



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

16th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all manage to see the update about Father Michael. We continue to keep him in our prayers and wish him a speedy recovery.

I continue to thank you for your support with the road closure of Newstead Road. I would also like to ask you to be very mindful about where you are parking on the surrounding road. It is critical that we continue to work together to make our school environment as safe as it can be. Please do not park on the zig zag lines near the zebra crossing, this road is VERY busy and parking dangerously around the crossing is making this even more dangerous for our school community. Be mindful about parking on the pavement, outside our neighbours houses and on the surrounding, local roads. It is important that we maintain positive relationships with all our neighbours and parking respectfully can really help this.

Walking to school

A huge thank you to all of our families who are able to walk, bike or scoot to school. The council came over to monitor the road closure last week and were very impressed with how many bikes are in the bike shed and how many families they saw walking to school. Mrs O'Brien leads the Wow travel tracker in school, which tracks how many children walk, bike or scoot to school. We announced the leader board at the assembly on Friday:

1st Mrs Whitehead's class with 25 children

2nd Mrs Ramsell and Mrs Cummins Class with 23 children

3rd Mrs Wheat and Mrs Whitmore's class with 20 children

Anti-bullying week.

This week is Anti-bullying week. The theme this year is to be united against bullying. At school we are united more than ever during this difficult time. It is important that children are very clear about what is bullying; during the assembly today I spoke about what bullying is. It is the persistent use of any kind of behaviour with the intention of hurting another person, and which results in pain and distress to the victim. It is vital to remember that bullying can happen face to face and/or online.

Safeguarding

Leicestershire Police have created a new 3-minute film to promote the importance of listening and spotting the signs of children being criminally exploited. Detective Chief Inspector Gavin Drummond, the force's child exploitation and safeguarding lead, said: "Any child, boy or girl, from any culture of background can be targeted by criminals so it is important we all look out for the children and young people in our lives. This year (Jan-Sept), professionals in the hub have worked with around 178 children, as young as nine, deemed to





be at risk of exploitation.

Please have a look at the link to know what signs to look for:

<https://www.leics.police.uk/news/leicestershire/news/2020/november/new-film-highlights-the-need-to-tackle-the-exploitation-of-children/>

Some of the common signs shown in the film include changes in ‘normal’ behaviour, increased messages or calls, having new belongings that can’t be accounted for and regular absence from school, groups or clubs.

Celebration assembly

★ Stars of the week! ★				
Friday 13 th November				
<i>Mrs O'Brien</i>	<i>Mrs Whitehead</i>	<i>Mrs Wheat & Mrs Whitmore</i>	<i>Mrs Broomhead</i>	
Kian	Leo	Max	Izzy	
Anya	Nia	Maia Q	Sai	
<i>Mrs Lambert</i>	<i>Mrs Ramsell & Mrs Cummins</i>	<i>Mr Rowlinson</i>	<i>Miss Pereira</i>	<i>Mr Plant</i>
Murphy	George	Emmanuel	Thea	Agbon, Alice,
Geordan	Jaxon	Connie	Hermes	Kimberly, Kane

Attendance Trophy: 100% Mrs Lambert's class

Reader of the week!				
Friday 13 th November				
<i>Mrs O'Brien</i>	<i>Mrs Whitehead</i>	<i>Mrs Wheat & Mrs Whitmore</i>	<i>Mrs Broomhead</i>	Prize winner:
Ornella	Nat	Sefania	Megan	Vineth!
<i>Mrs Lambert</i>	<i>Mrs Ramsell & Mrs Cummins</i>	<i>Mr Rowlinson</i>	<i>Miss Pereira</i>	<i>Mr Plant</i>
Ellie	Tommy	Phoebe	Vineth	Dolores



Reading

We value and recognise that good reading skills and enjoyment of reading is crucial for the development of the whole child and across all subject areas. At School we prioritise reading through specific taught lessons, 1:1 reading, whole class reading and reading for pleasure. We have re-introduced the reader of week certificate to encourage children to keep reading and making it a priority in their busy lives. As an added incentive the readers of the week are all entered into a wheel of names where a random winner is chosen for an additional prize each week.

I have also had the pleasure of reading to some of our classes this week in the hall. I have been very



impressed with how interactive and engaged the children have been with the stories. They are able to predict what might happen next and the children used some excellent vocabulary. I hope that this will happen weekly so we can share our love of reading.

I am aware that currently we don't have a working library in school. This is something that is still a priority to develop but with the new Covid arrangements the library is being used for interventions and a safe space for staff during break time. When we can return to 'normal' we will endeavour to get the library up and running for our families to use. Local libraries are still open.

NDCYS Fundraiser - NON UNIFORM DAY Friday 20th November

On Friday 20th November we will have a non-uniform day to raise money for the youth service, they will use some of this money to help maintain and improve the Briars. Please don't forget to bring £1 into school. Families can donate more if they wish towards this.

Remember in November

During November we will be remembering the deceased in our families. Children at school will be praying for these people in their classes and all children are learning the eternal rest prayer.

Flu Jabs- Wednesday 9th December

To be given the vaccination in school you need to complete an ONLINE consent form by visiting: www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu

You will need a code for your child's school. For St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy the code is LE138185

If you want to opt for the flu injection, please complete the consent form as normal. On the consent page, select 'No' to the nasal flu and you will be given the option of the flu injection.

Top tip: Ensure that the email addresses match and that there are no spaces or punctuation before or after the email address and the school code.

You will need to fully complete the consent form as soon as possible after receiving this letter.

If you are unable to complete this online, please ring us to complete this over the phone on 0300 300 0007 (select option 1 then option 4).

Admissions applications for Autumn Term 2021

Children are admitted to the school in September of the year in which they have their fifth birthday. If there is anyone who wishes to apply for a place for September 2021 (d.o.b. 01.09.2016 – 31.08.2017) You must complete a supplementary form which can be found on the school website:

<https://www.thomasmoreprimary.org.uk/statutory-information/admissions>

There is also a requirement to fill in an LA form before January 15th 2021. This form can be found at

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-and-colleges/school-admissions/starting-school/>

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY OR ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS.

For further information please refer to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Covid-19 and school risk assessment

Please can only ONE parent come with children to school. This is to reduce the number of adults around school. Please also remember to maintain a 2M distance from staff too. It is vital that the adults set an example of social distancing to the children by not standing closely at these times. Thank you.



Testing

If anyone in the family develops Covid Symptoms and needs a test the whole household must self-isolate until the results are known. Please remember to e-mail on our testing@st-thomasmore.leicester.sch.uk

God bless,

Mrs Crosse

Key dates to remember

Date	Event	Who?
Friday 20 th November	National Youth fun day- Non-uniform day £1	All classes
Wednesday 9 th December	Flu Jabs	All classes
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas Dinner day & Christmas jumper day- £1 for Save the Children	All classes
Friday 11 th December	In school Christmas theatre experience- organised by the Friends	All classes
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term- earlier finish time to be confirmed.	