



St Thomas More School Newsletter

31st October 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,

We've had a fantastic start to the new half term, and it's been truly heart-warming to see so many smiling faces returning to school. The children have come back full of energy and enthusiasm, ready to dive into learning and embrace the opportunities ahead.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our recent coffee morning—it was lovely to catch up and find out more about what Medway can offer to families. We're also incredibly grateful to the parents who have volunteered to support our fundraising events this term. Your time and generosity make a real difference to our school community.

Gospel Reflection: Luke 18:9–14

We began our week with the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, a powerful story from the Gospel of Luke. The children explored the importance of humility, honesty, and compassion. Through discussion and reflection, they learned that God values a humble heart more than outward appearances or pride.

Each class took time to think about how we can show kindness and humility in our everyday lives—whether it's helping a friend, saying sorry, or simply listening to others.

Goodbye and Best Wishes to Miss Savage

We'd like to say a heartfelt goodbye to Miss Savage as she begins her maternity leave. She has been truly instrumental in stepping in to teach in a variety of year groups last term, showing incredible resilience, always positive, always professional—and still looking *blooming marvellous*—Miss Savage has never once complained despite working close to her due date, and her commitment to our school and pupils has shone through every day.

We hope she's had a chance to rest and recharge during her first week off, and we're all eagerly awaiting the exciting news to come. She will be greatly missed, and we send her all our love and best wishes for this next beautiful chapter.

A Fond Farewell and Heartfelt Thanks

Today we say goodbye to someone truly special—our wonderful Pastoral Manager—who has dedicated the last twelve years to supporting our school community with unwavering care, compassion, and commitment.

Throughout her time at St Thomas More, she has been a vital link between home and school, offering a listening ear, a helping hand, and a kind heart to countless children and families. Her support for parents, especially through her tireless work on fundraising events, has made a lasting impact on our school, and her presence has been a source of comfort and encouragement to so many.

She has always taken the time to listen to pupils share their news, celebrate their joys, and talk about what they love about school. Her genuine interest in their wellbeing and happiness has helped shape a nurturing environment where every child feels heard and valued.



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Although we are sad to see her go, we are incredibly proud that she is moving on to work for a charity—continuing her journey of making a difference in the lives of others. Her legacy here will be felt for years to come, and she will be greatly missed by staff, pupils, and parents alike.

We're delighted that she'll be returning to host the **Quiz Night** on **Friday 28th November**, which she and her husband have kindly organised. So, gather your team (up to 8 adults), book your table, and join us for a fantastic evening. Bring your drinks and nibbles too—it promises to be a wonderful event!

Even on her last day, she continues to show her dedication to St Thomas More, and for that, we are truly grateful. We wish her all the very best in her new role and hope she knows just how much she means to us all. Thank you for everything.

Children & Family Hubs Medway

We will continue to work alongside Medway who offer a wide range of services, including coffee mornings for families in Kent and Medway so we will keep you updated. Families in Medway can access a variety of support through Children and Family Hubs, which offer bookable sessions, parenting support programmes, early help and much, much more so stay tuned or find out more via this link; <https://www.medway.gov.uk/familyhubs>

Thank You to Our Year 4 Families

A heartfelt thank you to all the Year 4 parents who joined us for our recent **Celebration of the Word**. We were truly overwhelmed by the number of adults attending—so much so that we ran out of chairs!

It means so much to us as a school to be able to share the children's thoughtful reflections and stories, all beautifully centred around our Gospel values. We hope you enjoyed taking part in the activities and felt the warmth of our school community.

As always, the children's singing was a real highlight—uplifting and joyful, and a lovely way to bring everyone together. Thank you again for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming you to future celebrations!



Thank You for Your Donations!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the families who kindly donated tissues and glue sticks to our school. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated and make a real difference to our classrooms. It's wonderful to know we can rely on our school community—thank you for helping us keep things running smoothly!



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A Special Thank You to George, Jack and Skyla

We'd like to give a particular thank you to George, Jack and Skyla, who went above and beyond by organising their own fundraising event with their families. Through their amazing efforts, they raised a whopping £183.00—all while earning plenty of merits and stickers along the way!

We are extremely grateful for their creativity, generosity, and commitment to supporting our school. What a fantastic example of pupil-led initiative and community spirit! Watch this space so we can share what we've purchased.

Well done to you all!

Remember to check out our Facebook page for more updates and photos of children's learning!

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Le Breton

Prayer – Based on Luke 18:9–14

Merciful God,



You see into our hearts and know our true selves. As we reflect on the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector, teach us to come before You with humility, not pride.

Help us to recognise that righteousness is not earned by status or outward actions, but received through Your grace. May we never look down on others, but instead lift them up in love and compassion.

Like the tax collector, may we have the courage to say, “*God, be merciful to me, a sinner,*” and trust in Your forgiveness. Shape our hearts to be honest, humble, and open to Your transforming love.

Let us walk this week with quiet confidence in Your mercy, and with kindness toward all we meet.

Amen.



Christmas Fundraising

We will be looking for volunteers to wrap Christmas presents for Meet Father Christmas and for the Christmas Fair. If you have any wrapping paper we would welcome all donations and these can be brought into the office from Monday 27th October. We are also 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

5th November 2025

Flu vaccinations

Please ensure you have signed up

7th November 2025

All Saints & All Souls Mass 9.30-10.30am

6L leading—all parents welcome

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

28th November 2025

Y1-Y6 BYPT Maths (Not EYFS)

9.15-9.45am

28th November 2025

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)

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 Prince

RC Aiden

1B Raphel

1C Xena

2B Zara

2D Alex

2D Isla

3C Daniel

3S Zeenat

3S Charlie

4D Sofia

4F Macey

4F Orla

5RP Darasimi

5W Leo

6F Shekinah

6L Tyger



**Punctuality
Peacock**

RB, RC, 4F



Attendance

Anteater

RC

Secondary School
Applications
Closes
TODAY 5PM
For Medway



Tuck Shop is back

Every Thursday

There will be 50p bags and £1 bags, all sweets will be prepacked. Please bring loose change with you.

**Secondhand Uniform
Sale**

Alongside tuck shop.

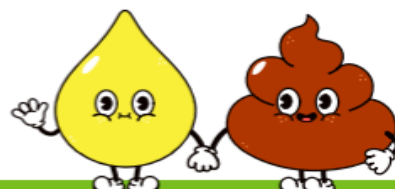
The school nurses are coming to your school to talk all about getting that wee and poo in the loo!

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.