



St Thomas More School Newsletter

19th December 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, Carers & Families

As we come to the end of this busy and exciting term, we want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful experiences we've shared and to thank you for your continued support.

Festive Performances

We began the week with rehearsals, giving the children the chance to fine-tune their performances. The shows themselves were absolutely fantastic—our pupils performed with confidence and joy, never seeming phased by the large audience of friends and family.

Your cheers, applause, and kind words made these events truly special for the children and staff. Thank you for your overwhelming support and encouragement. The children have worked incredibly hard to learn the songs while keeping up with their curriculum routines amidst all the excitement, and we couldn't be prouder.

KS2 Trip to the Central Theatre

On Tuesday, our KS2 children enjoyed a magical trip to the Central Theatre to watch Sleeping Beauty. The atmosphere was lively and full of excitement, with many other primary schools in attendance.

We are delighted to say that the children were a real credit to both you and the school, showing exemplary behaviour throughout the day. Watching their faces light up with joy was a privilege for all of us.

A heartfelt thank you for supporting this event financially during such a busy time of year. While trips are subsidised, they simply wouldn't be possible without your contributions. Your generosity ensures that these memorable experiences can happen, and we are truly grateful.

Children's Christmas Lunch

This week, the children enjoyed their Christmas Lunch, complete with festive music and plenty of cheer in the lunch hall. It was wonderful to see them getting into the Christmas spirit with their friends.

A special thank you goes to our amazing Caterlink team, who continue to provide fantastic meals and create such a warm, festive atmosphere for the children.



St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Advent and the Theme of Joy

On Sunday, we celebrated the lighting of the third candle of Advent—**JOY**—during a beautiful service. It was wonderful to see so many families and children together, sharing in this special moment. If you ever have the opportunity, please do come along to a service; you'll usually find me there at 11am on Sundays, and it's always lovely to connect with our school community.

With the theme of Joy in mind, we are delighted to share some wonderful news: Mrs Ronja has given birth to a beautiful baby girl! While the baby spent a short time in hospital, she has grown stronger each day and is now enjoying cuddles from her mummy and daddy at home. Mrs Ronja has been overwhelmed by the messages being passed on to her and would like to thank everyone.

Please keep Ronja, her baby, and their family in your prayers as they continue to settle into this joyful new chapter. We know you will join us in wishing them happiness and blessings.

Headteacher Awards

We would like to congratulate all of the children who were awarded the **Headteacher Award** this term. This award recognises not only academic progress but also how we live out our **Gospel values** through our **Catholic Social Teaching principles**.

We are always delighted to present these certificates as they reflect the hard work, dedication, and commitment the children bring to their learning and to our school community. Well done to all our award winners—you make us proud!

Looking Ahead to the New Year – Uniform

As we prepare for the start of the new term in January, we kindly remind parents about **school uniform expectations**. We are proud of our uniform—it represents our identity and sense of belonging. When out and about, particularly alongside other schools, our uniform often stands out from the crowd, and we want every child to share in that pride.

We would like to thank the families and children who consistently come to school in the correct uniform every day. However, we need everyone's support to ensure this is the case for all pupils. Please work with us, not against us, as we strive to maintain these high standards.

Earrings: There are still a number of children wearing earrings. Our policy is based on health and safety regulations. While we understand that earrings must remain in for six weeks after piercing, some children are wearing them daily for much longer. If your child has recently had their ears pierced, please inform the class teacher and ensure earrings are taped to minimise the risk of injury before coming to school.

If teachers contact you about uniform, it is simply because we are following school guidance and policies. Your cooperation makes a big difference and not only this, it also supports teacher workload enabling them to focus on planning, feedback and marking at the end of the day. Let's start the new year on a positive note and take pride in being part of St Thomas More.



St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

A Christmas Message

Finally, as a Catholic school, we remember the true meaning of Christmas—the birth of Jesus Christ and the hope, peace, and joy He brings to the world.

We would like to thank **Father Joseph** for his continued support on our faith journey, and we are grateful to all our parents and carers for looking after the children and supporting us throughout this term.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to our teachers, LSAs, office staff, cleaning team, catering team, midday meal supervisors, parent helpers, governors, and the staff at the Kent Catholic Schools' Partnership. Your dedication and hard work have made this Autumn term a successful one, and we truly appreciate everything you do for St Thomas More.

We also extend a special thank you to our **PTFA** for their incredible efforts in supporting events and fundraising activities that enrich the experiences of our children. Your commitment and generosity make a real difference.

From all of us here at school, we wish you a **very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year**. May this season bring peace, joy, and happiness to you and your families. We are excited to see what the new year brings!

A Prayer for Peace at Christmas

Loving God,

As we reach the end of this term, we pause to give thanks for the gift of community and the hope that this time brings.

May the light of Christ guide us through these final days of preparation and into the joy of Christmas.

Grant peace to our hearts, our homes, and our school.

Bless every student, every family, and every member of staff with rest, renewal, and love.

Help us to carry kindness into the new year, and may your presence be with us always.

Amen.



Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year to You All!

Mrs Le Breton





St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Headteacher
Award

RB Jude
RC Jeremiah

1B Fletcher

1C Isaiah

2B Luke

2D Sophie

3C Kieran

3S Oakley

4D Teti

4F Jamie

5RP Jonathan

5W Arora

6F Uzoma

6F Noah

6L Lola-Rose



Punctuality
Peacock

6L



Attendance

Anteater

5RP



Please see our Face-
book page for photos of
learning and good news



Calling All Young Actors and Singers!

The 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Simon Stock Church is a special celebration for children. During this vigil Mass, the children will have the opportunity to act out the Nativity story.

There are **no lines to learn**, but we do ask families to attend at least one practice. There are **two practices left**, so there's still plenty of time to join in!

Practice Times:

Sundays from **10:15 am to 10:45 am** (between the two morning Masses) at St Simon Stock Church.

Everyone is welcome—we'd love to see you there!

Little Recyclers

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

Thursday January 15th 2026

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

If



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



St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Term 3

Monday 5th January 2025

Term 3 starts—children return

Friday 9th January 2025

Epiphany Mass Lead by 5RP

Thursday 15th January

Little Recyclers collection

Term Dates & SDD

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





St Thomas More School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you'

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.