turn sketches and measurements from engineers and architects into detailed drawings used to make things. To be a good drafter you must be able to visualize in two and three dimensions. That means being able to look at a drawing on paper and "see" what the object would look like in real life. Many drafters start by drawing on paper, but quickly learn how to use computers to design. CAD (computer-aided design) software is often used for drawing on computers. Most drafters get training after high school, usually including a two year associate's degree. If drafting sounds interesting, learn more about what they do and different types of drafters in this article: [bit.ly/3Bbr49m](#) and in this video: [youtu.be/ywYCK-7t6c](#)



The Puzzle

Can you solve these riddles:
Twelve cars were lined up bumper to bumper. How many bumpers were touching each other?
Would it be cheaper for you to take one friend to the movies twice or two friends at the same time?
If a doctor gave you 5 pills and told you to take one every half hour, how long would they last?
Decode the answer using bna, cnb, dnc, end urfbouzurp, uxq pafboet bu thrf ujrf, uxq ipvat

STEM Challenge

Accurate measurements are very important for anyone in a STEM career. Find a ruler or measuring tape, some paper, and a pencil. Pick an object you can accurately measure and draw, like a block, book, desk, or refrigerator. For a bigger challenge, try measuring one or all of the rooms in your school or home. If you have access to programs like CAD or Trictrack, try recreating your drawings on a computer screen!

Mystery Photos

Can you identify the mystery items under the microscope?



Chris Woods [dailystem.com/news](#)

National Online Safety

Please don't forget to sign up to our free resource for parents from the National Online Safety platform. You can access it by signing up using your email and our school name. There is so much information which you'll find useful and informative. Please let us know if you have any trouble signing up as we can help you.

https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/certified-membership-ppc?utm_term=national%20online%20safety&utm_campaign=NOS+-+Online+Safety+PPC&utm_source=adwords&utm_medium=ppc&hsa_acc=1751242191&hsa_cam=14671965033&hsa_grp=127542835659&hsa_ad=546510075989&hsa_src=g&hsa_tgt=kwd-756102844771&hsa_kw=national%20online%20safe-ty&hsa_mt=b&hsa_net=adwords&hsa_ver=3&gclid=Cj0KCQjw06OTBhC ARIsAAU1yOXC E7An0TDpNLEEaO pVTedOxPA-xPgft6tkcaazc1r9--fUj K4Z4aAmyYEALw wCB



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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 .

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 remove earrings if children have them in when they arrive.

SCHOOL FUND £15 PER FAMILY EACH YEAR

What is School Fund? *It is a fund to help provide some of the 'non-essential' activities.*

What is it used for?

Provide leaving mementos for
Year 6

First communion mementos

Support our Beacons and School Council

To help pay for coaches and our school minibus for school trips!

Year 3 trip to Aylesford to celebrate Mass with other Catholic Schools

Visiting performing art companies

History and Science visitors

Subsidised music lessons

Refreshments for special
days for example;

St Thomas More Day

Sports Day

Pantomime

Payment details will follow shortly as we move over to MCAS

