



Newsletter – Issue 38 9th July 2019

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DON'T FORGET TO SIGN OUR PARKING PROMISE!

Please make sure you sign and return our Parents Parking Promise – you can find it in this newsletter! A huge thank you to those parents who have signed and returned the form already! Thank you for your support with this ☺

WATER BOTTLES

Please can we remind parents/carers to send a water bottle for children into school every day. We have had a quite a few children at lunch times who are desperate for a drink of water but have no water bottle!

Thank you for your cooperation with this ☺

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CHILDREN AND MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

Please be aware that only children independently travelling to/from school should bring mobile phones to school.

If a child needs to bring a phone into school for this purpose, then the parent is required to complete a permission form. This is available to download via the school website on the School Policies page at the bottom.

We will also have paper copies of the form available in the office if needed.

As the current Y6 children will be leaving us in a couple of weeks, they do not need to have a form completed.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

RAFFLE WINNERS!

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the recent raffle we had! We raised £62.00! Prizes will be available for collection from Mrs Faley this week!

The winners were as follows:

1st Prize – Victor Y1

2nd Prize – Carly Y3

3rd Prize – Zosia F2

Important Dates:

NEW DATES/CHANGED DATES:

Friday 4th October 2019
Whole School Trip Fundraiser

Friday 15th November 2019
Whole School Trip Fundraiser

Friday 7th February 2020
Whole School Snowflake Appeal Fundraiser

Friday 20th March 2020
Whole School Trip Fundraiser

Friday 22nd May 2020
Whole School Trip Fundraiser

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS WEEK:

Thursday 11th July
Y2 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Thursday 11th July
Y4 Padley Pilgrimage Mass

Friday 12th July
F2 Botanical Gardens Trip

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR SUMMER

2:

Tuesday 16th July
Y3 Tree Top Trek Trip

Tuesday 16th July @ 2:15pm
Y6 Leavers Showcase

Wednesday 17th July
Progress Assembly @ 9:15am

Wednesday 17th July
100% Attendance Reward @ 12:00pm

Thursday 18th July
Leavers Mass @ 10:00am

Thursday 18th July
Disco: F2/KS1 @ 1:15pm – 2:15pm
KS2 @ 2:20pm – 3:20pm

Friday 19th July
Y6 Chippy Lunch @ 12:15pm – 1:00pm

Friday 19th July
Y3 BFG Film Afternoon ~~for £1.00!~~ **NOW FREE!**

**Monday 22nd July – Monday 2nd September
Summer Holiday!**

Jesus said: “Love one another as I have loved you.”

At St Thomas More our Mission is to love and to be loved. We believe that Love is:

Kindness, justice, acceptance, forgiveness and friendship; it is unconditional and inclusive, allowing each one of us to learn and to grow to become the wonderful person God created us to be.

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

INFORMATION ABOUT TRIP FUNDRAISING NEXT YEAR

We are changing the way we fundraise for class trips next academic year. There will now be 1 whole school fundraising day for 5 half terms. Teachers will decide on the actual fundraising activity each class will do 😊

Below are the dates for each fundraising day next year:

| TERM | DATE | FUNDRAISER |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Autumn 1 | Friday 4 th October 2019 | Trip Fundraiser |
| Autumn 2 | Friday 15 th November 2019 | Trip Fundraiser |
| Spring 1 | Friday 7 th February 2020 | Snowflake Appeal Fundraiser |
| Spring 2 | Friday 20 th March 2020 | Trip Fundraiser |
| Summer 1 | Friday 22 nd May 2020 | Trip Fundraiser |

INFORMATION ABOUT TRIPS/EVENTS NEXT YEAR

Here is a list of what trip or activity each class will be taking part in in next academic year:

| | | AUTUMN | SPRING | SUMMER |
|----|---------|--|--|--|
| Y6 | Trip | Eden Camp – history | Millennium Galleries – art | Residential & Crucial Crew - PHSE |
| | Visitor | | | |
| Y5 | Trip | Ripon Police and Prison Museum – History | Magna – Forces workshop – science/geography | Sheffield Theatre Workshop – Drama, PSHE, English |
| | Visitor | Judge Dixon & Police – PSHE/SMSC | | |
| Y4 | Trip | Royal Armouries – Leeds Viking Workshop | Residential & Eureka – Digestive System Workshop | Peak District Explorers Workshop |
| | Visitor | STEM Ambassador | A nurse | A musician |
| Y3 | Trip | Graves Art Gallery | Weston Park Museum – Rock it Work Shop | Tree Top Trek - Manchester |
| | Visitor | | STEM Ambassador | |
| Y2 | Trip | Yorkshire Wildlife Park Joint trip with F2 to the Botanical Gardens | Weston Park Museum – Egyptian workshop Yorkshire Sculpture Park | Ecclesall Woods Discovery Centre Science based trip |
| | Visitor | | | Science based visitor |
| Y1 | Trip | The Deep | Emergency Services Museum Sheffield City Centre | Yorkshire Wildlife Park |
| | Visitor | Life Guard/Swimming Instructor Navy (boat) | Firefighter | Animal Club/Vet |
| F2 | Trip | Ecclesall Woods Discovery Centre | Wigfield Farm | Dependent on chn's interests |
| | Visitor | Author | Living eggs and a nurse/dentist | Dependent on chn's interests |



St Thomas More's Parent Parking Promise

The area outside our school is busy in the morning and even more so at leaving times. Parents/carers who park close to entrances act irresponsibly, placing children in danger. The 'School Keep Clear' Zig Zag markings should maintain an area free from parked cars. This allows children and parents/carers walking in and out of school to cross safely, where they can see and be seen by approaching traffic.

St Thomas More is keen to promote considerate parking and asks all parents to consider the local residents, staff, parents and pupils and promise:

- **I will NOT park across drives, even for a few minutes.**
- **If parking on a pavement, I will do so in a way that doesn't prevent pedestrians, disabled users or parents with buggies from using the pavement.**
- **If parking on corners I will ensure there is a clear view for those crossing the road.**
- **I will NOT stop on Zig Zag lines even for a few minutes.**
- **I will park in a considerate way that enables cars to pass and allows emergency vehicles access.**
- **I will NOT use the staff carpark to drop/pick up children at any times or use the driveway as a turning point.**
- **I will be respectful of other drivers and ensure there is room to pass on the road.**

Please also remember that walking to school is a great way to become healthier and can positively contribute to a child's development! It helps develop traffic awareness skills, keeps the environment cleaner and reduces traffic outside school at starting and finishing times. If you have to drive to school, please try to park as far away from school as you can and walk the rest of the way 😊

I promise to abide by the considerate parking promises detailed above and protect the safety of the children by being a thoughtful driver and will try to use my car as little as possible for school journeys.

Child's Name: _____ **Class:** _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Last Weeks Attendance & Punctuality

| Class | Percentage Attendance | Lates |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| F2 | 93 | 0 |
| Year 1 | 86.7 | 2 |
| Year 2 | 89.3 | 1 |
| Year 3 | 97.8 | 1 |
| Year 4 | 98.7 | 2 |
| Year 5 | 99.3 | 0 |
| Year 6 | 96.6 | 0 |
| School Total | 94.4 | 6 |

Wow! Well Done Y5! You will receive an extra playtime for your great attendance last week!

100% Attendance & Punctuality Winners

| | |
|--------|----------|
| F2 | Alfie |
| Year 1 | Harry |
| Year 2 | Spencer |
| Year 3 | Joshua |
| Year 4 | Zachery |
| Year 5 | Millie L |
| Year 6 | |

GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER!



This week's winner is Alfie in Y4!

You have won this award for recognising your strengths and setting high expectations for yourself. You always do what you need to in order to be the best you can be.

Super stuff Alfie! 😊

OUTSTANDING HOMEWORK!

| Class | Winner |
|-------|-----------|
| F2 | Catherine |
| Y1 | |
| Y2 | Bethany |
| Y3 | Christina |
| Y4 | Nikola |
| Y5 | Millie N |

LUNCHTIME CELEBRATION WINNERS!

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|-----|--|
| FS2/KS1 | Darcey Y2 | for | Being really helpful in the hall at lunchtime 😊 |
| KS2 | Emmanuel Y5 | for | Organising and supporting children on the KS1 yard 😊 |



Out of School Achievements Awards



CELEBRATION AWARDS

Friday 5th July

| | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|-----|--|
| F2 | Emmanuel | for | Trying really hard to follow instructions when performing circus skills this morning ☺ Fantastic effort! |
| | Parker | for | Your courage when performing plate spinning during our circus skills morning ☺ Well done! |
| Year 1 | Amelia | for | Asking and answering some fantastic questions about stick insects and snakes during our workshop at the Butterfly House. Well done Amelia ☺ |
| | Ava | for | Being a fantastic organiser and group leader during our maths lesson about capacity. Well done Ava ☺ |
| Year 2 | Harry | for | Your fantastic work in our topic lessons this week! We were comparing England and Egypt, and you found out some fab information. Well done, Harry! |
| | Alice | for | Thinking carefully about fronted adverbials that you can include in your recount. We are super impressed with your ideas. Well done, Alice! |
| Year 3 | Guedaliah | for | Becoming a school councillor and for presenting a confident and funny speech! Your classmates have definitely picked the right person! Well done ☺ |
| | James | for | Growing in confidence, you've worked really hard this week and you gave a lovely speech when you ran for school council! Well done ☺ |
| Year 4 | Sophia | for | Wonderful emotive writing in our Big Write. You almost brought me to tears. Keep it up. |
| | Leo | for | Working hard when editing your persuasive writing. You have shown me that you can probably persuade anyone to think how you want them to. |
| Year 5 | Millie N | for | The fantastic thought you have given to how the author has developed the character of Kissin' Kate Barlow in Holes! |
| | Imogen | for | Your perseverance during your art final piece. You worked hard to create your Banksy inspired canvas! |
| Year 6 | Ewen – special award from Y3! | for | Being a great role model for the younger children in our school. It's been a pleasure to have you in Y3 this week! Thanks for all of your help ☺ |
| | | for | |

CLASS TRANSITION INFORMATION

Y1 TRANSITION

MORNING ROUTINE:

Parents are welcome to accompany children into class for the first week of year 1 but will then be asked to leave the children at the bottom of the ramp to enter into the classroom themselves. This is because space is limited in the year 1 cloakroom and it allows children to develop independence. Children can then put their belongings on their peg and come into class to complete any morning tasks we have set.

HOMEWORK:

Children will receive weekly homework on a Wednesday to be returned on a Tuesday morning. In Y1 children will receive maths or literacy homework and then an Education City homework to complete. Reading books will be changed every Wednesday and books must be returned before a new one is given.

TIMETABLE:

In year 1 our morning consists of 30 minute RWI, 30 - 60 minute literacy lessons and one-hour maths lesson. Children will have RWI 4 times a week (Monday – Thursday). RWI packs will be sent home to support their learning. PE, RE and topic is taught throughout the afternoon.

PHONICS SCREENING:

At the end of Y1 children will sit a phonics screening test. This will be during a week in June and there will be a workshop nearer the time to explain how you can support your child's learning at home. The test will consist of real and alien words containing the sounds that have been taught in RWI. The children will be prepared for this over the year through class learning but will be unaware of them.

TUCK-SHOP:

In Y1 tuck-shop money is collected on a Friday morning and children spend their tuck-shop money in class. Children are responsible for bringing in their own money and handing it in in the morning (20-40p).

SNACK:

Children are provided with fruit at play time and are responsible for helping themselves. If you would like your child to have milk, then please can you pay at the office so they can be added to the milk list.

CLASS TRANSITION INFORMATION

Y2 TRANSITION

MORNING ROUTINE:

Parents are welcome to accompany children into the classroom/cloakroom for the first week of year 2, but they will then be asked to leave the children at the gate to enter into the cloakroom and classroom themselves. If you have any messages for the teacher, this can be given to the member of staff on the door or at the office. Children will be required to order their own lunches at the whiteboard and complete morning tasks that are set for them at their tables.

HOMEWORK:

Children will receive weekly homework on a Wednesday to be returned on a Tuesday morning. In Y2, children will receive maths and literacy homework and then an Education City homework or a times tables rockstars activity to complete. We will have an outstanding homework winner every week, who will receive a certificate and a mention on the newsletter.

TIMETABLE:

In year 2, our morning learning consists of 1 hour English (reading or writing skills), 1-hour maths and alternate 15 minutes maths meeting/15 minutes RWI spelling. Children will have PE two times a week in addition to RE, history, geography, science and art lessons. Children will also have coding lessons within which they will be using the iPads.

RWI SPELLING:

From Y2-6, the children will take part in RWI spelling for 15 minutes each day. Each week they will learn a new spelling rule and words which they can spell using this rule. The spelling rule for each week will be referred to on weekly homework with spellings to practice. The spellings may be related to this, or to the Y2 common exception words.

KS1 SATS:

In May, Y2 children will sit SATs tests in reading, SPAG (Punctuation, Spelling and Grammar) and mathematics. Each test will consist of two papers. The children will be prepared for these over the year through class learning but will be unaware of them. As the children are so young, we keep them very low key, as we also refer to them as 'quizzes' rather than 'SATs tests'. These can take place at any point during May, so we do ask that you refrain from taking your child out of school during this time. A workshop about the SATs tests will take place nearer the time to give you more information on how you can support your child at home.

TUCK-SHOP:

In Y2, children are required to bring their own tuck shop money on a Friday. Children will then be responsible for keeping this in their book bags and going into the hall independently to pick their own treat.

CLASS TRANSITION INFORMATION

Y3 TRANSITION

MORNING ROUTINE:

In Year 3, the children enter in the morning through the KS2 doors. There is always a member of staff on the doors to greet them, but the children are expected to come into school by themselves. If you have any messages for the teacher, this can be given to the member of staff on the door or at the office. However, for the first few days please feel free to accompany your child to class and pop in to say hello.

SWIMMING:

Year 3 will also be swimming. This is for a block of 18 weekly sessions. The children will need appropriate swimwear (bikinis, shorts below the knees and underwear are not allowed) and a towel - all in a waterproof bag. No jewellery is allowed and hair must be tied back. If your child would like to wear goggles, then a permission slip needs to be completed.

HOMEWORK:

Homework will be set on a Wednesday to be completed and returned to school the following Tuesday for marking.

RWI SPELLINGS:

From Y2-6, the children will take part in RWI spelling for 15 minutes each day. Each week they will learn a new spelling rule and words which they can spell using this rule. The spelling rule for each week will be referred to on weekly homework with spellings to practice. The spellings may be related to this, or to the Y3 spelling words.

CLASS TRANSITION INFORMATION

Y4 TRANSITION

MORNING ROUTINE:

Children will be expected to enter school themselves and put their bags/coats on their pegs. If you have any messages for the teacher, this can be given to the member of staff on the door or at the office. Children will have tasks to do while the teacher takes the register and orders lunches.

HOMETIME:

Children will be brought outside by myself or another member of staff. As before in Year 3, the children will be able to walk around and meet whoever is picking them up.

HOMEWORK:

Children will be receiving weekly homework related to Maths or English. This will go home every Wednesday and needs to be returned the following Tuesday morning. They should try to complete this homework independently as the text will be suited to what they have covered in class so far. We will also be encouraging the use of TT Rockstars as we will be preparing for the Multiplication Tables Check.

MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK:

In June, the children will be taking part in a Multiplication Tables Check. They will be prepared for this throughout the school year and we will be running a times tables reward scheme in Year 4 called Mathletes Awards. Please continue to allow your children to access TT Rockstars at home as this is great preparation for the actual assessment as that is also on an iPad.

RESIDENTIAL:

Children will be going on a residential to Kingswood activity centre for 1 night in March. More information will be given through the school year, and a parents meeting will be held to give more information to parents about what your child will need. Kingswood is a fantastic experience for the children and it promotes teamwork, problem solving and confidence building.

RWI SPELLING:

From Y2-6, the children will take part in RWI spelling. Each week they will learn a new spelling rule and words which they can spell using this rule. The spelling rule for each week will be referred to on weekly homework with spellings to practice. The spellings may be related to this, or to the Y4 spelling words.

UKULELE:

In Year 4, children will take ukulele lessons once a week. Children will be asked if they would like to take their ukulele home, and parents must sign a form to accept responsibility of the instrument. Ukulele lessons are provided by the school, and are of no cost to parents.

CLASS TRANSITION INFORMATION

Y5 TRANSITION

MORNING ROUTINE:

Children will be expected to enter school themselves and put their bags/coats on their pegs. If you have any messages for the teacher, this can be given to the member of staff on the door or at the office. Children will have challenges to do during registration time. We encourage the children to be independent and responsible for completing all of their challenges. The most they will be given is 2-3, and additional time will be given as required to complete them.

HOME TIME:

Children in Year 5 leave school without teacher supervision. We gather together at the end of the day to say our end of the day prayer and then the children are dismissed and leave school independently. The children are reminded about safety procedures and are told to return to school if their adult isn't there. If you have any concerns about this, please don't hesitate to make an appointment to see me.

HOMEWORK:

Children will continue to receive weekly homework in year Y5. This will go home every Wednesday and needs to be returned the following Tuesday morning. This will be a mixture of maths, writing and reading alongside spelling activities and online games. The children will have the opportunity to come to a weekly 'drop-in' on a Thursday lunchtime at 12:30 to either complete or get help with their homework. At the beginning of the year, the relevant log ins for Times Tables Rockstars and Education City will be stuck into their homework books. Further to this, the children will also receive topic homework each term.

RWINC SPELLING/YEAR 5 STATUTORY SPELLINGS:

This will be taught 4 times per week and will focus on a range of spelling rules appropriate to Year 5. The children will use a RWInc Spelling workbook in class and will have a spelling rule on their weekly homework to practise alongside the Year 5 statutory spelling list. A copy of these words will also be stuck into homework books.

CLASSROOM:

In Year 5, children are encouraged to be increasingly independently. They will use pencil cases to promote taking charge of their own resources. Children are also left to organise classroom monitors and are given more responsibility for independent activities, such as collective worships in RE, which eventually will be planned and led independent of adult support. Each desk space is labelled and corresponds to a 'weekly role' chart on the wall. This means that each child in the classroom will always have some kind of a responsibility for their table, for example, tidying books or resources away at the end of a lesson.

OTHER INFORMATION:

We will be training some children as 'Playground Leaders'. Approximately 15 children will receive training over lunchtimes during the autumn term. Once their training is completed they will lead lunchtime activities in pairs.

We also take part in a local cricket tournament as well as a 'Cricket in the Classroom' trip to Headingley stadium in Leeds, which has been a huge success in the past. Additionally, we take part in a 3-day Bikeability scheme which aims to educate children on safe bike-riding on and off the road. Both of these events happen during the spring term. In addition to these events we also run trips and visits throughout the year appropriate to our learning in class. Keep an eye on the newsletter for further information!

CLASS TRANSITION INFORMATION

Y6 TRANSITION

Y6 is an exciting time for the children. It is their last year of primary and their chance to shine within the school as they are now the oldest in school. The Y6 children are given many responsibilities to assist in the life and smooth running of the school.

SATS:

In Y6, the most important item to note is that the children will be preparing, from the beginning of the year, for SATS. This is to not only prepare the children, but also give them the confidence that they need to do the best that they can on the assessments instead of it being a scary time for them. The children will be revising throughout the year in order to gain confidence in their abilities and strategies. Another item to note is that it is vital to be at school every day and not to take holidays during term times. It is crucial that the children are at school daily to ensure that they don't miss out as we cover a lot in one day.

RESIDENTIAL:

Also, in Y6, we go on overnight residential. This is a wonderful experience that the children really look forward to. This allows for the growing independence that they will need for secondary school while being in a safe environment.

HOMEWORK:

The homework in Y6 is essential to learning and will reinforce and consolidate their knowledge. This will go out on a Wednesday and needs to be completed and handed in every Tuesday. We will go over the answers in class, which allows the children to reflect on their answers as well as see the correct answers modelled by the teacher. This gives more meaning and purpose to the children. This is to develop and deepen their understanding. It is vital that the children keep and turn in their homework and resources every Tuesday. All homework will be linked directly to SATS strategies. Planning the homework specifically designed for SATS helps to foster independence, gain confidence and has a positive impact on the understanding and deeper thinking of the children. There will be times when the children will have other topic based and/or whole school homework as well.

TRIPS AND EVENTS

ATTENTION Y3!

**THE FOLLOWING EVENT IS NOW FREE
AS WE HAVE RAISED ENOUGH
ALREADY WITH OUR FUNDRASING!
THANK YOU 😊**

**Friday 19th July: BFG Film Afternoon
for ~~£1.00!~~ NOW FREE!**

Y6 CHIPPY LUNCH!

FRIDAY 19TH JULY @ 12:15PM – 1:00PM

STM tradition for the past few years has been that the Y6 Leavers are provided with a chippy lunch which staff and pupils share together. We would like to invite Y6 parents into school to also share in the chippy lunch to celebrate your child's time at our school. Please complete the permission slip below to let us know if you will be able to join us. We would kindly also ask for a donation of £1 per parent attending. We are also asking if parents could supply other items, for example, crisps, cakes/buns, pop to have with this lunch 😊

Y6 CHIPPY LUNCH

FRIDAY 19TH JULY

I would love to join with the Y6's and staff on Friday 19th July at 12.15pm – 1:00pm for a chippy lunch.

I enclose a donation of £1.00 per parent attending

Childs Name _____

Parents Name: _____

Signed
Parent/Carer _____

Number of parents attending 1 or 2:
