



St Thomas More School Newsletter

7th November 2025

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Knowledge-rich, skills-led learning for all
Christ at our heart
Serving everyone in our community
Partnership of love, ambition, joy and peace



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, our reflection began with Sunday's Gospel from Matthew, where Jesus shares the Beatitudes — the beautiful message of *"Happy are those who..."*. These words reminded us that true happiness comes not from what we have, but from how we live: with kindness, humility, and love.

Children explored what it means to be "happy" in the way Jesus describes. They shared thoughtful ideas about being peacemakers, showing mercy, and standing up for what is right. It was heartening to see how deeply they connected with the message — not just in words, but in actions.

We encouraged them to think about how they could **"go forth"** and live out these values in their everyday lives — at home, in school, and in the wider community by helping a friend who was sad, being brave enough to say sorry or include someone who was left out.

As we move through the week, we invite you to talk with your child about the Beatitudes. Ask them what they think it means to be truly happy, and how they might bring a little more peace and kindness into the world around them.

Thank You for Joining Our Phonic Workshop

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and carers of our younger children who attended yesterday's Phonic Workshop. Your support means so much to us and plays a vital role in helping our children become confident, joyful readers.

Phonics is a key part of early literacy, and the foundations laid in the Early Years are crucial for future learning. When children see reading celebrated both at home and at school, they grow in confidence and curiosity. If you have any further questions, or would like more support with how you can help at home, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher. We're here to help and would love to continue the conversation. Together, we're building a strong start for every child.

Celebrating Achievements and Community Spirit

We are incredibly proud of the children who represented our school at the recent Medway Basketball Tournament. They performed brilliantly, winning every game! A huge thank you to Sam from STRIVE for coaching them and to Mr Hughes for driving them to and from the event.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for our All Saints and All Souls Mass this morning, beautifully led by Year 6. Special thanks to Father Joseph, whose guidance and inspiration continue to strengthen our faith. The children's readings and singing was, as always, truly beautiful.

Wonderful News!

Congratulations to **Miss Savage** on the birth of her healthy baby boy! We send our warmest wishes to her and her growing family—both mum and baby are doing well. As a school community, we hold Miss Savage and her family in our prayers, asking for continued health, joy, and precious moments together in these early days. May this new chapter be filled with love and blessings. We're delighted for them and look forward to welcoming Miss Savage back when the time is right.



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We're delighted to welcome back Mrs Fitzgerald from next week and would like to thank Mrs Ronja for her dedication while teaching Year 4 in her absence. She thoroughly enjoyed her time with the class and we know she will miss them. She is, however, looking forward to spending some of her last week with them before going on maternity leave.

We also warmly welcome Miss Glass, who has joined our team and is currently completing a degree to support teacher training in the future. We're confident she will be a wonderful asset to our school and know that you will all make her feel welcome.

Upcoming Events

Don't forget our **Quiz Night**

on **Friday 28th November**—a fantastic way to kick off the festive season! We're excited to welcome back Jody, who has kindly organised the event and is looking forward to seeing many of you there. Bring your own drinks and nibbles, gather a team of up to 8 people, and join us for a night of fun and laughter in support of our fundraising efforts. Please note the quiz night is £5 per person not per table/team.

Next Friday is **Children in Need Day**. To support this worthy cause, children may wear their own clothes and bring a £1 donation. Look out for the collection buckets at drop-off and pick-up, or children can hand their donations to their class teacher/office.

Prayer:

Loving God,

As we gather this Sunday, we reflect on the Gospel's call to live with compassion, courage, and hope.

We remember those who have gone before us—family, friends, and all who have shaped our lives with love.

*We especially hold in our hearts the brave men and women who gave their lives in war,
so that we might live in peace.*

May their sacrifice inspire us to be peacemakers in our own time.

Grant us strength to carry their legacy forward with kindness and unity.

Amen.



Remembrance Invitation:

As we approach Remembrance Sunday, we invite parents and families to take a moment to write a prayer or message in memory of loved ones who have passed, and in honour of soldiers and civilians affected by war. These prayers can be shared with us during the month of November and we will place them in our prayer box to be shared during collective worship. We look forward to our Faith Beacons leading our whole-school remembrance assembly on Monday.

Remember to head over to our Facebook page to lots of wonderful learning in action!

Have a restful weekend!

Mrs Le Breton



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RBL Poppy Appeal

We have a limited number of slap bands, soft wrist bands, coat/bag reflectors the suggested donations are



Slap band £1.50

Soft wrist band £1

Reflector 50p

Paper Poppy—donation

We also have the 2025 metal pin poppy that adults can purchase for a suggested donation of £2

My Childs Art



So far our parents have raised £140.21 for our school just through purchasing items through My Childs's Art. There is still time to place an order and what family member doesn't love a mug with a piece of unique art work on it for Christmas. You can place your order until 31st December 2025. The username to access the site is **StThomasmore** and the access code is **3naeyd5s**.

Little Recyclers



We have booked another collection from The Little Recyclers it is on

Thursday January 15th 2026

If you are having a post Christmas clear out then please fill your bags with

Good quality clean clothing, shoes (paired), bags, hats & scarves, belts, fashion accessories, swimwear, jewellery, lingerie, bras, perfumes.

They do not accept work wear, underwear, socks, duvets, linen, towels etc

Please see the full list on their website www.thelittlerecyclers.co.uk

Raffle Prizes



We are looking for donations of raffle prizes if anyone knows a company or is willing to donate please email the office, thank you. Please keep an eye out for the STM fundraising page on Facebook. Please check MCAS as Christmas events will be added over the next 2 weeks.



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Term 2

14th November 2025

Children in Need—own clothes day

£1 donation

20th November 2025

Y5 Celebration of the Word

9.15-9.45am

27th November 2025

Healthy Bladder Healthy Bowel

2pm in school

24th November 2025

28th November 2025

Y1-Y6 BYPT Maths (Not EYFS)

9.15-9.45am

Followed by

Maths Workshop for Parents 9.45-10.15am

28th November 2025

Tombola Tag Day

Please see Christmas info

1st December 2025

EYFS/KS1 visiting Panto in school

Wear Pyjamas Day (Payment on MCAS)

3rd December 2025

Christmas Fair from 3.30pm

9th & 10th December 2025

Secret Santa

11th December 2025

Meet Father Christmas

Term Dates & SDD

Term 2

27/10/2025 – 19/12/2025

Term 3

5/1/2026—13/2/2026

Term 4

24/2/2026—2/4/2026

Term 5

20/4/2026—22/5/2026

Term 6

1/6/2026 - 17/7/2026

SDD—No children in school

Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 22nd June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026





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Merit Award

RB Milana

RC Jayla

1B Zoha

1C Freya

2B Seon

2D Louie

3C Methaya

3S Adora

4D Tomi

4F Simona

5RP Arabella

5W Jake

5W Ronnie

6F Effe

6L Dollcie-Rae



**Punctuality
Peacock**

RB



Attendance

Anteater

2D 5RP

facebook

Please see our Facebook
page for photos of learning
and good news
notices

The school nurses are coming to your school to talk all about getting that wee and poo in the loo!

Main topics to be discussed:

- Day time wetting
- Night time wetting (Bedwetting)
- Soiling
- Constipation
- Toilet training

And so much more...

If your child has any form of continence concern, please express interest with your school who can get you booked onto our 1-hour session with the chance to speak to our team on a one-to-one basis.





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St Simon Stock Parish in Walderslade

Our Parish is primarily a place of worship. The very centre of our prayer is Jesus Christ whose Eucharist we celebrate nearly every day. Listed below are the times of our weekly Masses and Services. For more details you can look at our **Parish Diary** Masses are celebrated as follows:

Weekends:

Saturday 6.00 pm
Sunday 9.00 am
11.00 am

Weekdays:

Monday 10.00 am Mass
Tuesday 10.00 am Mass
Wednesday 10.00 am Mass
2pm – 10pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday 8.00 pm Mass

Holy Days of Obligation:

8.00 pm Vigil Mass
10.00 am Morning Mass
8.00 pm Evening Mass

During holiday periods, please consult the weekly newsletters for the times of all the Services.

If you wish to have a Mass celebrated for a special intention, please **contact** the Parish Office. The Archdiocese of Southwark guideline for a Mass intention stipend is £10.00. Reconciliation (Confession) is available on Friday from 7.15 pm - 7.45 pm and Saturday from 5.15 pm – 5.45 pm also by appointment, please call: 07305 831925. Thank you

Safeguarding

If you're worried about a child or would like some family support, please contact us:

Our Safeguarding Team

Mrs Le Breton Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
Mrs Murphy Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & Acting Deputy Head
Mrs Austin Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & Assistant Head
Mrs Ronja Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & EYFS Lead

Mr D'Souza Governor Safeguarding Lead

You can also contact Medway's Children's Safeguarding Partnership

https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200170/children_and_families/600/concerned_about_a_child#:~:text=If%20you%20think%20the%20child,hours%20on%2003000%20419%20191.

Or via telephone - **In an emergency phone 999**. If you think the child is at immediate risk of harm contact Medway Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm on 01634 334 466 or out of hours on 03000 419 191.