



# St Thomas More School Newsletter

26th January 2024

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



## Merit Award

RR Arianna  
RC Ennio  
1S Kieran  
1S Kayla  
1C Abigail  
2F Juliet  
2D Charlie  
3B Isabelle  
3B Damilola  
3L Willow  
4S Thejal  
4L Demiade  
4L Zac  
5C Eyiloreoluwa  
5C Asees  
5M JD  
5M Faith  
6C Alice  
6F Abigail

Dear Parents,

We have had a fantastic week here at St Thomas More! We started this week with an assembly from Richard Farmer, who is a construction engineer as well as being a STEM ambassador, to launch our Art and DT week. He spoke to the children about his work and visited them all in class to answer questions and talk about the range of incredible buildings that our children have been focusing on this week. The children's learning this week has been linked to their allocated building and they are very excited for their parents to see their amazing replica constructions and artwork in our gallery this afternoon!

On Tuesday lunch time, Holly from Young Carers came in to run a lunch club for our children who have caring responsibilities outside school. If your child helps to care for a parent, sibling or family member please do let Jody, our Pastoral Manager, know as your child may be able to join our Young Carers monthly lunch club and access Young Carers support.

Yesterday, some of our Year 5 and 6 children took part in an athletics competition at Medway Park, they showed excellent team work and sportsmanship and were excellent ambassadors for St Thomas More and our school values.

I spent a very difficult evening last night looking through our 'Daisy Dog' competition entries, the effort and care the children have put into their entries was phenomenal and it was very difficult to choose winners from each category - the winners of this competition will be announced next week!

I hope you enjoyed the architectural delights of our hall gallery this afternoon and I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ebdon



We are so grateful for the talents that people are blessed with which enable us to live in a world full of incredible inventions and constructions. Stewardship is the principle of Catholic Social Teaching which teaches us to care for the many gifts that God has given to us which include our environment, our own talents and other resources. All living things are connected so we must use God's gifts responsibly to meet the needs of everyone, now and in the future

*Dear Lord*

*We thank you for our talents and gifts, for my life and for giving me every day to work and play*

*Please help us to use the gifts you have given us for the benefit of our communities*

*Guide us to fulfil your plan for each of us*

*Give us the grace to be humble, respectful and tolerant this day and all the days of our lives*

*Amen*



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## Term 3

### 2nd February 2024

Topic afternoon

Y1-6

### 9th February 2024

Tag day in aid of children's mental health

### 9th February 2024

End of Term 3

## Term 4

### 19th February 2024

SDD—no children in school

### 20th February 2024

Start of Term 4

### 1st March 2024

Bring your parent to...

Y1-6

### 1st March 2024

National offer day—  
Secondary

### 22nd March 2024

Topic afternoon

Y1-6

## Term 5

### 15th April 2024

Start of Term 5

### 6th May 2024

Bank holiday

### 24th May 2024

Bring your parent to...

Y1-6

### 24th May 2024

End of Term 5

## Term 6

17th—18th June SDD

No children in school

## Maths

Just a reminder that there is a link to a parent voice form for maths on our school website. You can find this by following the curriculum tab and then going to the maths curriculum page.

We have recently conducted an anonymous pupil voice regarding the weekly maths challenges-feedback such as this helps us to improve our provision in school. Please try to support your child to prepare for their weekly challenge at home. Short regular practise has the biggest impact.

## Parish News

Please pray for the children preparing for their First Holy Communion. Their first class is at 10am on Saturday.

The next Messy Church session will be on 19<sup>th</sup> February. As this is a staff development day, older siblings are welcome. The session will be aimed at pre-schoolers as usual but there will be crafts and activities available for older children to explore. Please note, children must be accompanied as usual and accompanying adults will still be responsible for all the children they bring. Thank you- hope to see you there!



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## PE kit

We have had a lot of children arriving in non uniform PE kit.

As a reminder your child should have the following PE kit

**Navy blue/black plain tracksuit with a sweatshirt (not a zipped hoody) and a tshirt in their house colour.**

**White or black plain trainers**

We do not allow named tracksuits i.e Nike, Adidas, Puma

Many of the supermarkets and Primark sell plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirts. Uniform base sell house colour PE tshirts with our school .

**Please ensure you label all items of uniform so that if they are misplaced they can be reunited.**



## Art and DT Display

Friday 26th January

We hope you enjoyed seeing all of the amazing art and DT work that the children have worked so hard on.





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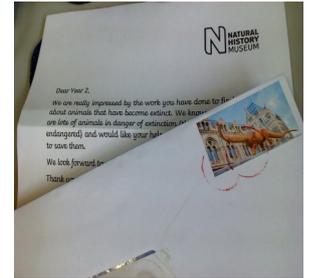
**A big Happy Birthday to..**

**Ire  
Joshua  
Lucas  
Elizabeth  
Deborah-Janet  
Austin  
George  
Oluwadamilola**

## Year 2

Year 2 received an exciting letter this week, from the Natural History Museum!

They are so impressed by their work on endangered animals that they have asked them to help explain why we need to save them. The children will be writing their responses next week.



## Visiting Author

Author James Jefferson will be visiting Year1 and Year 5 next week, with his Space Show. He will also be signing copies of his book if children purchase them beforehand and bring them in on the day.

**SEARCH ON AMAZON FOR  
I want to go to space JIMMY  
Link:**

[I want to go to space: Boy version: Amazon.co.uk: Jefferson, James: 9798443116020: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B098443116020)

**I want to go to space JESSICA'S**

**Link:**

[I want to go to space: Jessica's adventures : Jefferson, James: Amazon.co.uk: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B098443116020)

**Link:**

**I want to go to space \*BUMPER Edition\***

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B0BKD66ZYZ>

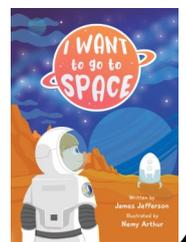
**Link:**

**The Lost Alien**

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Lost-Alien-James-Jefferson/dp/B0CLJ7PPV8/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=25SC9XPGYQM39&keywords=the+lost+alien&qid=1699290215&srefix=the+lost+alien%2Caps%2C146&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Lost-Alien-James-Jefferson/dp/B0CLJ7PPV8/ref=sr_1_1?crid=25SC9XPGYQM39&keywords=the+lost+alien&qid=1699290215&srefix=the+lost+alien%2Caps%2C146&sr=8-1)

## **Uniform reminder**

Please remember that every child is to be in full school uniform everyday. If children have earrings these should be removed by their parent/guardian or they should be taped over. Nail polish should not be worn. Hair should be tied up.





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## Safeguarding

### Safeguarding

#### Parental Advice on Contacting Social Media Sites

It is easy for adults and young children to share things online that sometimes they may wish that they hadn't.

If a child has posted something that they regret, you should advise them to delete it from their account as quickly as they can. Most websites and social media platforms provide an option for users to report to them to request removal of 'content' such as videos, pictures, comments or profiles that might be upsetting. However, it is important to know that making a report doesn't mean that the content will definitely be removed. Most websites and social media sites have a set of rules (Terms of Use) which they expect people using their site to obey.

**Please click on the following link and scroll down to see the really useful guides of how to report, block or remove content.**

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Reporting-to-social-media-sites/>

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.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.