



Newsletter – Issue 1 5th September 2019

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All the staff from St Thomas More would like to say welcome back to school! We hope you all had a lovely summer and are ready for this new academic year!

We would also like to say thank you for all the thoughtful words, cards and gifts that were received at the end of the last term 😊

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Please can we politely ask that families refrain from using the equipment out of school times before 8.50am and after 3.20pm.

If the equipment is not supervised by a member of staff, or if it is used out of school times families will not be covered on the school's insurance.

Please note that if parents/carers choose to let children use the equipment outside of school hours then they should be fully supervised at all times, and should an incident occur during this time, it becomes the responsibility of the parents/carers and not school.

PLAYGROUND MARKINGS

We have obtained some quotes for new playground markings. In the meantime, we have identified that some areas of the playground require re-surfacing so we will be looking at resurfacing work to take place prior to the playground markings.

NEW GATES!

You may have noticed that we have had some new gates fitted to the main entrance to school. This is to enhance our existing security and safeguarding measures. The work is almost complete and from Monday next week they will be fully operational. Both the pedestrian and drive gates are now electrically operated gates.

They will be programmed to be open at key times of the day i.e. arrival and collection times. At other times they will be closed/locked and anyone arriving at school will need to press the buzzer. Staff in school will then be able to see via security cameras who is wanting to access school and will facilitate the opening of the gates. Please bear with us as we get used to our new system 😊

Important Dates:

NEW DATES/CHANGED DATES:

Thursday 12th September
Mass in school @ 10:00am

Thursday 26th September
F2 Welcome Liturgy @ 9:15am

Tuesday 22nd October
Y2 Local Walk to Grenoside Woods

Friday 8th November
Y2 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Friday 29th November
Y5 Visit to Ripon Police and Prison
Museum

Monday 13th July – Wednesday 15th July
Y6 Residential

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS WEEK:

Thursday 12th September
Mass in school @ 10:00am

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN AUTUMN 1:

Thursday 26th September
F2 Welcome Liturgy @ 9:15am

Monday 30th September
CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Assembly

Friday 4th October
Whole School Trip Fundraiser 1

Wednesday 9th October
Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 10th October
Parents Evening @ 2:00pm

Tuesday 22nd October
Y2 Local Walk to Grenoside Woods

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

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE FUND

In the past, Catholic Schools have asked for a voluntary contribution from parents/carers to the Schools Maintenance Fund. The Maintenance Fund was established by Bishop John to support Voluntary Aided Catholic Schools in meeting their 10% share towards capital projects (for any repairs and improvements to the external fabric of the school building).

As an Academy, we are funded differently for our capital projects. Funding for capital projects is now secured by bidding in to the EFA (Education Funding Agency) like all other academies whether they are Catholic or not. However, it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure this funding as it relies on meeting criteria that states the school needs to expand or the condition is so poor there are health and safety concerns. Therefore, this means it is more important than ever that we maintain our schools on an ongoing basis yet with ever reducing budgets this is proving more and more difficult to do.

As a result, many schools, including those in Our Lady Umbrella Trust, are continuing to ask parents to make a voluntary contribution to a School Maintenance Fund. This fund will be used to enable small projects such as painting, decorating, window cleaning, refurbishment and minor repair works to be undertaken to ensure that our school environment is as safe, welcoming and attractive as possible.

The governors wish to make it clear to parents that there is no obligation to make any contribution and children of parents who do not contribute will not be treated any differently.

The amount being requested towards this fund is £10 per child (This works out at 20p per child per week) or £15 per family or whatever voluntary contribution you are willing / able to make. Payments can be made by cheque (St Thomas More Catholic Primary) or cash.

Thank you for your continued support of the School.

Important Dates Continued:

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN AUTUMN 2:

Friday 8th November
Y2 trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Friday 15th November
Whole School Trip Fundraiser 2

Friday 29th November
Y5 Visit to Ripon Police and Prison Museum

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Friday 7th February 2020
Whole School Snowflake Appeal Fundraiser

Friday 20th March 2020
Whole School Trip Fundraiser 3

Friday 22nd May 2020
Whole School Trip Fundraiser 4

Monday 13th July – Wednesday 15th July
Y6 Residential

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Following consultation in the summer term for a daily after school club, based on the responses received we are currently investigating outside providers to see whether it would be feasible for them to fulfil this service.

We will update you as we know more.

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AUTUMN TERM 2019 COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying other faiths.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

(02.09.19 – 04.10.19)

Early Years	MYSELF - God knows and loves each one
Year 1	FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	HOMES - God's vision for every family
Year 4	PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	LOVING - God who never stops loving

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love. Write underneath it "We show God's love to one another." Include those who have died.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

(07.10.19 – 08.11.19)

Early Years	WELCOME - Baptism: a welcome to God's family
Year 1	BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 2	SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Year 3	PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4	CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness
Year 5	LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service
Year 6	VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

OTHER FAITHS WEEK (11.11.19 – 15.11.19)

Pupils will study various aspects of different faiths for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

(18.11.19 – 20.12.19)

Early Years	BIRTHDAY - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday
Year 1	WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home. Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree. Use the CAFOD or Mission websites to get a religious Advent calendar.

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Last Week of the Summer Term Attendance & Punctuality

Class	Percentage Attendance	Lates
F2	95.2	1
Year 1	99.7	1
Year 2	92.7	0
Year 3	99.3	0
Year 4	97.3	2
Year 5	92	0
Year 6	96.6	4
School Total	96	8

Wow! Well Done the OLD Y1 CLASS! You will receive an extra playtime for your great attendance in the last week of the Summer Term!

100% Attendance & Punctuality Winners for Last Week of Summer Term

F2	Aleks
Year 1	Arthur
Year 2	Charlie B
Year 3	Zeph
Year 4	Kirsten
Year 5	Thomas
Year 6	Ryan

OUTSTANDING HOMEWORK FOR LAST WEEK OF SUMMER TERM

Class	Winner
F2	Alfie
Y1	Kylan
Y2	
Y3	
Y4	Nikola
Y5	Lesley

GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER!



Last week of the Summer Term's winner was Finley in Y6!

You have won this award for never giving up in any situation, being so positive, smiling and being forgiving and accepting of others!

Super stuff Finley!

LUNCHTIME CELEBRATION WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK OF SUMMER TERM

FS2/KS1	Bobby O Y1	for	Super sharing and being helpful! 😊
KS2	Florence Y3	for	Looking after the younger children on the field! 😊



Out of School Achievements Awards



CELEBRATION AWARDS

Friday 19th July

F2	Rhys	for	Being very brave whilst being in hospital and during your recovery. You are a real superhero Rhys! 😊
	Olivia	for	Always trying your best, being well-mannered, friendly and kind. You are a fabulous role model! 😊
Year 1	Myles	for	Showing us how kind and caring you can be. You have matured over the last few weeks and I know you will be great in year 2! Well done Myles 😊
	Bobby O	for	A fantastic PE lesson this week! You put 100% effort into your over arm throwing and you were a great team player 😊 Well done Bobby!
Year 2	Lucas	for	Your outstanding behaviour all week and your incredible effort in every area of your learning.
	Charlie P	for	Your outstanding big write and thinking carefully about your use of interesting verbs and adjectives. Well done Charlie!
Year 3	Max	for	being unbelievably brave and facing your fears during our trip to Tree Top Trek. You were amazing. Well done!
	Jennifer	for	impressing us with your positive attitude towards your learning and for showing great maturity on many occasions over the last few weeks. Well done!
Year 4	Abby	for	You have earned this award for: Putting 100% into everything she does and being a friend to everyone!
	Harry	for	You have earned this award for: Putting 100% into everything she does and being a friend to everyone!
Year 5	James	for	Your consistent high standards throughout Year 5. You have always challenged yourself and have especially impressed the adults with your RE this week. Well done!
	Madison	for	The incredible achievements you have made this year. I've been especially impressed with your perseverance in maths. Well done!
Year 6	Deangelo	for	Helping out in class and during our productions, demonstrating a team and serving attitude and behaviour!
	Sienna	for	Showing perseverance and dedication in her learning and always offering to help in class!

TRIPS AND EVENTS

Y2 TRIP TO YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK

FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2019

As part of our 'Travelling around the world' topic, Class Two are taking a walk on the wild side and heading to Yorkshire Wildlife Park on Friday 8th November. **The total cost of the trip is £14.00 per child.**

Children will need to bring a packed lunch or can order one from school. Children must come in their school uniform for this trip. All children are advised to bring warm clothing such as a coat, scarves, gloves, a hat and a warm, waterproof coat. Your child will need to wear suitable shoes for walking in – most school shoes will be fine.

Any questions, please do let a member of the Class Two team know!

There is a voluntary contribution of £14.00 which will go towards the cost of the trip. This is voluntary, but unless enough contributions are received, we will not be able to go ahead with the trip.

Y2 TRIP TO YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2019

I give permission for my child _____

to attend the Y2 trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park on Friday 8th November.

I enclose £14.00 voluntary contribution

I am unable to contribute on this occasion

I would like to order the following packed lunch:

Ham Sandwich

Cheese Sandwich

Tuna Sandwich

I will provide a packed lunch from home

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Y2 LOCAL WALK

TUESDAY 22ND OCTOBER

Class Two are going to be walking to Grenoside Woods on **Tuesday 22nd October** to find out a little more about the woodland environment and the animals that live there!

We will be leaving straight after lunch. Please make sure your child has a suitable coat for the weather and other items to keep them warm such as a hat, scarf, gloves.

As this is a local walk we do not require permission slips.

If you are DSB checked and would like to volunteer to help on the walk then please let the office know 😊

ALL CLASSES - ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL BOOK BAGS FOR SALE!



We have 8 St Thomas More Book Bags available to buy in school if anyone is interested! The cost is £4.50 and it will be first come first served 😊

Please see the office if you wish to purchase one!

TRIPS AND EVENTS

Y3 SWIMMING REMINDER!

Y3 will start their swimming lessons on Friday 13th September and they will continue until 31st January 2020. Pupils will be accompanied by school staff at all times, and they will be taught by qualified swimming instructors, supported by our staff. All pupils are expected to take part as swimming is a national curriculum subject. They will be travelling by coach to and from the venue.

Please can you ensure your child has their swimming kit in school that day. Pupils will need to wear appropriate swimwear (bikinis/shorts below the knee/underwear are not acceptable). For each lesson your child will need to bring swimwear and a towel in a waterproof bag.

ALL PARENTS MUST COMPLETE THE SWIMMING CONFIDENCE INFORMATION FORM BELOW TO ASSIST THE INSTRUCTORS BEFORE LESSONS BEGIN – PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN TO CLASS

IF YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO WEAR SWIMMING GOGGLES THESE MUST BE PROVIDED BY THE PARENT AND THE SCHOOL SWIMMING SERVICE GOGGLES PERMISSION FORM BELOW MUST BE FILLED IN AND RETURNED TO CLASS.

The swimming service has a no jewellery policy so please avoid any piercing until after the block of lessons or your child may miss out on their swimming allocation (taping is not acceptable as it will come off in the water). Hair must be tied back.

Y3 SWIMMING LESSONS

ALL PARENTS TO PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO SCHOOL

Childs Name: _____

The following information will assist the swimming instructors:

Can your child swim? YES/NO If YES how far can they swim? _____

My child has had swimming lessons YES/NO

My child is confident in the water YES/NO

Signed: _____

Date: _____

SCHOOL SWIMMING SERVICE

PERMISSION TO WEAR GOGGLES

Child's Name _____

School _____

Please allow the above named person to wear goggles during their school swimming lesson.

I understand that:-

- Goggles will be worn at the owner's risk
- There may be times that we ask that the child does not wear goggles in order to meet their National Curriculum requirement; e.g. water confidence and personal survival.
- Any misuse of the goggles will result in confiscation - to be returned at the end of the lesson.

Signed _____ Parent/Guardian

Print Name _____ Parent/Guardian



TRIPS AND EVENTS

Y5 VISIT TO RIPON POLICE AND PRISON MUSEUM

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2019

To consolidate and further our learning of our Crime and Punishment topic this autumn, Year 5 will be visiting the Ripon Police and Prison Museum on **Friday 29th November**. Sit in a prison cell, hear the door slam shut and imagine the harsh conditions of Victorian prison regimes. Try on prison uniforms, imagine the horror of being set in the pillory, strapped in a restraint chair or hung in chains. Turn the crank, carry out shot drill or work the treadmill. They'll discover the history of policing in Yorkshire, from the Anglo-Saxons to the formation of professional policing. Police uniform, insignia and transport are all displayed, with the chance to sit on an original police motorcycle! **The total cost of this trip is £21.00.**

We will be leaving school at 08:45 so children will need to be in class to be registered by 08:35.

Children must come in their school uniform with a packed lunch. As it will be late November, please ensure your child is dressed for the weather as we will be outside for some parts of the visit.

Please speak to the office if your child is entitled to free school meals and you would like to order one.

There is a voluntary contribution of £21.00 which will go towards the cost of the trip. This is voluntary, but unless enough contributions are received, we will not be able to go ahead with the trip.

Y5 VISIT TO RIPON POLICE AND PRISON MUSEUM

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

I give permission for my child _____

to attend the Y5 visit to Ripon Police and Prison Museum on Friday 29th November.

I enclose £21 voluntary contribution

I am unable to contribute on this occasion

Signed _____

Date _____

Y6 RESIDENTIAL INFORMATION FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

The Y6 residential has been booked for next year – the dates are:

Monday 13th July -Wednesday 15th July 2020

Parents, please put this date in your diaries - it would be great if all children in Y6 could attend the residential.

Thank you 😊

TRIPS AND EVENTS

Y6 Open Evening Dates

Admission to Secondary School - September 2020

Please note the change of date and time of the open evening for Bradfield School

SCHOOL	DATE	TIME
All Saints Catholic High	21 September 2019	10.00-12.00pm
Astrea Academy	19 September 2019	5.30-7.30pm
The Birley Academy	8 October 2019	5.30-7.30pm
Bradfield Secondary	30 September 2019	5.30-7.00pm
Chaucer Academy	1 October 2019	3.30-7.00pm
Ecclesfield Secondary	26 September 2019	6.00-8.00pm
Firth Park Academy	25 September 2019	5.30-7.30pm
Fir Vale Academy Trust	18 September 2019	5.00-7.00pm
Forge Valley Community School	3 October 2019	5.30-7.30pm
Handsworth Grange Community Sports College	26 September 2019	5.00-7.00pm
High Storrs Secondary	26 September 2019	5.30-8.00pm
Hinde House 3-16 Secondary	17 September 2019	6.00-8.00pm
King Ecgbert Secondary	3 October 2019	5.00-7.00pm
King Edward VII Secondary (Upper School – Glossop Road)	1 October 2019	6.00-8.00pm
Meadow head School Academy Trust	3 October 2019	6.00-8.00pm
Mercia School	28 September 2019	10.00-12.00pm
	29 September 2019	10.00-12.00pm
	30 September 2019	6.00-8.00pm
Newfield Secondary	8 October 2019	6.00-8.00pm
Notre Dame Catholic High	24 September 2019	5.30-7.30pm
Oasis Academy Don Valley	9 October 2019	5.30-7.30pm
Outwood Academy City	1 October 2019	4.00-7.00pm
Parkwood E-ACT Academy	12 September 2019	5.00-7.00pm
Sheffield Park Academy	19 September 2019	5.00-8.00pm
Sheffield Springs Academy	5 October 2019	11.00-1.00pm
Silverdale Secondary	3 October 2019	6.30-8.30pm
Stocksbridge High	2 October 2019	5.30-7.30pm
Tapton Academy	2 October 2019	6.00-8.00pm
Westfield School Trust	26 September 2019	5.30-8.00pm
Yewlands Academy	24 September 2019	6.00-8.00pm