



St Thomas More School Newsletter

26th May 2023

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

Ophelia H RC

Constance C RR

Jack M1D

Nicholas F 1D

Olivia S 1J

Nathan B 2F

Kara B 2S

Henry H 3B

Effeet 3T

JD S 4L

Temitayo D 4S

Nehemiah M 5C

Alice M 5M

Whitney O 6C

Sophia S 6F

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of Term 5!

The children have had a fantastic week to round off the term.

On Monday, the children had an assembly with HSBC who came in to teach them about 'Financial Education' and to help them develop skills for financial life and learning. Also on Monday Karen Greaves, a local author, visited some of our classes to talk about her books and what it is like to be an author.

This morning we were very lucky to have Sports for Schools visit us with GB Olympic athlete, Darran Challis who competed in the 2016 Invictus Games in Cycling and Swimming and is hoping to compete in the Paralympics. The children all took part in circuits and then Darran held an assembly to tell the children about his journey and the perseverance and dedication it has taken for him to get to where he is today, he truly is a fantastic role model for all of us.

Yesterday the children had their class photograph taken and you should have received a QR code in your child's bag to be able to access these.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 5th June.

Mrs Ebdon

Children collected early

Please can you ensure that if you are collecting a child for an appointment you bring the appointment text or letter with you. We cannot release children early for any other reason other than medical/dental appointments. When making appointments please try to make them outside of school times, most dental surgeries have afterschool appointments for check-ups.

Year 1 Music

Year 1 were very excited when our musical friend, Mrs Fisher, came back to school to teach us how to play the djembe drums. This was part of our learning about Africa. We learnt how to make the different sounds on the drum and lots of new rhythms. We made a very loud musical noise!



Golden Welly Award

Fae Wray





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Term 6 dates

7th June 2023

Fathers Day activity

8th June 2023

KS2 Disco

9th June 2023

Fathers Day activity

9-11th June 2023

Year 6 residential

14th June 2023

Year 3 Liturgy 9.15-9.45

23rd June 2023

SDD—school closed

26th June 2023

SDD—School closed

21st July 2023

Last day of academic year



2023/2024

1st September 2023

SDD—no children in school

4th September 2023

Children return to school

Yew Tree Farm School

We have 3 open days coming up in half term.

It is an affordable day out with hands-on animal experiences,



Please remember that children should **not** be bringing any lip balms/creams/or medications in their bags to school. Anything that is required for medical purposes should be taken to the office by a parent/carer who will then be required to fill in a form.





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Attendance

In Term 6 we shall be looking into our attendance with our LA AASSA. We have monthly visits from our AASSA and she is keen to help us improve attendance across the school. Attendance drops before school breaks up for any of the holidays and to help improve this we will now be requiring medical evidence for any child who is absent in the days or week preceding or directly following on from a half term or one of the 3 larger school breaks. If your child requires a week away from school for an illness we would expect them to have seen a GP or medical care provider. We shall also be carrying out home visits after day 3 of an illness where medical evidence is not available to offer any help or support to your child and the family, we can also arrange for some work to be done at home in certain cases where the child is well enough to complete it. We are not allowed to authorise any holiday taken during term time and any time taken off must be recorded as unauthorised, our AASSA makes monthly checks on our coding and requires us to send her our codes on a regular basis.

The attendance figures below show how much attendance dropped this week compared with last Friday. As a school we aim for 100% attendance but understand this is not always possible so our target figure is 97% and we are falling short of this.

Friday 25th May

Attendance

85.3%

Friday 19th May

Attendance

94.8%

Crown Competition

Well done to those who entered our crown competition on Monday, the crowns were fantastic! School Council chose a winner from each class:

RC Jacob * RR Kieran * 1J Blake * 1D Max * 2S Leo * 2F Sophia D * 3T Phoebe * 3B Koby * 4S Rosabella *
4L Aaron * 5C Leon * 5M Evie * 6F Eliska * 6C Hollie





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GB Olympic athlete, Darran Challis
at St Thomas More Friday 26th
May 2023





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A big Happy Birthday to..

Joel D

Jaxon H

Mollie P

Alexandra-Advira D

Azra K

Phoebe M

Your views matter

Dear Parents/Carers

To share your views about St Thomas More, please could you take a few moments to complete our survey.

<https://forms.office.com/e/Vezzpm8A5>

We sent a parent survey out yesterday via email please do fill it in as we would like to hear your views.

Thank you.



Wrap around care

Please ensure you are booking your after school club and breakfast club through MCAS. We have an increasing number of students that are arriving for the clubs whose parent/carer has not booked. In some circumstances we are able to add a child to a club but this is not in replacement of the parent/carer making the booking using MCAS.

If you need a reminder of your details we can email these to you or if you have forgotten a password please use the forgotten password link.

Breakfast club 8am to school start £3.50

After school club 3.15—4.30 collection £5

After school club 3.15—5.30 collection £7.50

All wrap around care balances must be cleared at the end of each term.

After school club mobile 07519 207993

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. Hair should be tied up.





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Safeguarding

Safeguarding – Identifying Online Risks

Online safety is embedded within the curriculum and children are regularly taught how to stay safe online and how to identify online risks. To help at home, you can help children to identify and manage risks by discussing:

- the ways in which someone may put themselves at risk online
- risks posed by another person's online behaviour
- when risk taking can be positive and negative
- online reputation and the positive and negative aspects of an online digital footprint
- sharing information online and how to make a judgement about when and how to share and who to share with
- the risks of cyber crime, online fraud and identity theft

To support your child at home with this, you can sign up for free to our 'National Online Safety' platform by using the link below:

[Browse E-safety Training and Resources For Schools | National Online Safety](#)

You can also help your child by:

explaining how to identify trusted adults, access support from the school, the [National Crime Agency's Click CEOP reporting service](#) for children and 3rd sector organisations such as [Childline](#) and [Internet Watch Foundation](#)

reporting cyber crime, fraud and suspicious online activity, through organisations such as [Action Fraud](#) and the [Advertising Standards Authority](#)

reporting inappropriate contact or content for various platforms and apps

A list of media literacy resources for teachers and parents is available via the following link too:

[Online media literacy resources - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Online Identity Series

Internet Matters Ambassador Dr Linda Papadopoulos shares advice for parents and carers to help children and young people be more authentic online and build an online identity that reflects them positively as they become more active online. To watch the short clip series to support your understanding, please click on the following link:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-identity-series/>

Safeguarding Survey for Parents & Carers

Please could you spare a few minutes to complete our safeguarding survey. If you would like to find out more about how we safeguard children at St Thomas More, please head to our website and the safeguarding section. You will also find a Safeguarding Information Booklet for Parents and Carers. If you would like to speak to a member of the safeguarding team, please contact the office where Mrs Le Breton, Mrs Ebdon or Jody our Pastoral Manager will be able to answer any questions that you have.

<https://forms.office.com/r/CWv4KXCJ0K>

Our Safeguarding team are:

Mrs Le Breton	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Ebdon	Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Deamer	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.