



More News 17th May 2024

[St Thomas More Catholic Primary School Newsletter](#)



May Procession

Thursday 23rd of May at 9.15am there will be a whole school mass, followed by our May Procession where we lay flowers at the feet of Our Lady in our Prayer Garden. All are welcome. If we could ask children to bring along donations of flowers for this mindful event we would be extremely grateful.

Sacramental Preparation - Year 3

Year 3 are preparing to receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday 9th June at the 9am Mass. There will be a final sacramental preparation meeting for children and parents on Thursday evening, in school at 6pm. It is important that all those preparing for the sacrament attend.

Year 1 & 2 Attend Parish Mass

It was lovely to see so many Year 1 and 2 children at Mass on Sunday. Thank you, Fr Simon for the special blessing you gave the children, their families and their school staff.

Well done Year 6!

Year 6 have been fantastic this week, showing determination, resilience and lots of care and support to their peers as they completed the SATs tests. We are all very proud of you, Year 6!

Pledge £1 - Fr Hudson's Charity

Thank you for supporting the school to raise £1 per child to donate to Fr Hudson's Charity. This week we sent £322 to this very worthy cause. Across the Diocese, we hope to raise over £75,000 in this way.

Spring Fayre

The Spring Fayre is tomorrow! All are welcome to the fayre, which will open at noon and finish at 2pm. There will be lots to do including:

- an open mic event (children and adults can book a 5 minute slot)
- children's fun races starting at 1pm
- ice creams
- a BBQ
- face painting
- children's games
- candy floss
- Elite Dance Academy performance

and lots more!

If you can help or have any prizes to donate to the raffle, please let the school know.



Cultural Diversity Day - Tuesday 21st May

The school will be marking Cultural Diversity Day on Tuesday 21st May. We are planning a day of celebrating our own and others' cultural heritage. On this day, children are invited to come into school dressed in clothing that they feel represents their cultural heritage - this could be traditional dress, clothing that is the colour of the national flag, national sports kit or something else representative. If children have more than one culture in their heritage, they could choose one, or all of them to be represented in their clothing. Please ensure that clothing is appropriate and respectful of all in our community (e.g. not overtly political or inciting of conflict) - the aim of the day is to celebrate, learn and find ways of understanding more about each other. We also ask that parents and carers do not spend money on clothing - clothing can be as simple as wearing a certain coloured t-shirt!

Cultural Diversity Day Lunch

OCS, the Catering Team, are joining in with our Cultural Diversity Day celebrations. The children will be able to try foods from different cultures, including Indian food, Polish food and some Chinese food. We can't wait!

Thank You, Forest School Gardeners!

We had a small, but very effective, team of gardeners who came to school on Saturday to help clear our Forest School area so the Early Years children can use it safely. **Thank you!** Thank you also, to Mrs Grant, Mrs Swan and Mr Woollorton for giving up their time to enable this to happen.



Updated Policies

This week, the Charging and Remissions Policy and the Late Collection Policy have been updated and approved by Governors. The updated versions can be found [here](#).

Sun Safety

With the sun finally making an appearance, please remember to ensure your child comes to school with a suitable sunhat and plenty of water to drink in their water bottle. Please remember children are only allowed juice with their lunch and so must bring water for consuming during the main parts of the day. Please also remember to apply long-lasting sunscreen before your child comes to school. Staff are unable to apply sunscreen for children during the day, so it is important children are protected by long-lasting brands or have been taught to effectively apply their own.

Hay fever is very common amongst children, especially because they tend to be outdoors a lot and exposed to pollen. It's important that your child is correctly treated if they have hay fever, please can you ensure that your child is medicated before they arrive to school.

Summer Term Diary Date

We are planning on holding our Sports Day on Friday 5th July (times tbc), although this will, of course, depend on the weather! Fingers crossed it's warm and dry for us on that day. The date will be confirmed closer to the time (when the weather forecast is available).

PTFA News!

Join the St Thomas More Virtual Balloon Race

Virtual Balloon Race



Fantastic Prizes!!!

- 1st placed balloon - **£50 Amazon Gift Card.**
- 2nd placed balloon - **£25 Amazon Gift Card.**
- Last placed balloon - **£25 Amazon Gift Card.**

It's only £2 to enter a balloon, and you can enter more than one.

Have fun creating your own unique balloon design, so it stands out in flight.

You will be able track your balloon throughout race and see your final position.

All funds raised go directly to the STM PTFA.

It's easy to buy a balloon using the link below.

<https://www.balloonrace.net/stmrpsp>

School Disco

The summer term school disco is this evening.

Discos will take place in the school hall.

- Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: 5.15-6.15pm **Nursery and Reception parents must stay please.**
- Years 3 and 4: 6.30-7.30pm
- Years 5 and 6: 7.45-8.45pm

This is the day after SATs finishes, so a great opportunity for Year 6 to get together, let their hair down and enjoy the feeling of achieving something special after working so hard!



The disco can only go ahead with enough help from parents! If you plan to stay, then why not join in, get to know some of the other parents and help to raise money that goes directly to supporting and even fully providing the 'nice' things that happen in school like subsidising the cost of trips for every child in school and the Year 6 party.

Pre-loved Uniform

Thank you to the PTFA for running the pre-loved uniform sale at the parent/carer consultations. Good quality items of pre-loved uniform at extremely reasonable prices are a very popular way for parents to ensure children are smartly dressed in the correct uniform in an affordable way.

Please can any good-quality, washed uniform that you no longer need be donated to the pre-loved uniform stock - we are especially looking for ties, summer dresses, polo shirts and shorts at the moment.

If you missed the sale at the parent/carer consultations, you can still order any available pre-loved uniform using the click and collect order form available on the [PTFA page](#) of our website.

Census Day Meal - Thursday 16th May

The children had a great time on Thursday enjoying their Super Hero lunch!



Cultural Diversity Homework

Thank you for supporting your child to complete their Cultural Diversity Day homework. The children have made a wonderful job of finding out about their cultural heritage. They will be using this information to help them prepare a presentation to their friends so everyone can celebrate the range of cultures we have in our school.

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 95.8%

Attendance this week is as follows:

Year R	97.7%
Year 01	97.7%
Year 02	97.8%
Year 03	96.2%
Year 04	99.3%
Year 05	94.2%
Year 06	97.7%

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



Important Dates

- Friday 17th May: School Disco (times detailed above in newsletter)
- Saturday 18th May, 12-2pm: Spring Fayre on school grounds
- Tuesday 21st May: Cultural Diversity Day, wear clothing that represents cultural heritage
- Thursday 23rd May, 9.15am: Whole school mass, followed by our May Procession
- Tuesday 4th June: School photographer, class/group photos
- Friday 5th July, times tbc: Sports Day