



More News 12th April 2024

**St Thomas More Catholic Primary School Newsletter**

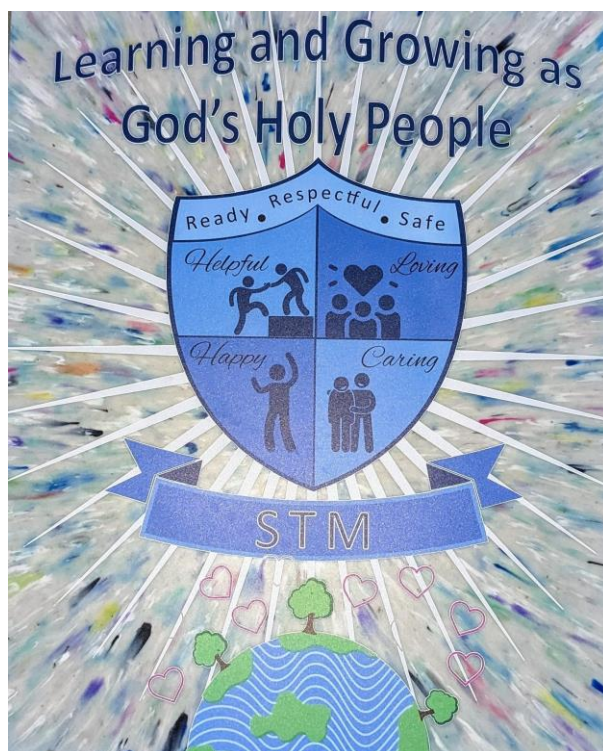


## Caring for our Common Home

Congratulations to Luena in Y5 who won the competition to design our Team Recycle plaque. The school worked together to collect items of household plastic to be recycled earlier in the year, which Team Recycle then used to create this beautiful plaque that shows our school ethos.

Stuart from Team Recycle presented the plaque to school with Luena this morning in assembly. The plaque will be on display for all to see at the front of the hall!

We are continuing to collect plastic milk bottle tops to recycle so please continue to send these in



## Good Shepherd Appeal

At the beginning of Lent, children brought home a bag to use to make donations to the Fr Hudson's Chairty Good Shepherd Appeal. Just before Easter, we welcomed Margot Scotford from the charity to school and she explained to the children the good work the charity does in helping vulnerable people within the local community.

If they haven't done so already, please can children return their bags with their monetary donations to school as soon as possible.



## **Good Bye and Good Luck!**

Sadly, we have said good bye and good luck to Mrs Rasquinha today who has worked from Year 1 to Year 6 since September. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavours.

## **Easter Mass**

The school joined together yesterday to celebrate Easter with an Easter Mass beautifully prepared by Year 5, with readings from the GIFT Team. Fr Simon encouraged us to reflect on how the meaning of Easter goes beyond Easter Sunday and brings hope throughout the Easter Season.

## **STM Parish Family Lunch - Sunday 21st April**

Message from Fr Simon:

Family lunch at STM will take place on Sunday 21st April from 12 noon until 2/2.30pm. This will include an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter craft activities for the children. All our younger families are encouraged to come along to this event. There is a sign up sheet at the back of STM church for people to sign up for this event. Please sign up by Saturday 14th April so that the Easter Bunny knows how many eggs to purchase and hide!

## **Eid Mubarak!**

Lots of our children and their families celebrated Eid Al-Fitr this week, a festival that celebrates faith, community and gratitude. The STM community wishes our Muslim families Eid Mubarak!



## Flame of Friendship

This week STM has taken part in the Coventry Flame of Friendship event, where children from different schools pass the Flame of Friendship (a replica of the Olympic torch) from one school to another, with gestures of friendship being passed on from child to child.

On Wednesday, Manor Park pupils brought the Flame to us, and were treated to a 'speed-dating' style getting to know you session with some of our pupils.



Yesterday a group of our pupils processed to Howes to pass on the Flame of Friendship, and received friendship bracelets as a gift of friendship from their Howes peers. Thank you to Manor Park and Howes for extending the hand of friendship!



## CCFC go to Wembley!

STM is always happy to support Coventry culture and we're delighted that Sky Blues are going to Wembley next weekend to play in the FA Cup semi-final.

To show our STM support of CCFC, children are invited to wear their CCFC kit or sky blue clothing/accessories to school on Friday (19th April). Please do not feel the need to go out and buy football kits - any blue clothing is fine! We are asking children who do so to bring in £1 donation which will be used to support Fr Hudson's Charity please.



## Parish and School Spring Fayre

St Thomas More School and Parish will be holding a Spring Fayre in the school grounds on Saturday 18th May from 12-2pm.

There will be lots to buy and do at the fayre, so please add the date to your diaries! More details will follow in the coming weeks. If you would like to to like to rent a stall please contact [admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk)

## PTFA - used uniform

The PTFA are asking for donations of summer uniform items please: summer dresses, blue polos, shorts, etc. Please bring any clean items in good condition to the school office. They will hold a preloved uniform sale at the parent consultation evenings on 16th and 18th April.

## Updated Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Policy

All primary schools must teach RSHE as part of the curriculum. At STM, we follow an RSHE curriculum produced by Ten: Ten which is approved by the Birmingham Diocese and has been written to be age-appropriate for children across the primary age range. The curriculum covers aspects such as what a healthy friendship looks and feels like; responding positively to peer pressure and having an understanding of key life events, such as new life and death.

We have recently renewed our [RSHE Policy](#) which you can view at the end of the newsletter. If you have any questions about how the curriculum is delivered in your child's class, please speak to your child's class teacher.

## Parents and Carers Workshop

**Positive Family Foundations** is a nurture-based parenting programme based on understanding how children and their carers interact, and what children need to help them thrive.

Please see the flyer below for more information.

## Find out how to raise happy, secure and well-behaved children

Join our free 11 week course – Positive Family Foundations

### This course is for

All parents and carers with children age 0-10 in Coventry

### What we do

- share information about child development and parenting styles
- give out practical resources and activities
- provide a friendly, supportive and welcoming group
- have a drink and a snack

### Where it is

Telfer Road Adult Education Centre, Radford, Coventry, CV6 3FA

### When it is

6-8pm every Tuesday from 16/4/24

### How to join

Scan the QR code

Or enrol online at <https://coventry.gov.uk/adulted>

Or just come along and enrol at the first session

Find out more by emailing

[kate.steventon@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:kate.steventon@coventry.gov.uk)



"It was great to listen to other parents. There were lots of ideas on the course - I found the section on Emotion Coaching really helped at home."



## Clothing Bank

Please see the flyer below for information about Coventry Clothes Bank where items of clothing can be obtained for free.





## Early Help - Virtual Family Hub

Early Help is a partnership of organisations that provide help, advice and support to children, young people and families.

The aim of Early Help is to help you as soon as possible and prevent problems from getting worse by providing you support, as early as possible. Early Help services can help families, children and young people - pre-birth to 19 years old and 25 years old where there are special educational needs or disabilities

You can find lots of helpful information in different areas of life at the [Virtual Family Hub](#).

## Attendance is important!

We monitor all pupils' attendance and will contact you (often by letter and text message) if their attendance is getting lower than we'd expect. Please don't be offended - we have a duty to keep you informed of things that can affect your child's progress and/or wellbeing.

Lastly, please remember that term-time holidays **will not be authorised** and, in many cases, will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine) being issued.

**Whole school attendance so far this year is 95.6%**



Year R	99.3%
Year 01	95.2%
Year 02	90.3%
Year 03	96.2%
Year 04	92.0%
Year 05	95.7%
Year 06	95.2%

## Parish facilities

### Planning a party/event? Looking for a Venue?

The Margaret Roper Room at Church is available for hire for parties and events. It is in high demand, so enquire early about dates. Excellent kitchen facilities available. Holds approximately 80 guests. Hire charge £30.00 per hour. Please enquire to: [admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk)



## Important Dates

- 16th April, 3.40-6pm: Nursery to year 5 parent consultations
- 18th April, 3.40-6pm: Nursery to year 5 parent consultations
- 19th April: Non uniform, CCFC sky blue colours (£1 donation to support Fr Hudson's Charity)
- 21st April, 12 noon-2pm: Family lunch at STM parish