

Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy

(St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust)

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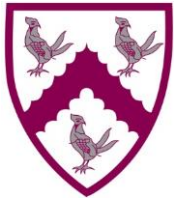
www.thomasmoreprimary.org.uk @STMLeicester

Love one Another as I have Loved You

John 13:34

Headteacher: Mrs C Crosse

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Slater



2nd September 2019

Statement to live by: We are all special

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to personally welcome all our existing families back and extend a warm welcome to all the new parents and children who have joined St Thomas More this term. I am very keen to build on the successes from last year and thank you in advance for your wonderful support that I know you will give in the year ahead. We are blessed at St Thomas More to have such supportive parents, but also our very strong Parish community that all help to guide and nurture our children. I know how vital it is to work in partnership with parents in order for our children to find school a positive, rewarding and enjoyable experience. I will look forward to seeing you all in the playground, at assemblies or at our wonderful Friends social events.

The children have all come back to school very happy and eager to impress their new teachers, however if at any point during the year you or your child has any concerns or worries please speak to the class teacher who I am sure will be able to help you. At St Thomas More we have an open door policy and we want our families to know that each child is unique, loved and important to us. As our statement to live by this week teaches us that we are all special.

Thank you

A huge thank you for the cards, gifts and kind words at the end of the last academic year. Your generosity and support is very much appreciated.

Staff

We had some exciting news during the summer holiday, Mrs Ahmed gave birth to her twins! She had a boy and girl and we are pleased to say they are all now home together. We will keep Mr and Mrs Ahmed in our thoughts and prayers as they begin their journey and hopefully without too many sleepless nights!

I would like to welcome Mrs Lambert (Year 3), Miss Pereira (Year 3/4), Mrs Mullaney (maternity cover for Mrs Ahmed) and Mrs Cownley (new TA) to our team at St Thomas More.

School uniform

The children have come back to school looking very smart, but I would appreciate your support throughout the year to ensure children come to school appropriately dressed. We have limited cloakroom space please avoid large rucksack bags. A copy of school uniform is available on the school website, but just a few reminders:





- Children should wear black shoes, not trainers or sandals.
- Tights should be grey.
- Ties should be worn every day.
- Summer dresses for girls should be light blue and white checked only.

For PE:

- White t-shirt and navy shorts and black plimsolls in a small drawstring bag
- Outdoor PE: NAVY tracksuit, children should not wear their school jumper or fleece for PE
- No hoodies please

Ensure ALL clothing is clearly named.

Attendance and punctuality

At St Thomas More we generally have very good attendance, however there are some children that miss a significant amount of learning time for various reasons. It is vital that your child/children are at school every day and on time. Our school attendance target is 96%. If your child's attendance drops below this you may be contacted and invited into school for a meeting to discuss this further. On rare occasions if attendance doesn't improve this may result in a meeting with Education Welfare Officer. Please see attached posters for the impact of lateness and absence from school.

There are occasions when children are ill and are genuinely unable to attend school. Please can you ensure you ring the school office before 8.30 so we can update the register. If your child is not in school and we do not know why we will contact you.

For KS1 and KS2 children will go into school at 8.40. If your child is not in school by 8.50 then you must take them to the school office and sign them in. Children arriving at this time will be marked with an 'L' code (late) on the register. The registers close at 9am and children arriving after this time may be marked with an 'u' code (unauthorised late) unless it is in exceptional circumstances.

Foundation 2 children will go into school at 8.50. If your child is not in school by 9am then you must take them to the school office and sign them in. Children arriving at this time will be marked with an 'L' code (late) on the register. The registers close at 9.10am and children arriving after this time may be marked with an 'u' code (unauthorised late) unless it is in exceptional circumstances.

I would like to remind parents that family holidays should not be taken in term time. A list of holiday dates is available on our school website.

House captains

Huge congratulations and good luck to our new house captains for this year:

St Thomas More: Sebastian Fitzwilliam and Sienna Corley

St Clare's: William Baker and Eliana Komakech

Our Lady: Callum Castanha and Katie Carroll

St Francis: Imuwahen Omoregie and Ben Lamont

F2 and KS1 parent information meetings

Our Foundation and Key stage 1 staff would like to invite parents to a meeting to discuss the curriculum and expectations across the year.

F2 parents: 23rd September at 2.15pm

Year 1 parents: 25th September at 3.30

Year 2 parents: 2nd October at 3.30

The Year 1 and Year 2 children will be able to stay and play in a separate classroom whilst the parents attend the meeting. Further details to follow.



Lunchtime staff/ Volunteers in school

If you are interested in becoming a lunchtime supervisor then please see Mrs O'Halloran in the school office. Initially this would be on casual basis when cover is needed.

Last year we had some fantastic parent volunteers helping children with additional reading, please speak to your class teacher if you are available and interested in volunteering this year.

School crossing patrol officer

We urgently require a new school crossing patrol. This would be 8.15-9.00 and 2.55- 3.35. Pay would be £9.36 per hour. For further details please phone 4546231 or 07710148447.

Please take extra care crossing the road without a patrol officer at present.

Friends

We have an excellent Friends association that support our school in various ways. They are always looking for new volunteers and even if you can't commit to every meeting or event please sign up. As a school we really appreciate the time and effort they all put in to raise extra funds for our children and our school. The first AGM/meeting is on **Thursday 12th September at 7.30** in the Parish rooms. Please attend if you can.

Clubs

We are really excited that our new afterschool club starts this week. Mrs Asher will be the lead coordinator for this club and will work with a fantastic team to make this a fun and enjoyable club for the children. Children should be collected from the side door (near the bike shed) not the school office.

Further details to follow about other clubs available this term.

School dinners

School dinners are £1.75 per day. Please make sure they are paid in advance via the school office or on SCO pay.

Assemblies

Celebration assembly will commence on Friday 6th September. They will have the same format as last year, if your child is receiving a certificate you should get a text message on Wednesday. Celebration assembly is at 2.30 each Friday. This term we will also be recognising a reader of the week from each class.

Admission applications for 2020

Children are admitted to the school in the September of the year in which they have their fifth birthday. If there is anyone who wishes to apply for a place for **September 2020** (Date of birth: **1st September 2015 - 31st August 2016**) please complete the supplementary form from the school office. You must also fill in an admission form for Leicester City Council online by **15th January 2020**.

There is an open evening on Thursday 7th November at 5.30-7pm for anyone who would like to come and see the school. Please inform all interested friends and family. This will be the ideal opportunity to look around school and ask any questions you may have.

God bless,

Mrs Crosse



Dates for the diary- Advent 1 term

Thursday 5 th September	10am Whole school mass at Church (Except F2 children)
Friday 6 th September	2.30 celebration assembly
Thursday 12 th September	10am Drop in Mr Rowlinson’s class 7.30 Friends AGM Parish Rooms
Friday 13 th September	2.30 celebration assembly
Monday 16 th September	National TA day!
Thursday 19 th September	10am Drop in Mr Plant’s class
Friday 20 th September	2.30 celebration assembly Friends welcome event- evening TBC
Monday 23 rd September	2.15 F2 parent information meeting
Wednesday 25 th September	3.30 Year 1 parent information meeting
Thursday 26 th September	10am drop in Mrs Ramsell and Mrs Cummins class
Friday 27 th September	9.15 Harvest assembly McMillian coffee morning in the Parish rooms 2.30 celebration assembly
Monday 30 th September	Year 6 bikeability for 2 weeks
Friday 4 th October	2.30 celebration assembly
Sunday 6 th October	9am Mr Rowlinson’s class mass
Monday 7 th October	3.30-5pm parents evening
Wednesday 9 th October	3.30-7pm parents evening
Friday 11 th October	Wear red to show racism the red card
School closes on Friday 11th October 2019	
Monday 14th – Friday 18th October Half term	
Sunday 3 rd October	9am Mr Plant’s class mass
Thursday 7 th November	Open evening for new and existing parents
Sunday 1 st December	9am Mrs Ramsell and Mrs Cummins class mass
Monday 16 th December	Year 6 residential to the Briars
Friday 20 th December	School closes for Christmas