



Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy



(St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust)
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Love one Another as I have Loved You
John 13:34

Headteacher: Mrs C Crosse

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Slater

27th January 2020

I know we are happiest when we are united

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today is Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. We promote and support Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) – the international day on 27 January to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of other people killed under Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

27th January marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. The Holocaust threatened the fabric of civilisation, and genocide must still be resisted every day. Our world often feels fragile and vulnerable and we cannot be complacent. Even in the UK, prejudice and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all.

HMD is for everyone. Each year across the UK, thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future. We know they learn more, empathise more and do more.

Together we bear witness for those who endured genocide, and honour the survivors and all those whose lives were changed beyond recognition.

Class service

On Wednesday 29th January it is Mrs Ramsell and Mrs Cummins class service at 9am in their classroom. All welcome.

Class mass- Sunday 2nd February

9am mass will be led by the children in Mrs Lambert's class

Bug Club

Mrs Whitmore would like to invite any Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1 parents and children to come to a meeting on **Wednesday 29th January at 3.15** who would like to find out more information about Bug Club.

PE kits

A reminder that children should have their correct PE Kit in school every week. **School PE kit is black plimsolls, white T shirt and navy shorts. Outdoor PE kit is a plain navy tracksuit and trainers.** Trainers should be sensible, sports style. Children without the correct PE kit will come home with a letter. I ask for your full support with this and if there are any issues please speak to me.





St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy are seeking to identify new Foundation Governors

Foundation Governors are appointed by the Bishop and play a crucial role in ensuring the Catholic vision and character of the school is upheld. As a committee of the St Thomas Aquinas Multi Academy Trust, the Local Governing Body works in partnership with, and acts as a 'critical friend' to, the school's leadership team.

Who can be a Foundation Governor?

The basic requirements are to be over 18 and a practising Catholic.

The Local Governing Body should ideally reflect the community it serves; we welcome Foundation Governors of all ages and backgrounds; the more perspectives we have, the more effective we can be. You do not have to be a parent, and do not need to have any connection past or present with the school.

We would like to identify people who are available now, and also those who would like to express an interest for when opportunities become available in the future.

What's the commitment?

- 6 meetings per year at school in the early evening, plus preparation / reading of papers before the meetings
- Governor training - typically 2-3 sessions per year - weekdays, times vary
- School visits during the school day - typically 2-3 per year
- Email correspondence with other governors / leadership team throughout the term.

More details and information about how to nominate yourself is available

at <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/education/directors-governors/appointment-foundation-governors>

Fr Michael, Mrs Crosse (Headteacher) and Clare Macdonald (Chair of Governors) are all very happy to speak with anyone who would like more information or to express an interest.

St Paul's fundraising

Please see the attached letter from Mrs Conaghan at St Paul's. They are currently trying to raise money to build a new Chapel and Pastoral support space. I know many of you will have personal connections to St Paul's and I hope we can help them achieve this.

Parking

DO NOT PARK ON THE CORNERS OF NEWSTEAD ROAD NEAR THE PENCILS OR ON THE ZIG ZAG LINES. THANK YOU

Please find below important dates for this term. Dates are subject to change and we aim to notify parents as soon as possible if this happens.

God bless,

Mrs Crosse



Dates for the diary- Lent term 2020

Tuesday 28 th January	St Thomas Aquinas Feast day
Wednesday 29 th January	9am Mrs Ramsell and Mrs Cummins class service 3.15 Bug Club meeting for F2/KS1 parents & children
Thursday 30 th January	9:30 Year 5/6 boys' football 10am Drop in mass Mrs Whitehead's class
Friday 31 st January	Yr 6 visit to the Warning zone
Sunday 2 nd February	9am Mrs Lambert's class mass
Wednesday 5 th February	F2 and Yr 6 height and weight checks 12.30- Knighton Park Cross Country
Thursday 6 th February	10am Drop in mass Mr Plant and Mrs O'Brien's class
Friday 7 th February	2.30 celebration assembly
Monday 10 th February	RSE focus week in school
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 th February	10am Drop in mass Mr Rowlinson's class
Friday 14 th February	2.30 celebration assembly 3.15 school closes
HALF TERM Monday 17 th February- Friday 21 st February	
Monday 24 th February	School opens at 8.40
Wednesday 26 th February	Ash Wednesday- F2 and KS1 service in the school KS2 service at Church
Sunday 1 st March	9am Miss Pereira's class mass
Thursday 5 th March	World book day

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



A Voluntary Academy

Dear Parishioner

Many of you will have strong connections with St Paul's Catholic School either as a current parent, past parent or even as a student there yourselves. You will therefore know that the school is steeped in Catholic history with strong foundations for supporting and growing the Catholic faith in young people thus supporting the church and families. We welcome students from all faiths and these students become part of who we are because of what we do here in school. Our mission statement talks of an inclusive community where all are valued and where there will be a living liturgy.

Our faith life has enriched many students over the years and continues to do so. Many of you will have spent time in the chapel both in liturgies and masses as well as when you might have needed some quiet time to think, pray and reflect. The chapel sits where it always has and is in need of a full refurbishment, for a place so important to us all it is fitting that we spend some money on it. We had lovely plans for a new chapel under phase 2 of the building works, sadly the funding was withdrawn therefore the school lost out on not only a new chapel but lots of new classroom accommodation. Many of you will have been in our new building which is beautiful, light and airy and very much feels like the heart of the school. It is therefore fitting I feel that the chapel moves to this building in order to make it a place of great importance and accessibility. There is a space I can use and if you imagine light, beautiful colours and stained glass windows you will know that is a far cry away from our current chapel.

Another aspect of the school that we are very proud of is our pastoral care. Students always have someone to talk to at St Paul's but private space is sadly lacking. With all the pressures of examinations and modern society it is all the more important that we offer genuine care guidance and support for all our students and staff. My plan would be to convert the chapel into pastoral support space where this support can be given and give the current pastoral support space back to chaplaincy in order that they can function properly and also form them to do the restorative work they are so good at.

So now my reasons for telling you all this. The entire project is projected to cost £20,000, a lot of money I know and not a sum of money I can find in my budget, you will no doubt be aware of the state of school budgets. If I am to make this dream a reality, I am asking for help. To have a chapel and chaplaincy and pastoral support space that our parishes helped to build would say a lot about our commitment to Catholic education and our young people and the strength of support the school gets from its parishes. These buildings will last long into the future and will have a lasting impact of the lives of many young people. The buildings will stand as a true testament of the love in which they are constructed and of course would be dedicated to the parishes and people that helped to build them. It may also be that you know people who may not be in your parish but who you feel would still love to help. Please feel free to spread the word!

Ways to donate

1. Direct to our bank account

Account Name	St Thomas Aquinas CMAT
Account Number	63927868
Sort Code	30-96-18
Please quote reference	PLE-Building

2. Cheque

Please make cheques payable to St Thomas Aquinas CMAT, and write on the back of the cheque 'PLE – Building Project'. Please post cheques to Mrs S Conaghan, St Paul's Catholic School, Spencefield Lane, Leicester, LE5 6HN

Gift Aid

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can boost your donation by allowing us to claim an additional 25% from the HMRC on any donations made. Please complete the Gift Aid declaration form and return to us so that we can claim the Gift Aid on your donation.

Donation Purpose

If we should be successful in raising more money that is needed for this project, we will ring-fence surplus donations to use for other projects at St Paul's. If you are not happy for us to do this, please let us know when making your donation. We will then contact you if this situation arises.

Thank you in anticipation of your support



Mrs Shelley Conaghan
Principal