



St Thomas More School Newsletter

21st 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,

We began our week with a beautiful Celebration of the Word, reflecting on the Gospel according to Luke 21:5-19. The children's knowledge and understanding truly shone through in their thoughtful responses and heartfelt reflections. Their mission this week is inspired by this Gospel: *to go forth and live with courage and faith, trusting in God even when challenges arise*. Their singing was absolutely beautiful—it is such a joyful and uplifting way to start the week together as a school community.

Mission for Home

We invite families to join in the mission by:

- Talking together about times when it's hard to stay hopeful and how faith can help us.
- Praying as a family for courage and trust in God during difficult moments.

Encouraging acts of kindness that show strength and love, even when things feel challenging.

Thank you for supporting us in helping the children grow in faith and understanding.

Uniform and Safety Reminder

As we move into the colder months, please remember that children should now be wearing winter uniform, including shirts and ties. We also kindly ask parents to support our school uniform rules by ensuring children do **not wear earrings** to school. It is challenging for staff to repeatedly address this issue, and your co-operation will help ease their workload. Our team continues to go above and beyond for the benefit of our school and community, so please help us by following these guidelines.

Our uniform is more than just clothing—it promotes equality, fosters a sense of belonging and pride, and helps set a positive tone for learning. It also reduces distractions and helps to create a calm, focused learning environment reflecting our shared values and high standards.

We understand that there may be occasional difficulties, and we're here to help. If you are facing challenges with uniform—such as affordability, sizing, or availability—please speak to us. Together, we can make sure every child feels proud, prepared, and part of our school family. If you have outgrown, good-quality uniform that you'd like to donate, please hand it in to the school office. Your generosity helps other families and supports our community spirit.



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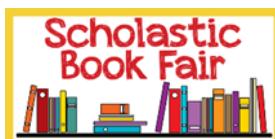
Church Christmas Fayre – This Saturday!

We warmly invite you to join us at the Church Christmas Fayre this Saturday between 11am-2pm in the church hall. It's always such a joy to see our community come together for this festive event! There will be lots of stalls, delicious cakes, and plenty of coffee to enjoy. And as a special treat, our fabulous school choir will be performing—a wonderful way to spread Christmas cheer. A huge thank you to all the families and children in the choir for supporting this event, and to Mrs Wilson, who continues to go above and beyond for our community in organising it. We hope to see you there!

Year 6 Trip to Kent Life Museum

On **Monday**, Year 6 will be visiting the **Kent Life Museum** as part of their **World War II topic**. Keep an eye out for some fantastic costumes as you arrive (but make sure you still wrap up warm Y6)! We know the children will have an amazing day learning about life during this time and deepening their understanding of history. We would like to thank our staff for organising the trip which will enrich learning experiences and help them develop a deeper understanding of the world around them.

Book Fair – Next Week!



We are excited to announce that our **Book Fair** will be held next week in the school library after school Monday-Thursday 3.15-4pm. Please stop by to take a look at the fantastic books on offer—perfect for **Christmas stocking gifts!**

Every penny spent goes straight back into the school, helping us purchase more engaging texts for our classrooms and library. Your support makes a huge difference, so do come along and make this wonderful fund-raising opportunity a success!

Upcoming Events

Bring Your Parent to Maths - Friday 28th November 9:15–9:45am

Join your child in class for a special maths session. Afterwards, stay for our **Maths Workshop in the hall from 9:45–10:45am**, led by our Maths Lead, Mrs Reeves-Parry. This is a great chance to learn more about how we teach maths and discover ways to support your child's learning at home. We look forward to seeing you there!



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 (you don't need to have 8!), and join us for a night of fun and laughter in support of our fundraising efforts. We look forward to welcoming you. £5 per person payable on MCAS.



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School Christmas Fayre – Save the Date!

We are thrilled to announce our **Christmas Fayre** is just around the corner! This is always a highlight of the festive season and a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together. There will be stalls, games, festive treats, hot drinks and plenty of Christmas cheer—a perfect way to start the celebrations. We will also be entertained by our wonderful choir! All funds raised will go directly back into the school to support learning resources and enrichment activities for our children.

Date: Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Time: 3.15-4.15pm

Location: KS2 Playground

Please come along, bring family and friends, and help make this event a huge success!

Staff Training

This week, our staff have been engaging in CPD (staff training) delivered by the English Hub, exploring the importance of picture books and their illustrations 'How pictures work and setting up a book talk rich classroom'. Picture books aren't just for new readers—our Year 6 pupils study *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan, and the writing inspired by this book is always a pleasure to read, showcasing all those Year 6 writing skills.

We have also received training for the new RE Curriculum recommended by the Diocese, called *Lighting the Path*, which we have started to roll out in our infant classes. Both children and staff continue to enjoy beginning the week with our RE curriculum—it's a wonderful way to grow together in faith and learning. Thank you for your continued support in helping us nurture both the academic and spiritual development of our children.

Remembrance Prayer

We remember with gratitude those who gave their lives for our freedom.

May their courage and sacrifice inspire us to live with kindness, peace, and hope.

We pray for a world where all can live together in harmony. Amen.

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



Have a fantastic weekend!

Mrs Le Breton

◆ Year 5 Celebration of the Word ◆

Thank you to the adults who joined us for our Celebration of the Word this morning based on Luke 21. In the Gospel, Jesus warned his followers not to be lead astray by sinners or false prophets but instead to trust in Him. This was represented by the children playing a game of giant jenga whereby the bricks represented sins of the world. The children then thought about and wrote ideas for how they could be helpful and kind to others. Well done to our wonderful readers and to all the children for their lovely singing which made for a memorable and joyful celebration. 





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St Simon Stock Parish Church

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 22nd November 11am—2pm

All welcome— There will be a gift stall, craft stall, bottle tombola, toys, and Christmas Cards



My Childs Art

So far our parents have raised £146.21 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

27th November 2025

Healthy Bladder Healthy Bowel
2pm in school

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

19th December 2025

PTFA Glitz Christmas dress day and glitter
tattoos £1 per child

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 Shay-Murphy

RC Ezaak

1B Luke

1C Fiyi

2B Astor

2D Ezekiel

3C Mercy

3S Elijah

4D Barney

4D Charlie

4F Kian

5RP Derrion

5W Anne

6F Callum

6L Sophia



Punctuality
Peacock

4F



Attendance

Anteater

6F

facebook

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

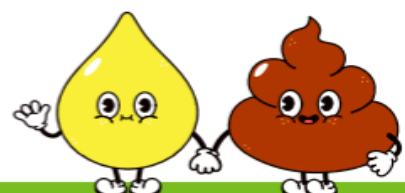
The school nurses are coming to your school to talk all about getting that wee and poo in the loo!

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

Children's Liturgy will be held every Sunday during 11am Mass during Advent.

As usual the children will be acting out the Nativity during the Gospel at the Christmas Eve 6pm Mass. If your child would like to take part there will be rehearsals from 10.30am to 10.50am every Sunday during Advent so please come along on 30th November and sign up.

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.