

# 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

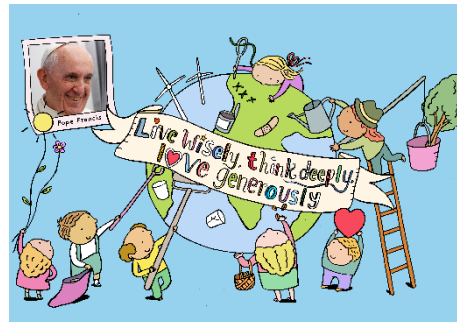
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Slater

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

## I listen to what you say, I show that I am listening to you

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last Tuesday I had the pleasure of taking our Year 3 children to the Ramgarhia Community Centre to celebrate the St Thomas Aquinas Feast day. Alongside representation from the 22 schools in our trust, Bishop Patrick also spent the day with us all. The theme for the day was 'Who is my neighbour?' Bishop Patrick reminded the children that during the advent term we all supported various homeless charities and he thanked us all for our support with this. During the Lent term he has asked us all to think about people around the world that we can help and support and in particular how we can all help to look after our environment and planet. Pope Francis wrote a letter called 'Laudato Si', addressing everyone in the whole world, asking us all to take care of our common home.



A short animation we have shown to the children in school explaining the letter can be found here:  
<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Laudato-Si-animation>

As we move towards Easter we will be thinking of changes we can make in school and home to help protect our wonderful planet. We will also be fundraising during Lent for CAFOD who have a special mission this year to help support the people who live in the Amazon. We were presented with a tree to plant in our school grounds to highlight the plight to plant more trees than we cut down. During the day we were paired with another Primary school in our CMAT. Our paired school is Bishop Ellis who we hope to work with and pray for during this year and beyond.

### Class mass

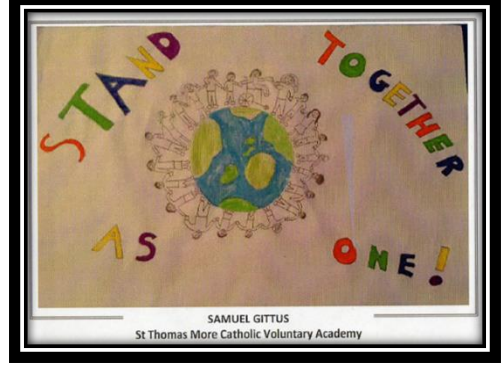
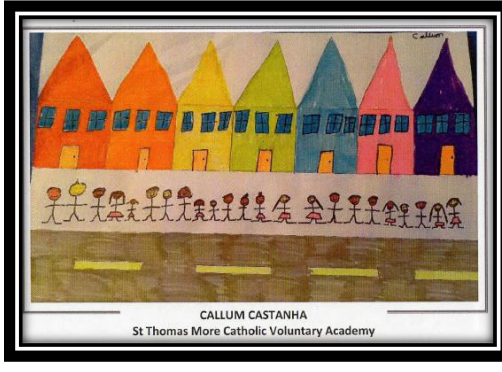
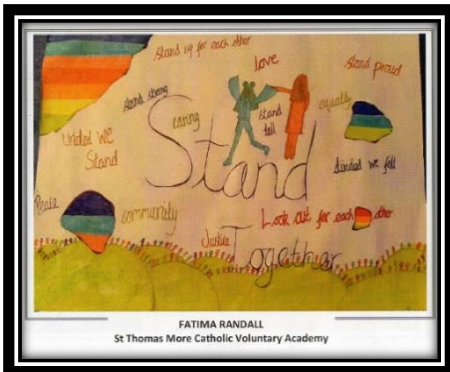
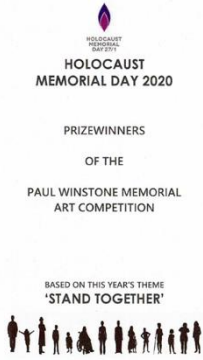
Well done to the children in Mrs Lambert's class for leading the mass on Sunday.





**Holocaust Memorial Day – 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

As part of our World War II topic, the Year 6 children entered the Holocaust Memorial Day art competition before Christmas, which this year had the theme of "Stand Together". We were the only primary school in Leicester to enter, with secondary schools making up the rest of the entrants. However, the standard of our entries was very high indeed! Well done to everyone who took part! A very special well done to Fatima Randall, Callum Castanha and Samuel Gittus who were invited to the University of Leicester last Monday to receive prizes and certificates for their original and outstanding ideas. Their artwork is currently on display at a special exhibition at Curve.



**Parking**

I have had several photographs sent to me this week highlighting the issues of bad parking around the school.

**DO NOT PARK ON THE CORNERS OF NEWSTEAD ROAD NEAR THE PENCILS OR ON THE YELLOW ZIG ZAG LINES OUTSIDE SCHOOL OR THE WHITE ZIG ZAG LINES AT THE CROSSING. IT IS DANGEROUS AND YOU COULD BE PUTTING YOUR CHILD OR OTHER CHILDREN’S LIVES IN DANGER. THANK YOU**

Alongside parking, I have also had several complaints lately about the conduct of some parents whilst dropping off or collecting children from school. As Headteacher, I am responsible for and can mitigate the behaviour and safety of children and adults on our school grounds, but unfortunately these issues are happening in the surrounding area.

As a Catholic school we are constantly trying to teach the children about making good choices, caring for one another and living `our lives as Jesus taught us. We also teach our children that although we will not always get on with everybody we all have a responsibility to be kind and friendly. As parents there is a responsibility to model this to our children, and I am delighted that this is largely the case. I expect all adults bringing children to or collecting from school to behave in a reasonable and safe manner. If there are issues or concerns on school grounds relating to other parent’s conduct, please inform a member of the Senior Leadership Team. If these behaviours



continue, in order to protect the health and safety of our school community, I will have no other option but to write to the parents involved and ban them from the school grounds.

**Foundation stage toy appeal!**

Our Foundation stage are in desperate need for more small world toys including lego, duplo etc with people or animal figures too! If you are having a clear out of any good quality toys please can you bring them into school. Thank you very much.

**Friends Quarterly Draw**

Congratulations to December 2019 draw winners:

1st Mr Rowlinson

2nd Nina Hughes

3rd Rachael Ellis

Please see the attached letter if you have not signed up for the Quarterly draw yet. It is a really quick and easy way to raise additional funds for the children at school.

**Safer internet day**

There will be more information in next week's newsletter about internet safety, but as always please be vigilant with mobile phones and technology usage at home. Our advice would always be for children of Primary school age that all technology including mobile phones are not kept in bedrooms overnight. We have had reports of children sending messages to others very late at night. This will ultimately impact on their ability to concentrate and focus in school the following day.

**Lost property**

One of our Year 5 pupils has lost her brown coat. Please can you check at home that it hasn't been taken home by mistake. We have a lot of lost property around school please can you make sure all clothing is labelled, especially hats, scarves and gloves during the winter months.

**Coronavirus-Advice from the DFE**

**Advice for parents/guardians**

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above. Further advice and support can be found:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>

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**

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	F2 and Yr 6 height and weight checks 12.30- Knighton Park Cross Country
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	10am Drop in mass Mr Plant and Mrs O'Brien's class
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	2.30 celebration assembly
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	RSE focus week in school
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	10am Drop in mass Mr Rowlinson's class
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	2.30 celebration assembly 3.15 school closes
HALF TERM Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February- Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	School opens at 8.40
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Ash Wednesday- F2 and KS1 service in the school KS2 service at Church
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	9am Miss Pereira's class mass
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World book day