



St Thomas More School Newsletter

17th 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 Families,

As we approach the end of this half term, we reflect on the Gospel reading from **Luke 17:11–19**, where Jesus heals ten lepers, yet only one returns to give thanks. This powerful passage reminds us of the importance of **gratitude**—not just for the big miracles, but for the everyday blessings we receive.

In the spirit of **Catholic Social Teaching**, we are called to recognise the dignity of every person and to respond with compassion and thankfulness. Just as Jesus welcomed the outsider, we too are invited to be inclusive, generous, and grateful in our school community.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving



Loving God,

As we come to the end of this half term, we thank You for the learning, laughter, and love shared in our school.

Help us to be like the grateful leper—always returning to You with hearts full of thanks.

Bless our families, our staff, and our friends as we rest and recharge.

May we return renewed, ready to serve You and one another.

Amen.

Thank You to Our Parents

A **huge thank you** to all the parents and carers who attended our **Parent Evenings** this week. Your partnership in your child's learning journey is invaluable, and it was wonderful to share how children have settled in to the new academic year with you. Your support makes a real difference, and we are grateful for the time you took to meet with us. We also want to extend a heartfelt **thank you to our dedicated staff**, who gave up their evenings this week to meet with families during Parent Evenings. Their commitment to supporting our children and working families is deeply appreciated. Their care, professionalism, and passion for education continue to make **St Thomas More** a nurturing and inspiring place to learn and grow.

Harvest Donations - Supporting Medway Food Bank

A heartfelt **thank you to all our families and staff** who donated food to **Medway Food Bank**. Your generosity supports a vital cause and reflects our commitment to **Catholic Social Teaching**, especially the call to care for the poor and vulnerable. Your kindness makes a real difference in our wider community—thank you for living out our values in such a meaningful way.



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Celebrating Learning and Faith

This half term has been filled with **fantastic learning** across all year groups—from creative writing and science investigations to RE reflections and acts of kindness. We’re so proud of our pupils’ achievements and the joy they bring to our school.

Our **RE Leads and I** met with our **School Improvement Advisor**, where we began our application for the **Oscar Romero Award**.

Oscar Romero was a courageous Archbishop from El Salvador who stood up for justice and peace, especially for the poor and oppressed. His legacy inspires us to live out our faith boldly and compassionately. This award will help us deepen our commitment to Catholic Social Teaching and ensure our school continues to be a beacon of hope and love

Celebrating Diwali – Monday 20th October

We would like to wish a very **Happy Diwali** to all members of our school community who will be celebrating this special festival on **Monday 20th October**.

Diwali, also known as the **Festival of Lights**, is a time for joy, reflection, and togetherness. It symbolises the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. Many families will be marking the occasion with beautiful decorations, traditional foods, and time spent with loved ones.

As a school, we value and celebrate the rich diversity of our community and we encourage everyone to take a moment to appreciate the significance of this vibrant celebration.

Wishing you all peace, prosperity, and happiness this Diwali.

Stay Connected



Check the school calendar on our website for upcoming dates and events.



Visit our website to see highlights of the term and updates from each class.

Quiz Night – Join Us!

We’re excited to invite **all families, friends, staff, and governors** to our **Quiz Night**, a fun-filled evening to kick off the festive season! Tickets are only £5 per person and are available on MCAS.



date: 28th November 2025



Location: School Hall



Time: 7.00pm (for a 7.30pm start)

Bring your team spirit, nibbles and drink and enjoy some refreshments, and let’s celebrate together!

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful half term. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in nurturing our children’s faith and learning.

With every blessing,

Paula Le Breton
Headteacher



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Christmas Fundraising



Thank you to all of the parents that came in to have coffee with Jody and talk about future fundraising. A whatsapp group has been set up to move forward with the Christmas fundraising, details of this will follow shortly. 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.



My Child's Art is now online. All children should have received the username and code on the leaflet that was sent home this week (these were also on the email sent earlier in the week) Every item ordered raises funds for our school as well as getting your little artists project immortalized.

For orders placed before 27th October 2025 you can receive an early bird discount of 10%.

Should you have any queries or questions, please contact the customer service team in the first instance, Tel: 01530 887650 or via email customerservice@mychildsart.co.uk



School Photographs are now available to order on line. Every child should have come home with a proof card with their unique code on. The last day for ordering to get free delivery is 29th October 2025.

If by chance you have not received your Proof or it has been lost you can call Vancols Parent Line on 01206 273711, for class photos you will need the school number. For individual photographs you will need the pupil's admission number from the school database.



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



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Term 2

30th October 2025

Y4 Celebration of the Word

9.15am-9.45am

30th October 2025

Parent coffee morning

Family Solutions

9.15am-10.15am

5th November 2025

Flu vaccinations

Please ensure you have signed up

14th November 2025

Children in Need—own clothes day

£1 donation

20th November 2025

Y5 Celebration of the Word

9.15-9.45am

28th November 2025

Y1-Y6 BYPT Maths

9.15-9.45am

28th November 2025

Maths Workshop for Parents 9.45-10.15am

1st December 2025

EYFS/KS1 visiting Panto in school

Wear Pyjamas Day (Payment on MCAS)

1st December 2025

KS2 Wear your own clothes—£1

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 Carter
RC Jeremiah
1B Olivia
1C Rhylee
2B Gabriella
2D Noah
3C Maisie
3S Jacob
4D Nileyah
4F Jack
5RP Lily
5W Jake
5W Mila
6F Charis
6L Charlotte



Punctuality Peacock

RB, RC, 4F



Attendance

Anteater

RC

Is your child transferring to Secondary School in September 2026?

Secondary School applications are NOW OPEN

Friday 31st October Secondary School applications close

Monday 2nd March 2026

National offer day



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.

Parent Coffee Morning



Date: Thursday 30th October



Time: 9:15 - 10:15



Location: Learning Centre



We're pleased to welcome **Family Solutions Medway**, who will be on hand to talk about the support they offer for families around:

- School and education
- Relationships and parenting
- Health and wellbeing

Work and employment

Whether you're seeking advice or simply want to meet other parents, this is a great opportunity to find out what's available to help your family thrive.

Tea, coffee, and light refreshments provided.



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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
Mrs Deamer Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) & Pastoral Manager
Mr D'Souza Governor Safeguarding Lead
Miss Joshi 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.