



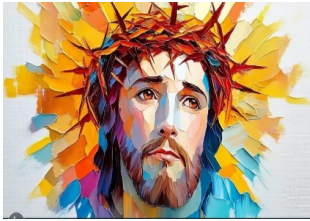
St Thomas More School Newsletter

29th November 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, I would like to say thank you for your kind words and messages over the last few weeks following our Ofsted inspection last term and also a huge thank you to everyone who donated (and those already organising) items for our Christmas Fayre which will take place next Friday after school.



We began our week reflecting on why Jesus is a very special King being the Son of God, and thinking about what is important. The children shared their thoughts and told us that it's not important to be rich or powerful but what is more important is how we treat and welcome others and this is a reminder that during the busy times ahead, remember to take time to reflect, be kind to yourself and to others.

If you would like to help start off the Season of Advent as a community, please join us in church tomorrow at 5.15pm for a Candle-lit Advent Carol Service before the First Mass of Advent at 6pm. All are welcome! In accordance with health and safety guidelines, please bring only battery powered lamps/torches if you wish to join us.

This week, the Reception children have been busy taking care of the school chickens. They've done a fantastic job and have collected lots of eggs! Next week, the children will put those eggs to good use by working in small groups to bake their very own cakes. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to practise teamwork, follow instructions, and enjoy the reward of their hard work with the chickens. We can't wait to see (and taste) their delicious creations!

This week we also saw the return of the Space Dome, a trip stepping back in time to Kent Life for Year 6, and Year 4 were visited by Barney, the blue and gold macaw – check out our Facebook page to see more!

Remember to check the dates on the newsletter and the school calendar so that you don't miss out on the festive fun starting next week.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Mrs Le Breton



Prayer

Christ our King, help us to be like you, to listen to your truth and to see that all people are important, no matter who they are or where they come from.

Amen.



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Merit Award

- RC Nancy
- RR Deborah
- 1C Scarlett
- 1S Alex
- 2D Kieran
- 2F Olivia
- 3B Juanita
- 3L Olivia
- 4L Willow
- 4S Vinnie
- 5W Joshua
- 5C Morire
- 6B Jasmine
- 6F Danielle

Please remember to return merit badges to school the following week. Thank you



Thank you for all of your donations to our Tombola Tag Day today. Thank you to our lovely helpers Nicole, Emma, Jess, Beth, Gabriela, Alina, Hannah and Hannah for all of your hard work sorting and labelling.



Christmas Events

Reminder: Last day to pay for Meet Father Christmas is Monday 2nd December.

Secret Santa gift shop will be open during the school day for children to purchase gifts, each gift will be wrapped and will cost £1.50. Children need to bring their money in a named envelope, if they are younger it may be beneficial to write who they require their gift for i.e a female grandparent or a male uncle.

Christmas Production Tickets

These are selling fast, some refunds have had to be made as people have purchased more than 1 ticket for each showing. The Production will be KS1 and KS2 with a break in the middle 1 ticket is for the entire showing you do not need a ticket for your KS1 child and your KS2 child. Once the initial ticket window has closed we will release further tickets so you may purchase an extra ticket for a showing. We will let you know how many tickets will be available and the time they will be on sale—these will be first come first serve.





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**Punctuality
Peacock**

1S



**Attendance
Anteater**

6F

Whole School Attendance

95.6%

We are aiming for at least 96% whole school attendance.

Parish News – St Simon Stock

If your child would like to be involved in the Nativity during the 6pm children's Mass on Christmas Eve, we will be starting practices this Sunday (1st December) between the 9 o'clock and 11 o'clock Masses. Practices will take place throughout advent. 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 Mrs Wilson know that your child would like to be involved either by coming along this Sunday or by speaking to her directly. It is not essential to attend all practices but coming to as many as possible is appreciated. We will aim to practise between 10.15 and 10.45 but Mrs Wilson and/ or Mrs Law (another catechist who works at St Benedict's) will be there from 10 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 along with items to donate.

<https://stsimonwalderslade.co.uk/parish-newsletter/>

Masses are celebrated as follows:

Weekends: Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 9.00am or 11.00am

Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.00am (Wed 2pm – 10pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament) Friday 8.00pm

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.



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



Term 2

2nd December 2024

EYFS PJ Day

2nd December 2024

EYFS & KS1 Panto

4th & 5th December 2024

Secret Santa Gift Shop

5th December 2024

EYFS Hartbeeps music and
sensory session

6th December 2024

Christmas Fair KS2 Play-
ground 3.30-4.30

11th December 2024

Christmas Productions
EYFS & KS1 9.15-10

KS2 10.15-11

£2 per ticket

12th December 2024

Christmas Production
EYFS & KS1 3.30-4.15

KS2 4.30-5.15

£2 per ticket

13th December 2024

Mass—Church 9.30

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

