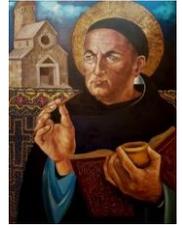


Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy

(part of the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Academy Trust)
Newstead Road, Leicester. LE2 3TA

office@st-thomasmore.leicester.sch.uk 0116 270 6365

Love one Another as I have Loved You
John 13:34



Headteacher: Mrs C Crosse

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Slater

4th March 2019

I try to appreciate the beauty and wonder of the world around me

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This week we look forward to the beginning of Lent. Please see attached letter from Mrs Whitehead, our RE coordinator.

Ash Wednesday Service

Our Foundation stage and Key Stage 1 children will have an Ash Wednesday service in school at 9am. Our Key Stage 2 children will be going to Church for the service at 9.15.

World book day

World book day is on Thursday 7th March. This year we thought it would be nice to have a bedtime stories theme. Children can come to school in Pyjamas or onesies and they should bring their favourite bedtime story book.

We would also like to take this opportunity to support The Fundanami Trust. This is a small not for profit organization that supports schools in Durban, South Africa. We would like to ask you to bring any unwanted books you have at home. Please remember to bring any spare books into school.

Comic Relief

To raise money for Comic Relief, red noses are on sale from the school office whilst stocks last.

Cross country

Congratulations to all of the children that represented St Thomas More at Ratcliffe College on Saturday morning. Once again you all ran fantastically and are a credit to our school. A huge thank you to Mr Gowan, Eilis Byrne and other parents who help to support these events. It is much appreciated.

Parking and road safety

Parking continues to be an issue around the school area. As I have stated in previous newsletters please **do not park near the pencils on the corners of Newstead Road**. If you are parking here you are blocking the view for other drivers and for the pedestrians trying to cross the road. I have been working closely with the Friends to try and get the council to support further road calming strategies, such as improved signs and a crossing on Ratcliffe Road. We have also asked for yellow lines to be painted by the pencils on each corner. We have managed to get some support from Jon Ashworth, our local MP and will keep you updated with this.





This is an ongoing issue but we all have a responsibility to keep our area and children safe. Please be considerate when driving and parking near school.

SEND Coffee afternoon



Special Educational Needs Coffee afternoon.

Are you a parent or carer of a child with Special Educational Needs? If so, you are warmly invited to our SEND Coffee Afternoon in school at **2.30pm on Thursday March 14th 2019** (Please come to the side door.)

As well as meeting other parents (and eating cake) we would love to hear your views on how we can develop parent meetings in the future.

We look forward to seeing you!

Mrs Slater



First Sunday of Lent

Year 6 will lead 9am mass on Sunday.

God bless,

Mrs Crosse

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 6 th March	Ash Wednesday
Thursday 7 th March	World book day- The theme this year is 'bedtime stories'. Children are asked to come in their sleepwear and with their favourite bedtime story! 10am Drop in Mass Mrs Langham's class
Friday 8 th March	12.30 Cross Country Qualifier for Yrs 3-6 at Knighton Park 2.30 Celebration Assembly
Sunday 10 th March	9am Mass Year 6 to lead
Monday 11 th March	Parents evening 3.30-7pm
Tuesday 12 th March	Parents evening 3.30-5.30pm
Thursday 14 th March	10am Drop in Mass Mr Plant's class
Friday 15 th March	Comic Relief- Non Uniform Day for £1 2pm Year 2 Mrs Broomhead's Class Assembly 2.30 Celebration Assembly
Monday 18 th and Tuesday 19 th March	Mrs Broomhead's parents evening
Thursday 21 st March	10am Drop in Mass Mrs Whitmore and Mrs Slater's class



Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy



Thursday 28 th March	10am Drop in Mass Year 3's
Friday 29 th March	9am F2 Mother's day service in the hall - all welcome.
Friday 22 nd March	2.30 Celebration Assembly Friends Bingo Event – 5.30pm
Sunday 24 th March	9am Year 4 to lead at Mass
Wednesday 3 rd April	Year 6 Bazaar in the afternoon
Thursday 4 th April	10am Drop in Mass Mr Rowlinson's class
Friday 5 th April	2pm Stations of the Cross Service 2.30 Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 10 th April	Years 3 & 4 Easter Play 9.30am
Thursday 11 th April	10am Whole School Mass at Church Years 3 & 4 Easter Play 5.30pm
Friday 12 th April	Celebration Assembly 2pm School closes for Easter 2.30pm
Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April – Easter Holidays	
Monday 29 th April	School opens 8.40am
Thursday 2 nd May	Friends Event- Film night 3.30-6pm
Monday 6 th May	Bank holiday- school closed
Thursday 9 th May	10am Drop in Mass - Mrs Wheat and Mr Tillbrook's class
Friday 10 th May	2pm Mrs Ramsell and Mrs Cummins Class Assembly 2.30 Celebration Assembly
Saturday 11 th May	10am Holy Communion at St Thomas More Church
Sunday 12 th May	9am Mass Mrs Langham's class to lead
Monday 13 th – Thursday 16 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Thursday 16 th May	10am Drop in Mass - F2
Friday 17 th May	2pm Mrs Whitmore and Mrs Slater's Class Assembly 2.30 Celebration Assembly
Thursday 23 rd May	10am Drop in Mass Mrs Broomhead's class
Friday 24 th May	2pm Mrs Wheat and Mr Tillbrook's Class Assembly 2.30 Celebration Assembly 3.15pm school closes for half term
Monday 27th May- Friday 31st May- Half term	
Saturday 8th June- St Thomas More Summer Fayre!	



Dear Parents,

As we begin the season of Lent we would like to help all members of our school community to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. We intend to take as our focus during this season the three disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as these are at the heart of what it means to be a disciple.

What will this look like in our school?

Reconciliation

When we take the time to reflect on our lives during Lent there can be thoughts we have which might cause us concern or make us worry. During Lent each class will have a Worry Box on their class prayer table. This will be for pupils to place a note about things they might be worried about. We will assure the children that anything placed in the Worry Box will only be opened and read by their class teacher so that the pupils can have the opportunity to talk about it with someone.

Prayer

During Lent, each class will begin their day by opening the CAFOD interactive calendar of prayer and share the prayer intentions for the day.

Stations of the Cross Service 5th April 2.15pm– Led by Chaplaincy Team

Fasting

Food bank Donations

There will be a box in entrance hall for children to leave biscuits, packaged cakes, crisps, anything they may have given up for Lent. Why not keep buying some of the food that you are planning to give up for Lent but to give it to food banks instead, often treats that we take for granted are never donated to food banks. Donating to food banks in this way will help us to grow as disciples and to get closer to Jesus.

Almsgiving

We will be supporting the CAFOD 'Give it up Campaign' by collecting money in our class boxes helping people like Rabiul and his family in Pakistan. The children will take part in an assembly in which we will explore the lives of the people in Pakistan whom we will support by raising money during Lent. You might like to watch it again at home together.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Lent>

Prayer

Dear Lord,

*thank you that in the busyness of life there are times to stop and to think.
Help us never to be so busy that we don't have time to be peaceful and silent.*

*Thank you for times such as Lent
that remind us to think about you*

and to consider what we can do to help those less fortunate than we are.

Please help us always to 'be prepared' to help other people.

Amen.