



St Thomas More School Newsletter

20th May 2022

Dates for your diary

26/5/2022

Term 5 finishes

27/5/2022

Staff Development Day
(No children in school)

Term 6

6/6/2022

Term 6 Begins

10/6/2022

NSPCC The Big Breaktime

14&16/6/2022

Father's Day Activity

14/7/2022

Sports Day (weather permitting)

18/7/2022

Year 6 Production (PM time to be announced)

19/7/2022

Year 6 Production (early evening)

20/7/2022

Year 6 End of Year Festival

21/7/2022

Year 6 End of Year Mass (KS2 only)

22/07/2022

Staff Development Day
(No children in school)

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy week, we have had National Numeracy Day as well as two parent workshops! I hope that everyone who attended our 'Phonics Screen' workshop on Wednesday and our 'Written Calculations' workshop this morning have found them useful. Thank you for all the feedback about our workshops – this really helps us to plan sessions that will be useful and informative for our families. We will be sharing more dates for workshops soon, as well as sending out another parent questionnaire so that we can make sure that what we plan for Term 6 and for the next academic year are what you would like to find out more about to support your children's learning at home.

This term our Reception classes have been learning all about 'Parents – Our Role Models' and, to celebrate today, they have come to school dressed as famous inspirational role models, don't forget to take a look at the pictures of all the things our children have been getting up to this week!

We are all really looking forward to our 'Jubilee' themed week next week and look forward to seeing you all at 2:30 on Thursday to look at the gallery of work that the children have produced, followed by the children's performance of the national anthem at 3:00.

Please be considerate to our residents in regards to walls and fences which belong to them. We would be grateful if you could refrain from leaning on, sitting on or touching their fences and walls. Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon

Uniform Base

Our appointment booking system for Back-to-School is now open.

Please use the following link

<https://uniformbase.co.uk/appointments/>

Parents can of course just come to the shop without an appointment, but we will dedicate staff to parents with an appointment.

uniformbase

Foundation Stage—Role Models

Foundation Stage have been celebrating the end of their Term 5 show and tell theme, based around the role models of their parents. Children and staff learned about and dressed as all kinds of important, historical figures. Some examples of the people we have explored are: The Queen, women from the suffragette movement, Leonardo Di Vinci and grandparents, just to name a few.





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Merit Awards



Charlie G RR

Macey W RS

Lila M1D

Hadassah O 1D

Andre K 1J

Alanei B 1J

Aiden S 2F

Ollie M 2S

Joanna I 3C

Chizaram I 3B

Eyiloreoluwa A 3B

Caleb I 4S

Eliza C 4T

Rufus W 5H

Priscilla A 5M

Samuel N 6C

Harry O 6C

Aimee G 6B

Chukwunomunso O 6B

Well done everyone

National Numeracy Day 2022

FS had lots of fun with Numberblocks themed activities. Two children shared their birthday with National Numeracy Day. (National Numeracy Day was five too!)

Year 1 enjoyed singing lots of number songs.

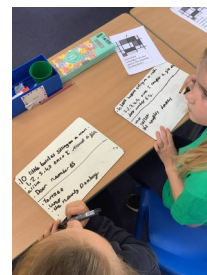
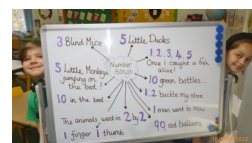
Year 2 danced with Katya Jones from Strictly and enjoyed dancing and numbers.

Year 3 thought about songs and games which have numbers in.

Year 4 investigated how many rectangles there were in Mondrian painting.

Year 5 and 6 enjoyed number based activities.

All in all a fantastic National Numeracy Day!



Employment vacancies

We have a number of positions becoming available within our school.

We are looking for 2 LSA's and an Administration Assistant.

The vacancies are advertised on the following platforms:



Kent Teach

E Teach





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A big Happy Birthday to..

Emmie G

Jake J

JD S

Manette K

Sabrina S

Macey W

Logan B

Aaron K

Maa A

Felicity C

Anthony B

Maxwell IGT



The Jubilee

The children will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with lots of exciting activities and a celebratory lunch on Thursday 26th May. We would like to invite parents to take part in the fun by entering themselves into some of our competitions just for fun for parents and grandparents and these will be judged by children in our school. It would be great if you could send in an entry as we know the children will be excited to see your efforts. You can enter as many categories as you wish and there are no strict rules as to size, shape, materials, ingredients etc as we just want you to have fun!

Categories are:

The Great British Artist of the Jubilee - Portrait of the Queen

The Great British Baker of the Jubilee - Bake a Jubilee style cake (send in a photo)

The Great British Poet of the Jubilee - Write a Jubilee Poem

The Great British Designer of the Jubilee - Design a gown fit for a queen

The Great British Builder of the Jubilee – Use junk modelling to recreate Buckingham Palace

Just send your entry in with your name, your child/grandchild name and their class. All entries to be in by Monday 23rd May.

Fundraising

A big thank you for your recent donations we have raised the following:

Demelza Easter Gardens **£53.46**

Ukraine Day **£910.85**

Mental Health Awareness Week **£344.12**





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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.



An increasing number of children are bringing in items within their packed lunch box that contain nuts.

We have had to ask children to tell their parents that Nutella chocolate spread is not allowed in school. We have children with severe allergies to nuts. There are many alternative snacks and sandwich fillings that do not contain nuts and we politely ask that you use these instead.

Attendance & Punctuality

Our current whole school attendance is **93.4%** which is below the National target of **97%** please help us improve our attendance by ensuring your child is in school every-day ,on time. We have had an increasing number of late students coming through the office recently. We realise that Covid-19 has a negative effect on a child's attendance and this makes it even more important that they are in school on time at all other times.

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