



St Thomas More School Newsletter

8th December 2023

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Merit Award

RR Aria
RR Skye
RC Ella
1S Deborah
1C Zeenat
1C Toby
2F Henry
2F Oscar
2D Nileyah
2D Tomas
3B Sophia
3B Ben
3L Ethan
3L Mazel
4S Jasroop
4L Simona
5C Maa
5C Bailey
5M Thomas
5M Ivy
6C Jeremiah
6C Munachi
6F Abigail

Dear Parents,

Instead of us starting the week with our usual whole school assembly, Father Pawel came in to bless our Advent Wreath to celebrate the start of Advent and to think about how we can use this time to prepare for Christmas. Our Beacons did a fantastic job leading the service and I would like to thank Miss Bowles and Mrs Dolan for organising this for our children.

We have had further information from the team at 'School Streets' letting us know that the parking control scheme will be going ahead in Bleakwood Road and should be implemented in early 2024. We will soon be receiving more information to share with parents about the scheme and it's benefits and we will also be doing some work with the children around this, following on from their Road Safety sessions.

Next week will be a busy one! We have lots of festive activities going on with the grand finale of the week being our Christmas Fayre after school next Friday. If you are able to help at all please do let our Fundraising Team know and we look forward to seeing as many families as possible joining in with the festive fun!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Ebdon

Christmas Fayre – Face Stencils

One of the stalls we are running at the fayre will be for the children to have mini face paints/stencils applied.

Please do check the ingredient list below before you attend the fayre in case your child has any allergies to the contents within the products. All children who would like to have a decoration applied will need to be accompanied by a parent who will need to sign that they have checked the ingredients list and consent to their child to have this.

Ingredients

Mineral oil
Ethihexyl Palmitate
Polybutene
Ozokerite
Isopropyl myristate
Beeswax
Mica
Hydroxystearic acid
Phenoxyethanol

May contain: titanium dioxide, red 28 lake, red 7 lake, red 6 lake, iron oxides, yellow 5 lake, ultramarine, D&C black 2, blue 1 lake.



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Term 2

11th December 2023

Christmas project week

Tombola Tag Day

Hartbeeps Magic Sprinkles
Yr R

13th December 2023

KS1 Christmas Production
9.30

KS2 Christmas Production
13.45

14th December 2023

Meet Father Christmas

Christmas lunch

All year groups Christmas
production 4pm

15th December 2023

Advent Mass lead by 5M

Christmas Fayre

19th December 2023

KS2 Aladdin

20th December 2023

End of Term 2

Term 3

3rd January 2024

Start of Term 3

9th February 2024

End of Term 3

Term 4

19th February 2024

SDD—no children in school



We have been notified of head-lice cases in Year 2. Please check your child's hair and treat appropriately. Thank you.

Parish News

Children's Liturgy is on this week.

If your child(ren) would like to take part in the Christmas Eve Nativity (6pm) Mass, please let Mrs Wilson know. (All ages welcome.) This is always a beautiful and prayerful start to Christmas. There will be a practice from approximately 10.15 to 10.45 this Sunday and next. Hot drinks can be provided for parents during practices.

A date for your diaries...

Messy church will be on Monday 18th December and will be Christmas themed.



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Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance Anteater goes to 4L who had 100% attendance last week.



Punctuality Peacock goes to 3B who had no lates at all last week.



Maths challenge

On Wednesday 6th December, 4 year 6's went to Invicta Grammar School for a maths challenge. Throughout the day we had lots of fun and enjoyed it, although it was quite challenging. Overall we came 4th out of 12 schools. I would like to thank Miss Cole and Mrs Robertson for supporting us during the day and I would also like to thank Mrs Robertson for taking us. Isla M Year 6



Christmas Events Week



Monday 11th—Tombola Tag Day

Monday 11th—Hartbeeps Year R

Wednesday 13th—KS1 Christmas performance 9.30am

Wednesday 13th - KS2 Christmas performance 1.45pm

Thursday 14th—Christmas dinner day

Thursday 14th—Evening Christmas performance 4pm KS1, interval at 5pm for changeover to KS2

Friday 15th—Advent Mass at St Simon Stock Church

Friday 15th—Christmas Fayre 3.30pm



Tombola Tag Day

Monday 11th December

Children can wear their own clothes in exchange for the following

Yr R & Yr 1 Chocolate or biscuits

Yr 2 & Yr 3 Toiletries

Yr 4—Yr6 Bottles of drink

All items should be unopened and in date please.

Items can be dropped off Monday morning outside of reception to members of our fundraising team.

Thank you

Christmas Dinner

Thursday 14th December 2023

KS2 payment can be made via caterlink, if you do not have an account please ask at reception.





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A big Happy Birthday to..

Daniella

Danielle

Henry

Zeenat

Zoe

Sofia

Arabella

Do you have a child starting secondary school in September 2024?

(children born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013)

Friday 1st March—National offer day

Please visit [Medway.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.medway.gov.uk/admissions) for more information

Do you have a child starting primary school in September 2024?

You must apply to your home LA i.e if you pay your council tax to Medway you would apply to Medway if you pay it to Maidstone you would apply to Kent.

Medway residents can apply from Monday 4th September

Monday 14th January 2024—Primary applications close

You can read about primary admissions at

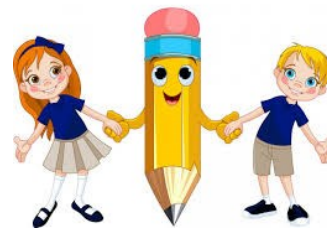
[medway.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://www.medway.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Tuesday 16th April 2024—Primary offers sent out

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

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.