



St Thomas More School Newsletter

8th March 2024

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

RC Axel

RR Ethan

1C Laroy

1C Daisy

1S Joel

2F James

2D Deborah

3B Roman

3L Amber

4L Aidan

4S Uzoma

4S Aaron

5C Rosabella

5M Sabrina

6C Addy

6F Mendel

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy week at St Thomas More! We started the week with an assembly with Mrs Campbell introducing World Book Day, a variety of authors who had written books specifically for World Book Day and introducing Michael Rosen and his books as Years 1-6 all had an online session with him! The children have all been given the opportunity to take part in a competition suggested by Michael Rosen and we can't wait to see the work they produce. Yesterday was a fabulous day as all the children came to school dressed as book characters, the time and effort that had gone into these outfits was phenomenal and we hope they thoroughly enjoyed the day.

On Wednesday, some of our Governors spent the day in school with us. Mr D'Souza and Mrs Burgess observed some of our intervention and support groups, they observed RE, Writing and Maths lessons in different year groups, carried out 'book looks' with some of the children, they met with our Early Careers Teacher's, spoke with our children who are part of our School Council, Eco warriors, Beacons and Digital Leaders as well as monitoring our administrative and safeguarding practices and policies.

Mr D'Souza and Mrs Burgess thoroughly enjoyed their day and were delighted with how confidently and enthusiastically our children talked about their learning experiences and they spoke very highly of the quality of lessons they observed especially mentioning the supportive, caring learning environments we provide for our children.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Jody who single-handedly organised and delivered a 'mobile Mother's' Day shop' for our children to be able to buy a present in time for Mother's Day.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and that all our Mum's, and lovely ladies who care for us, can put their feet up and be pampered on Sunday!

Mrs Ebdon

Mothering Sunday

Dear Lord

*Thank you for the love of our mothers;
Thank you for their care and concern;
Thank you for the joys they have shared with us;
Thank you for the sacrifices they have made for us;*

*Thank you for Mary, Our Mother in Heaven;
Thank you Lord for all that they give us;
Amen*



All of our Mothers are wonderful examples of the Catholic Social Teaching Principles of

- 'Human Dignity – Everyone is Special' and 'Solidarity – Showing That We Care'.

We will try hard to follow the example that our Mums set for us

Red Nose Day—Friday 15th March

School Council would like all children to wear red for Red Nose Day—they are not asking for any donations to be brought into school but please bring in a joke that can be shared with the class.





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Term 4

15th March 2024

Wear red for Red Nose Day

22nd March 2024

Stations of the Cross service
Y3-6

22nd March 2024

Topic afternoon—parents in
2.30pm

26th March 2024

Parents Evening

27th March 2024

Parents Evening

27th March 2024

Easter Egg Hunt



28th March 2024

End of Term 4

Term 5

15th April 2024

Start of Term 5

6th May 2024

Bank holiday

13th May 2024

Year 6 SATS week

24th May 2024

Topic afternoon—parents in
Y1-6

24th May 2024

End of Term 5



Attendance Anteater

Goes to 4S for 100% attendance
28th Feb—1st March

Term 6

3rd June 2024

Start of Term 6

17th—18th June

SDD-No children in school

19th June 2024

Children back to school

19th July 2024

End of the academic year



Punctuality Peacock

Goes to 5M who had no lates
28th Feb—1st March

Mothers Day Gifts

We hope you all enjoy your Mothers Day gifts from Jody's Mothers Day gift shop. A big thank you to Jody for putting in so much time and effort to pull this all together for our children. The children absolutely loved coming to the trolley to choose their gifts to put in their decorated bags. If you haven't yet received your gift then no peaking at the trolley!

Happy Mothers Day to you all.





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A big Happy Birthday to..

Greyson

Cian

Jonathan

Modesireoluwa

Jacob

Spencer

Year 5 trip to see the Lion King

On Wednesday 6th March, Year 5 went to watch The Lion King at the Lyceum Theatre in London. It was a great opportunity for the children to watch a professional musical theatre production which linked wonderfully with our music topics on African Music and Musical Theatre.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the show and it was lovely hear many comments from the public about how well behaved and polite the children were.



Year 4 Tadpoles

Year 4 have tadpoles! They were bought in from frog spawn and have now turned into very active tadpoles! They are enjoying seeing them change every day, feeding them and taking care of their tank. They can't wait to see them turn into frogs!

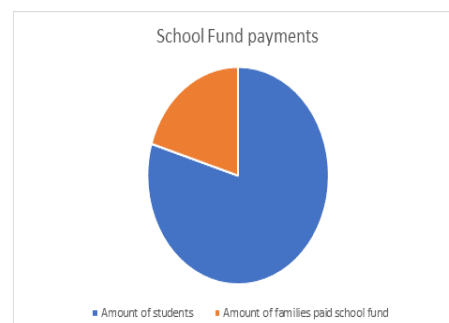


Parking

We have received complaints from residents living on Walderslade Road due to parents parking across their drives at collection time. Please could you consider whether you will be stopping someone from leaving or returning to their drive. We have advised residents to inform Medway Council if they experience these situations.

School Fund

At St Thomas More Catholic Primary School we are committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum for all our pupils creating lifelong memories within a nurturing, supportive environment. Our Voluntary School Fund exists to increase the educational opportunities for all children in the school. Your donations considerably enhance the quality of education we are able to provide, covering items that are not normally provided by the school's designated budget. The fund helps the school to provide resources and equipment which directly support children's education, provide additional activities, subsidise school trips and improves the teaching and learning environment. Contributing to the Voluntary School Fund, no matter how big or small, is very much appreciated and invaluable to us. With schools working to an increasingly tight budget, your donation really will make a difference to the educational experience that our school is able to provide for your child. Thank you for anything you feel able to contribute. School Fund can be found on MCAS under Clubs > School Fund.





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SEND update

National ADHD medication shortage and support/advice for parents and carers (below).

[Patient information for ADHD supply disruption :: NHS Kent and Medway \(icb.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/adhd/patient-information-for-adhd-supply-disruption)

Please be aware that the Medway SEND team and Medway Children's Health continue to experience high volumes of referrals which is adding further pressure to pre existing back logs. This does mean that many pupils are being held on waiting lists for long periods of time.

This is a nationwide issue and out of schools control.

If you have any questions or concerns about this please do speak to Mrs Austin our SENDCO
sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk

SENDIAS can also offer impartial support and advice - please see below.

<https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/medway-sendias/>

World Book Day

March 7th 2024

Celebrating World Day storytelling sessions in the library with 'Funnybones' read by the skeletons.



Year 4 completed a book scavenger hunt to celebrate world book day. They had a list of things and words to find in as many books as they could! Well done Moses, Jemima and Blake for finishing it the fastest!



Where is the next book in the Year 4 scavenger hunt



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World book day winners March 7th 2024





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SEN support

Individual provision and school-based support plans were sent home for children with additional needs who are maintained on the school SEN support register at the end of last term. Should you have any questions regarding the targets set or the support in place for your child, please discuss this with the Class Teacher.

Mrs Austin our SENDCO is also available if required to discuss any questions or queries that you may have. If you would like to arrange a call or meeting please call via the office **01634864701** or email sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk

Safeguarding

Safeguarding

Dear Parents

Please sign up to our fantastic resource The National College where you can find lots of useful information to support young adults, children including those with SEN and yourself. There is a whole host of information about Disney+, Snapchat, Roblox, YouTube, Whatsapp, conversation starters to help parents talk to their children about their mental health, cyberbullying, tips for stronger passwords, artificial intelligence and much, much more.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's online habits, speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance or contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy Head, Mrs Le Breton if you believe a child is at risk of harm.

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-thomas-more-catholic-primary-school-8>

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.