



Saint Thomas More R.C. Primary School

Headteacher, Joanne Butterworth, Deputy Headteacher: Anna Quigg
Assistant Headteacher: Sarah Cassidy

Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you

What a lovely Macmillan Coffee morning last week we raised £619.19 - thank you so much for your generosity.

Opal Play

Reminder to complete the survey that was sent via text message. The information gathered will help inform our plans for playtimes <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K9DSJC9>

Please check out https://twitter.com/OPAL_CIC & <https://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk>

Education Welfare Officer (EWO)

We have developed a fantastic working relationship with our LA officer and she is committed to supporting our school community with the government's attendance agenda.

Firstly a reminder that the school gates open at 8:30am, the first bell is at 8:40am and the second bell is 8:50am, this is when children should be in class ready to start the day. The gates are closed at 8:50am, if arriving after this time children should enter via the Main Entrance and be signed in on Inventory, the information is then fed into the registers. Lateness on the registers is also picked up by the officer and can be classed as unauthorised which if regularly occurs can incur an LA penalty notice fine.

As such we are adapting our routines regarding absences for medical appointments and illnesses. If your child has an appointment we will require sight of an appointment card or a confirmation text from NHS at the office, this will then be recorded as such on the register, if no confirmation is forthcoming it will be classed as unauthorised.

If your child is ill, please ring school and report on the absence phone line with the name of the child, class and illness/ absence. If an absence is prolonged please keep school informed regarding the illness, these will be authorised. If there are persistent illnesses of more than 3 days then we will require some form of medical proof, if not provided these will be classed as unauthorised. If there are 20 sessions (10 days) of unauthorised absence in a 12 week period this can incur an LA penalty notice fine.

I have explained previously holidays during term time require the completion of a holiday form, which explains that such a holiday could incur a penalty notice fine actioned by the LA.

I appreciate your support working together to improve attendance in our school.



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Lunchtimes

All children in Reception to Year 2 are eligible for a free school meal, this is called Universal Free School meals, if you want your child to have a hot meal please take a look at the website for the menus from Mellors.

Reminder that all dinner monies are to be paid weekly for any children in Key Stage 2 (year 3-6), this is essential as we are charged weekly by Mellors.

We are increasingly concerned by the waste from children bringing packed lunches to school, there are a number of children who are either throwing their lunches away. Obviously it is important for you, as parents, to know what your child has eaten, therefore the children will be bringing any leftover food home for you to monitor.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 13th October

Harvest Own clothes day for Caritas and collecting money in order to buy food vouchers.

Monday 16th October

School photographer day

Wednesday 18th October

9:00 – 11:30 EYFS (Nursery and Reception) settling in parents meetings

- Appointment information to follow

Thursday 19th October

3:30 – 6:30 EYFS (Nursery and Reception) settling in parents meetings

- Appointment information to follow

Friday 20th Oct

FINISH FOR HALF TERM BREAK

Monday 30th October

SCHOOL REOPENS FOR AUTUMN 2

Parent Teacher Meetings week

Booking details to follow

- Tuesday 14th November – LKS2 (Miss Hughes, Miss Corry & Miss Newton)
- Wednesday 15th November – KS1 (Mrs Craven, Miss Winnard & Miss Harrison)
- Thursday 16th November – UKS2 (Mrs Cassidy, Mrs Hickman & Miss McBride)



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Monday 20TH November

9:00 am Mrs Quigg is holding Coffee morning with many of the professionals that support children attending – all welcome.

Sunday 26th November

11:00am Family Mass at St Thomas More (Coffee morning in the Parish Hall afterwards with the Friends of St Thomas More)

Nursery Places available

We have Nursery places available to start straight away.

Please contact our school office for further information and an application form.



Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Butterworth

Headteacher

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

As servants of God, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. Through his love, we guide each member of our family on their own spiritual and learning journey to achieve and grow.

We love, we learn, we live with Christ.



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Friends of Thomas More Autumn Newsletter



FRIENDS OF ST THOMAS MORE NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2023

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

Hello and welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year! If you are new to our school, we are the Friends of St Thomas More RC Primary School, organising fundraisers for the children like fancy dress parties, Christmas story times and the annual Summer Fair, along with raffles, lotteries and family/adult events like Family Quiz Night, coffee mornings and our (in)famous Ladies Night! We're just a small group of parents who get together for an hour once a month to plan and organise – in between the usual juggle of work, ferrying kids between after-school activities, teatime and bedtime routines! Every year, as children move onto high school, we lose volunteers, but always make a plea each year for new parents/family members to take their place. This year in particular we need someone good with figures who can be our treasurer – can you help?? If you want to know more, come to next week's AGM, email stmschoolpta@gmail.com, or message via our social media (search Friends of St Thomas More on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and we should pop up!). **Please complete this form** and let us know ways you can help: <https://bit.ly/STMvolunteer2023>

COMING UP THIS AUTUMN

<p>October 10 AGM Tuesday 10th October, 6pm-8pm St Thomas More RC Primary School</p> <p>Come along and find out more about what we do, how you can help and bring new ideas and suggestions.</p>	<p>October 13 FANCY DRESS PARTIES Friday 13th October, 5pm-8.30pm (TBC) St Thomas More RC Church Hall</p> <p>Spooky fun, dancing and party games for the children. BOOK NOW: http://bit.ly/STMhalloween2023</p>
<p>November 18 FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 18th November 6pm-9pm St Thomas More RC Church Hall</p> <p>Grab some teammates and enjoy Family Quiz Night with bingo, games, prizes, pie supper, bar and tuck shop too!</p>	<p>November 26 COFFEE MORNING Sunday 26th November 12pm-1.30pm St Thomas More RC Church Hall</p> <p>Come and pop into the church hall for a brew and a bacon bap – or a slice of cake – bring your friends!</p>
<p>December 08 CHRISTMAS PARTIES Friday 8th December 5pm-8.30pm (TBC) St Thomas More RC Church Hall</p> <p>It's Christmas and we're going to party! Afternoon of festivities for the children</p>	<p>December 18 CHRISTMAS STORY TIMES Monday 18th December 5.30pm-7.45pm (TBC) St Thomas More RC Primary School</p> <p>Cookies, a drink and a Christmas story – don't forget the PJs and slippers!</p>

Friends of St Thomas More RC Primary School Lottery



A really easy way to support our fundraising is through our school Lottery.

Just pick a number between 1-59 and pay £1 per week by standing order. If your number matches the bonus ball drawn in the Saturday National Lottery, you win £30 – simple!

The lottery raises £1,500 per year for the school. With it being the start of the new school year, we have some numbers available. If you want to join, contact Kim Ormsby on 07500 844 211.

FRIENDS OF ST THOMAS MORE
RC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Thanks to everyone who supported our first coffee morning of the new school year! We look forward to the next one on **Sunday 26th November!**



Our next Bag2School collection is **Friday 17th November**. Pack up your unwanted clothing and textiles for recycling!

SAVE THE DATE: LADIES NIGHT

One of our most popular events and one of the biggest fundraisers is our annual Ladies Night. More details will be available in the New Year, but for now pop it in your diary that the next one will be **Saturday 23rd March 2024!**

CONTACT US

Email: stmschoolpta@gmail.com

RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED!

One of the most challenging/time-consuming parts of organising fundraisers is finding raffle prizes! If you are a local business who can donate a service/prize, or happy to sponsor an event, please let us know. Or if you have anything stashed away unused in the cupboards that we can make use of, please send our way! We appreciate any help we can get.

SHOP ONLINE TO RAISE EXTRA £££

If you enjoy shopping online, why not try easyfundraising.org.uk and raise money for St Thomas More school at the same time? easyfundraising has partnerships with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend on their website to us without costing you any extra. Even just signing up gets us a £5 donation!

easyfundraising | £294 Raised

Sign up to support us & we'll get a £5 donation!

• You Shop • +6,000 Retailers Donate • For Free