



St Thomas More School Newsletter

10th 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,

Gospel Reflection – Faith in Action

This week's Gospel celebration drew from the Gospel of Luke, inviting us to reflect deeply on the nature of faith—not just as belief, but as trust, action, and relationship.

Luke's Gospel often highlights the faith of ordinary people: the woman who touches Jesus' cloak, the centurion who believes without seeing, and the disciples who follow despite uncertainty. In each story, faith is not passive—it moves, it reaches, it responds. We were reminded that faith is a journey, not a destination. It grows through listening, through community, and through the courage to act even when the path is unclear. Let us continue to walk in faith, inspired by Luke's Gospel and strengthened by one another.

Thank You to Our Year 6 Families – Celebration of the Word

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the Year 6 parents and carers who joined us for this week's Celebration of the Word. Your presence made the gathering even more special, and it was a joy to share this moment of reflection and community with you.

The children sang beautifully, filling the space with joy and reverence. Their voices truly lifted our spirits and reminded us of the power of faith expressed through music.

Our theme, drawn from Luke 17, focused on the importance of faith—even faith as small as a mustard seed. We reflected on how such faith can move hearts, inspire action, and bring us closer to God and one another. Thank you once again for your support and for being part of this meaningful celebration.

Celebrating Science and Early Years Learning

This week, we were delighted to welcome both an Early Years specialist and a Science specialist to St Thomas More. They joined us to see first-hand the fantastic learning taking place across the school—and they were truly impressed!

Our children have been fully engaged in exciting science activities. From Y3 exploring fossils using sweets squashed between layers of bread, to Y5 acting out the Earth's orbit around the Sun to understand night and day, the learning has been both hands-on and memorable.

Year 6 pupils amazed us with their scientific knowledge and ability to apply specific skills, including making links between health and the human body by measuring heart rates. Meanwhile, our Year 1 children had a sensory adventure, using their sense of smell to guess hidden scents—an activity that sparked lots of curiosity and laughter!

It was a joy to share the vibrant teaching and learning happening throughout the school. Our Early Years visitor especially enjoyed exploring our welcoming environment and seeing the high-quality provision in place for our youngest learners.

Thank you for your continued support in making St Thomas More a place where learning is loved and celebrated.



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Hockey Competition at Holcombe Hockey Club

This week, 10 children from Years 5 and 6 were selected to represent our school at a Hockey competition held at Holcombe Hockey Club. We are incredibly proud of their performance and the way they conducted themselves throughout the day. They won 7 games, drew 1 and only conceded 1 goal! Their behaviour was exemplary, showing true sportsmanship, teamwork, and enthusiasm. A huge thank you to Mr Hughes for driving the minibus and to Sam, our dedicated PE coach from STRIVE, for his support and encouragement. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and represented our academy with pride. Well done to all involved!

Polite Reminder to Parents and Carers

As a reminder, we kindly ask that when waiting to enter the school in the morning, you are respectful to our neighbours. Please wait quietly and avoid sitting on their walls or fences. Your cooperation helps us maintain positive relationships within our community. Thank you for your continued support.

Harvest Donations – Reminder – Medway Foodbank



We would be very grateful for any donations (during October) you can offer to help families across Medway who are facing hardship. There is a box in front office or send into class with your child. Below is a list of suggested food items that can be sent in over the coming weeks:

Pasta sauce
Instant mash
Tinned ham or corned beef
Tinned fruit, vegetables, spaghetti, custard,
rice pudding fish, potatoes
Fruit juice – long life
Squash
Tinned potatoes
Cup-a-soup
Jam/marmalade/meat pastes
Coffee – small jar
Cereal
Ketchup
Hot chocolate
Shampoo
Toothpaste/toothbrush
Deodorant for men and women
Washing-up liquid
Razors

Lord Jesus,

You taught us that even faith the size of a mustard seed can move mountains.
Increase our faith, that we may serve You with humility and joy,
never seeking reward, but simply doing what is our duty as Your disciples.



Every contribution, no matter how small, makes a real difference. We thank you in advance for your generosity and support. Together, we can live out the principles of **Catholic Social Teaching** – promoting human dignity, solidarity, and care for the poor – and help build a stronger, more compassionate community.



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Black History Month

October is Black History month and this year's theme is 'standing firm in power and pride', highlighting the profound contributions made by those who have shaped history, while also looking towards a future of continued empowerment, unity and growth. Our humanities curriculum maps include lots of inspirational figures of black heritage that the children will be studying and we look forward to sharing our learning with you.



Parent Evenings - Wednesday 15th 4-7pm or Thursday 16th 5pm-8pm

As we move closer to our upcoming parent evenings, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the importance of respectful and constructive communication.

In the media, there is frequent discussion about teachers leaving the profession—and sadly, this is a reality many schools are facing. Teaching is a demanding role, and the pressures on educators have never been greater. Despite this, our staff continue to go above and beyond, working well beyond their contracted hours to support children and provide the best possible education.

As a school, we are proud of the way we support staff wellbeing and manage workload. We value our team deeply and want to retain the excellent professionals we have. Your support makes a real difference—not only to our staff, but to the quality of education we can provide. Thank you for being part of our school community and for continuing to uphold the values we share.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO PARENT EVENINGS – IT IS FOR PARENT(S) ONLY AND WE DO NOT HAVE THE CAPACITY TO SUPERVISE CHILDREN.

Deanery Mass – Staff Attended

On Wednesday evening, our staff had the privilege of attending a Deanery Mass at St John Fisher Catholic Secondary School to mark the beginning of the new academic year. It was a beautiful and uplifting service, bringing together colleagues from across the Deanery in a spirit of unity, reflection, and hope.

The Mass served as a reminder of our shared mission to nurture, inspire, and guide our students throughout the year ahead. It was a moment to pause, reconnect with our values, and seek strength and wisdom for the journey ahead.

We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a supportive and faith-filled community, and would like to thank St John Fisher for hosting the Mass.

Facebook

Remember to head over to our Facebook page to see the wonderful learning taking place at St Thomas More!

Have a super weekend!

Mrs Le Breton



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Term 1

15th October 2025

Parents Evening 4-7pm

No children

16th October 2025

Parents Evening 5-8pm

No children

17th October 2025

Year 6 Tag day for most donations collected for
Little Recyclers

17th October 2025

Medway Food bank collecting our Harvest dona-
tions

17th October 2025

Last day of Term 1

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

Term Dates & SDD

Term 1

2/9/2025 —17/10/2025

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 Philip
RC Elsie-Mai
1B Jaxon
1B Eden
1C Hannah
2B Tor Zion
2D Chloe
3C Kieran
3S Aria
4D Charlie
4F Lenny
5RP Lydia
5W Ezekiel
5W David
6F Joshua
6L Hope



Punctuality Peacock

1C



Attendance

Anteater

RC, 3C 4D

Is your child transferring to Secondary School in September 2026?

Secondary School applications are NOW OPEN

Medway Test results

Wednesday 15th October

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.