



# Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy

(part of the Corpus Christi Catholic Academy Trust)

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Head teacher: Mrs C A Pearson

Deputy Head teacher: Mrs A Slater

1<sup>st</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents and Pupils & Governors

Welcome back to school and welcome to the new academic year of 2017 to 2018.

It is lovely to see how well all the children have settled straight back into their learning following the summer break.

I wish all our pupils, staff, governors and parents a very happy and rewarding year ahead filled with God's many gifts and blessings for our school community.

A very special welcome to our new pupils and parents. We look forward to working in partnership with you regarding the education of your child and hope you will have a rewarding and positive association with our school.

## Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Parneet Shoker, Mrs Jennifer Horne, and Mrs Yvonne Stevens (teaching assistants) to our school team. We wish them every happiness in our school community.

During the summer holiday, one of our valued members of staff sadly passed away. Miss Helene Arnold worked with in KS1 during the Autumn term of 2016 before becoming unwell.



Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace

Amen



## **School Improvements**

Over the summer holidays, we have enlarged the F2 classroom to enable the whole year group to be together. Mrs Whitehead, Mrs Asher and Mrs O'Brien are busy getting it all ready for our new children. I would like to thank The Friends of St Thomas More for their generous contribution towards this project.

## **Awards, Trophies, and Friendship Cups for 2016-2017**

During our assembly of thanksgiving and celebration on the last day of the summer term the following children were awarded Friendship Trophies:

- Hugh Challoner
- Francesca Bird
- Ruby Holland
- Issabella Lynch

## **Year 6 cups and Trophies**

### **Duigenin and O'Dwyer Community Spirit Award:**

**Alice Fielding, Evie Jackson, Caitlin Cummins, Abigail Noworol and Rosie May Connolly**

Awarded for supporting the wider community in line with the school's Christian ethos.

### **Mrs Cooper Achievement Shield:**

**Ben Best and Olivia Jordan**

Awarded for sustained effort to make progress at school.

### **Sports Funfit Cup for Sport:**

Jonty Brotherton

Awarded for enthusiastic participation in sport, without necessarily winning.

### **Friends' Award for Creativity:**

**Lola Alba and Rodriguito Quian Quiroga**

Awarded for showing creative flair and resilience.

### **Ruby Music Award:**

**Molly Rennie**

Awarded for giving maximum effort to music.

### **Sister Ethna Effort Award:**

**Gabriella Gallo and Gianluca Hawksley**

Awarded for overcoming personal challenges to achieve progress – recognition of determination to learn and take part.

### **Daniel Creedon Achievement Trophy:**

#### **Sonia Lodhi**

Awarded for demonstrating growing self-confidence and pushing herself to succeed.

### **Ruby Drama Award:**

#### **Jacob Williams and Samuel Greenslade**

Awarded for giving maximum effort to performing.

### **Fitzpatrick Shield for Sportsmanship:**

#### **Alex Smith**

Awarded for being unselfish in competition, supportive of others and an excellent role model

### **House Captains for 2017-2018**

**St Thomas More:** Samson Pateman and Erica Smith

**St Clare:** Jimi Singh-Taylor, Sean Komakech and Ruby Spriggs

**St Francis:** Jemima Lamont and Benji Gribon

**Our Lady:** Ewan Sibson and Isabella Beaufort-Bhardwaj

Congratulations and well done to all these children.

School Councillors will be elected next week. All children are welcome to prepare a short 'talk' on why they would make a good School Councillor.

Mrs Cummins will be giving out information about how to become part of the Chaplcy Team next week.

### **PE expectations**

As we begin the new school year, it is worth clarifying what children need in their PE bags.

#### **PE bags you should contain:**

- A white t-shirt
- Navy blue shorts
- Trainers (for outdoor use)
- Plimsolls
- Tracksuit – preferably a dark colour
- Socks

**All PE items should be clearly labelled with the child's name.**

Please send a letter into school if your child needs to miss a PE lesson due to injury.

**Please make sure that all items of uniform are clearly named.**

#### **Changes to Office procedures:**

We would like to advise Parents & children that the office opening hours are now

**8.15am -3.45pm**

All letters/correspondence/money are to be handed in to the class teacher or Breakfast club, if the child attends this.

Please report all child absences to the office as early as possible either via telephone or in person during office hours.

We ask, when possible, appointments with GP's, Dentists etc. are made out of school hours. When this is not possible & your child needs to be collected during the school day we request that we are made aware of this before 10.00am on the day of appointment.

We also now have a **BLUE BUCKET** in our reception area. This is for items children have forgotten to bring in, i.e. lunch boxes, homework, coats etc. We ask that parents advise their children that they will be bringing in these items & that the child needs to come & collect the forgotten item at break time or lunch time.

Many thanks for your co-operation

#### **Macmillan Coffee morning**

On behalf of Macmillan Cancer Support Mrs Mason is hosting a coffee morning on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 9.30 – 11 am at the Parish Centre. School will also be selling cakes & sweets throughout the day.** Please support these events by providing and buying cakes for this most worthwhile cause.

All monies raised from the Coffee morning/ cake & sweet sale will be donated to Macmillan in memory of Helene Arnold. The Friends of St Thomas More have also, kindly, agreed to donate all money raised from selling ice-creams on the same day.

#### **Book and Toy Sale**

A number of boys in year 5 are organising a Toy and Book Sale which will take place on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September.** The money they raise will buy books that have been requested by different classes. Please support the boys by sending any good quality books and toys into school, that you longer use.

## **Communication**

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please do so by using the office email.  
[office@st-thomasmore.leicester.sc.uk](mailto:office@st-thomasmore.leicester.sc.uk)

Emails will then be passed onto the teacher who will respond to you within a few days.

If you have any concerns relating to your child at school, please make an appointment to see your class teacher in the first instance. If you feel things have not improved following that, then either Mrs Slater or myself would be happy to meet with you.

## **Reminder for children in year 4**

There will be a meeting for parents of children who would like to make their First Holy Communion in May 2018 at the Parish Rooms on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm.

## **Term Dates for academic year 2017-2018**

### **Autumn Term 2017**

School Opens: Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Half Term: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
Teacher day Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
School Closes: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017 (2.30 pm)

### **Spring Term 2018**

School Opens: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
Half Term: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
School Closes: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 (2.30 pm)

### **Summer Term 2016**

School Opens: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
May Day: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
Half Term: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018  
Teacher day Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
School Closes: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018 (2.30 pm)

Wishing you all a very happy weekend.

Yours sincerely

*C A Pearson*