



St Thomas More School Newsletter

19th January 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

RR Paul
RC Osinachi
RC Favour
1S Ryan
1C Penelope
1C Olivia
2F Samuil
2D Jude
2D Grace
3B Pelumi
3B Georgia
3L Jakob
4S Joshua
4S Charis
4L Israel
4L Jensen
5C Bentley
5C Lois
5M Jasmine
5M Lorenzo
6C Leon
6C Tise
6F Mason

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank the parents who attended last week's Phonics workshop run by Miss Ronja and I hope you found it useful. There will be further workshops over the coming months so please do attend if you are able to as feedback from parents is that these sessions have been very helpful in supporting children with their learning at home.

As the weather continues to be variable please do send your children to school dressed for all eventualities!

Following requests from some of the children the Daisy competition deadline is being extended until Monday so, if your child had not yet had a chance to create a poster, leaflet, picture or poem/story, they can still do so and just need to bring it to school on Monday with £1 per entry.

We have two 'Bring Your Parent to . . .' sessions for Years 1-6 coming up - the first session is on 1st March 09:15-09:45 and the second is on 24th May 09:15-09:45. Instead of running Bring Your Parent to . . . sessions for all subjects we have decided to hold these sessions for Reading, Writing and Maths. However, so that the children can also show off their work across the other subjects, we will be running 'Topic Afternoons' for Years 1-6 where you will be invited in to see your child's work across History, Geography, Art, Science etc. from that term. These sessions are on 2nd February 14:30-15:15 and 22nd March 14:30-15:15.

Parents of Reception children will be invited in for FS specific sessions and information about these will be shared with you shortly by your child's class teacher.

We look forward to seeing you at these events across the school year!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon

Parent workshop

**Monday 22nd January 2pm
Parenting Support Workshop**

**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY Primary school
Romany Road, Rainham,
(parents from St Thomas More school welcome to join)
Guest Speaker is Anthony Pallett - Parenting Practitioner Lead - Medway Parenting Service.**

Please email SEN@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk if you would like to book a space



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Term 3

26th January 2024

Art & DT display to parents
2.30pm

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

We are excited to announce our upcoming Art and DT week at St Thomas More.

Children will be creating art, inspired by Leonid Afremov, with a focus on mixed media and will also produce a junk model of a world famous building, with a focus on architecture and construction.

You are invited to collect your child/children at 2:30pm on Friday 26th January, and visit the hall to see the showcase of Art and DT created by all year groups.

We would greatly appreciate any of the following to create junk modelling for this project

(throughout this week):

- *Toilet rolls
- *Cardboard boxes
- *General recycling

We look forward to seeing you from 2:30pm on Friday the 26th, to see your children's wonderful creations.

Miss Fenech and Miss Bunyan





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A big Happy Birthday to..

**Oakley
Blake
Jamie
Yinka-Rose
Lucy
Oscar
Oluwademilade
Barney**

It's not just the children who enjoy forest school, this tiny mouse was spotted amongst the leaves by a member of staff.



Children's Mental Health Week

Friday 9th February

Express yourself

Children are invited to express themselves through their choice of outfit. Please ensure children are wearing sensible closed toe shoes

Parish News

Congratulations to all of the children who made their first reconciliation last Saturday.

Children's Liturgy is this Sunday at 11am Mass.



Medway Small Steps will be holding a ADHD Awareness Workshop for parent/carers, which is taking place on Thursday 1st February, 10am-12pm at the Academy of Woodlands (Treetops cafe entrance).

In this workshop we will take a look at:

What is ADHD - terminology and definitions?

Indicators of ADHD?

Supportive strategies and resources

It's also a great opportunity to meet other parents on a similar journey and to share experiences and successful practices too. Tea and coffee will be provided on the day.

To book a space on this course, please click on the below link. Spaces are limited.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/adhd-awareness-and-support-strategies-tickets-793160352967>

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.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.