



Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy

(part of the Corpus Christi Catholic Academy Trust)

Newstead Road, Leicester. LE2 3TA

office@st-thomasmore.leicester.sch.uk

0116 270 6365

Head teacher: Mrs C A Pearson

Deputy Head teacher: Mrs A Slater

27th April 2018

Dear Parents

Blessing for the month of May

O Holy Mary, we see in you God's blessings and promises.

O Holy Mary, we see in you openness to accept God's will.

O Holy Mary, we seek God's blessings as you intercede for us with your Son.

WOW... what a great start to the summer term! The children have returned raring to go and have hit the ground running! We have seen some fantastic learning since the beginning of term and we can't wait to see what the children achieve in the weeks ahead!

Eucharistic Adoration

On **Wednesday 2nd May** all of our children, in class groups, will have the opportunity to go to church to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr Michael will be there to support our thoughts and prayers.

Year 6 SATs

On **Monday 14th May**, the children in Year 6 will begin their SATs. We are so proud of the hard work and commitment they have demonstrated throughout the year and we know that each and every child will give their very best during test week.

In the lead up to test week, you can support your child by ensuring they get plenty of sleep, drink plenty of water and have breakfast each morning. Also, please encourage your child to relax and to look forward to demonstrating their learning. Whilst we understand that there is some unavoidable pressure on children up and down the country, we want the children in Year 6 to feel as relaxed as possible, knowing that we are all very proud of them regardless of a test result... this is the message we are sharing at school and you can help by reinforcing it at home.



Year 2 SATs

During the weeks beginning **14th May and 21st May**, the children in Year 2 will also be doing their SATs. In contrast to the Year 6 SATs, we have the ability to ensure that the children in Year 2 are almost completely unaware they are being tested and therefore we can ensure they do not feel any undue pressure. SATs are just one form of assessment that enable us to know how well each child in Year 2 is achieving and we believe strongly that children at this very young age should never experience the pressure associated with formal testing. With this in mind, I would ask that you mirror this approach at home and if all goes to plan, SATs will come and go without your child fully realising and we will report the outcome to you during parents' evening on **18th and 19th June**.

May – The Month of Mary

As we pray to Our Lady during this month, you would be very welcome to send in some flowers for our classroom prayer tables. This will help us to create an area within each classroom where we can honour Our Lady. We will be dedicating our prayers to Our Lady throughout this month.

Friends of St Thomas More

The Friends of STM's next event is our biggest fundraiser of the year, the May Fayre. It's on **Saturday 19th May**.

We realise that some of you may have other plans regarding the Royal Wedding, but there are still ways you can contribute to the May Fayre even if you can't be there on the day: Buy raffle tickets, make a hamper bid or two, order a hanging basket or simply make a donation. We'll be screening the Wedding on the day in one of the classrooms so you'll still be able to check out the dress, and there'll be plenty of Pimms and Prosecco to toast the Royal couple!

Netball Success

Our STM Year 5 time played remarkably well and did themselves and the school proud on the day. They fought hard against older year 6 children who were, in some cases, much bigger and faster than our children. Although they lost most matches on the day, they can hold their heads high as they never stopped trying. They were brave, committed, focused and above all never lost their determination. I have high hopes for our Year 5s when they enter the same competition next year on a more even playing field. I am so proud of each and every one of them! Well done our Year 5s!!!

PS. Our Year 5s were the **ONLY** year 5 team who made it through to the finals!!!! Please remind your child of this.

This brings me on to our Year 6 team. As I write this I am actually quite emotional. The standard of play I witnessed was absolutely SUPERB!! There were stand out performances from each and every single player but a special mention must be given to Rosie Gittus and Evelyn Pye. Rosie gave it her all and came out of nowhere with a stunning execution in defence. Evelyn was moved out of her comfort zone into attack and scored 2 goals!!!! As far as Adi P, Ruby G, Sean K, Ben E and Benji G are concerned, you all did yourselves, your parents and the school immensely proud. I myself am more joyous over your victory than I was when I won at your age. This has made the past 2 years of training in the rain and hail well worth it. Thank you to Mrs Ellis for always being available to accompany us and a huge thank you to our parents who taxi my players to and from every event!!
ROLL ON SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS AT UPPINGHAM!!!

Sock Day' which also raised awareness of Downs Syndrome. Thank you

Sport Relief

Many thanks for everyone who took part in Sport Relief a few weeks ago. It was a huge success with the final total being **£1,264.47**.

Children's RE survey

Dear Children,

Thank you for completing the recent children's questionnaire for RE.
I would now like to share the results with you.

66 children responded

What is our school mission statement? **94%** of you knew this

How does this affect what you do and how you behave? **77%** of you could describe this

We are a Catholic school – what does that mean to you? **80%** of you could explain this

What other religions have you learned about in school? **89%** of you could describe which other religions you had learned about.

How do we try and help others as a school community? Can you give example of how we have done this? **73%** of you gave examples of how we do this as a school.

Who can you go to if you have a problem at school? **100%** of you knew who to go to.

What happens if someone breaks our agreed class or school rules? **64%** of you could describe our behaviour policy.

What do the Chaplaincy team do at our school? **61%** of you could explain what they do.

Why do we pray? **89%** of you could explain this

How do the children in your class prepare prayer times for your class? **55%** of you were able to give examples of this.

Does everyone get a chance to lead this? **54%** of you said you did.

Who looks after your class prayer table? **50%** of you knew who was responsible for this

What liturgical season are we in? **79%** of you knew this

What level are you working at in RE? **47%** of you knew this. What does this mean? **11%** of you could explain this.

From the results of our survey we can see that we have a few things we should work on to improve the provision for RE in our school.

We have shared the results with your teachers and they will be supporting you improve your knowledge of your levels in RE and to help you know how to improve. They will also be helping you to understand the role of the chaplaincy team within school.

We would like to see more children planning and leading their class collective worship (not just leading your class in our usual daily prayers) and so we will be purchasing some resources to help you with this.

With your help we look forward to making RE and collective worship at St Thomas More even better!

Mrs Whitehead

Pentecost

We invite all children to wear **RED on Friday 18th May**, when we will be celebrating Pentecost – the birthday of the church. We will be holding a special service at 2.30pm in our school hall. All are welcome.

Please find attached, some dates for your diaries for this term.

Yours sincerely

C A Pearson