



More News 17th January 2025

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



## Year 6 Confirmation Retreat

Year 6 have spent the day in prayer and reflection; with some fun along the way, considering what The Sacrament of Confirmation means to them and the impact it will have on their life. A big thank you to Father Simon, Luke (our Seminarian on placement here), Lauren (Chaplain at Bishop Ullathorne) and our own staff Mr Rooney, Miss Allison and Ms Mullin for all their hard work.

Please keep the Confirmandi in your prayers as they prepare for this Sacrament they are due to receive on Thursday 13th February at 7pm.





## ICON Training

Three pupils from Year 4 and Year 5 have been lucky enough to attend training at Coventry Cathedral this week along with other members across our Holy Cross Catholic MAC Community. We are looking forward to them coming back into school and sharing what they have learnt to develop our ICON School Status.

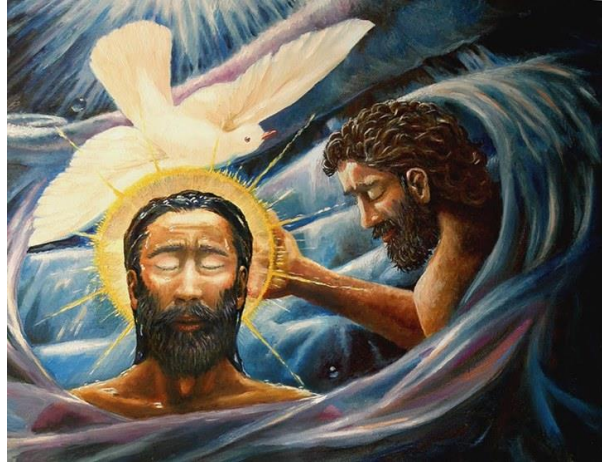


## Mission- Baptism of Jesus

In this week's Mission assembly we continued the theme of following the ways of Jesus as we learnt about his baptism.

*The Holy Spirit descended and a voice from heaven said "You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you."*

We thought of ways we too could make God pleased with us and how we can call on the Holy Spirit to help us make these choices in our life.



## Class Mass

This week Year 6 will be attending the Class Mass on Thursday 23rd January 10am in the side chapel. All are very welcome to join.

A reminder weekend Mass times are

Sat 5pm Vigil Saint Thomas More

Sun 9am Saint Thomas More- includes Children's liturgy

11am Saint Joseph the Worker



## Staffing Structure

We are delighted to be able to announce that we have been able to appoint **Miss Allison** and **Mrs Webster** to the position of Assistant Headteacher for the Spring and Summer terms.

This is to help with supporting myself in my acting role and also with the transition when our new Headteacher arrives at Easter. We wish them both well in their new roles.

If you have any concerns the first person to contact remains your child's class teacher, then the Leader of Learning and finally myself.

Our Leaders of Learning are;

EYFS and KS1 (N, Rec, Y1,2) Mrs Webster

KS2 (Y3,4,5,6) Mr Rooney

## Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'

Holy Father Pope Francis has dedicated this year as a Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope.' The Jubilee Year of Hope will end on the feast of the Epiphany in 2026. As a school/ Parish Community we will walk together during this year of Hope. It is a year of hope and trust for a world currently suffering the impacts of war, ongoing impacts from COVID-19 pandemic and the increased threats to the climate around the world.

You could also visit the [website](#) for more information.

ARCHDIOCESE of BIRMINGHAM  
OFFICE for MISSION  
*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..."*

JUBILEE YEAR  
2025

"PILGRIMS OF HOPE"

To find out more about how your parish, family or school can celebrate the Jubilee Year, visit:

[www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year)

## Early English Parent Course

After the brilliant success of the Positive Family Foundations course that has been happening during autumn term, we are delighted to bring to St Thomas More an Early English course designed to support parents in supporting their child to make good progress and, more importantly, enjoy learning in the English curriculum in the earlier years of school. The course is open to everyone, but the content is aimed at parents of children from Nursery to Year 2. If you would like to know how you can make the most out of talking, reading and writing with your child and really support their first steps as readers, writers and orators, this is the course for you!

Please see below for more details.



**Find out how to support your child with reading and writing**  
Join our free 10-week course – **'English in the Primary School'**

**This course is for**  
All parents and carers with children at St Thomas More School

**What we do**

- learn the correct phonics sounds
- explore ways to help your child with reading
- focus on the grammar, spelling and handwriting taught in English primary schools
- give you fun games to take home and play with your children
- share a drink and snack

**Where it is**  
In school - come to the main school office

**When it is**  
1-3pm every Monday from 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**How to join**  
Fill in the reply slip below and return to the school (assume you have a place unless we contact you)

To find out more email [aeslifeskills@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:aeslifeskills@coventry.gov.uk) or speak to Ms Hoare in school

See all Family Learning courses at <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/adulted>

**Coventry City Council** **ONE COVENTRY** **Ofsted** **West Midlands Combined Authority** **Start Life** **Education & Skills Funding Agency** **matrix**

Fill in this reply slip and return to the school (assume you have a place unless we contact you)  
I would like a place on St Thomas More/ Family Learning 'English in primary School'  
Your name ..... Contact number .....

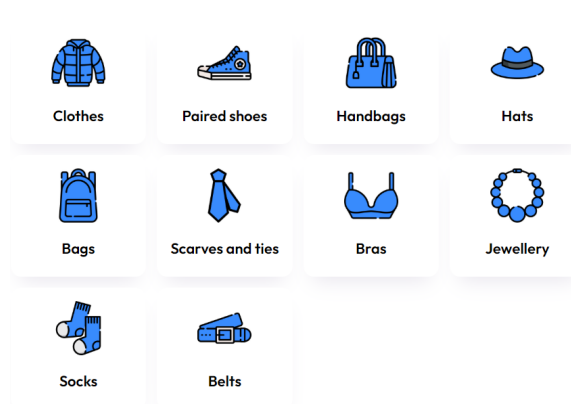
Child's name..... Class .....

## Bags 2 Schools

The PTFA have organised for [Bags 2 Schools](#) to collect bags of unwanted, good quality clothing from STM on Tuesday 21st January.

Thank you for all those who have dropped off your bags. We will still continue to receive your bags until the morning of Tuesday, 21 January 2025. These will then be collected by the Bags2School on the afternoon of Tuesday, 21 January 2025.

**Please bring in any bags of unwanted clothes to the Community Room from Friday 17th January until Tuesday 21 January (AM).** The following items are all accepted: men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.



## Junior Police Officers

You may have spotted some Junior Police Officers this week around the area monitoring speed. They are taking part in a 5 week course with the Police; so hoping they will be able to share some top tips over the coming weeks in how we can keep safe. Watch this space.



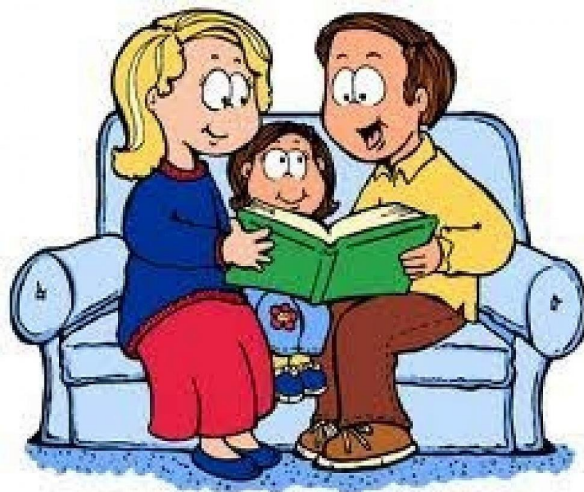




## Reading with your child

Research shows that regularly reading with your child and talking about the stories they read benefits your child. We are lucky to have some volunteers that read with your children but it is still essential, especially when your children are young, to read with your children to give them the best start in life. **Please remember to sign your child's reading record so that staff know the book has been read and can therefore be changed.**

If you do know of anyone, perhaps a grandparent, who would like to spend a few hours a week reading with children please contact the office [STM-admin@hccmac.co.uk](mailto:STM-admin@hccmac.co.uk). Any volunteers do have to go through safeguarding checks before coming into school.



## Mental Health Support Survey

The Local Authority wants to know your thoughts and experiences in receiving mental health support to help them improve mental health service for young people.

Please see below for more information.



The poster is titled "Mental Health Matters" and is designed to promote a survey. It features a central illustration of a pink brain wearing green-rimmed glasses and holding two dumbbells, symbolizing mental strength and health. The text is organized into several sections: a header with logos for NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, Coventry and Warwickshire Local Authority, and Warwickshire Health Partnership; a main title "MENTAL HEALTH Matters"; a yellow box defining mental health and its importance; a QR code with the text "SCAN ME"; and a pink box titled "CAN YOU HELP US?" which includes the survey link, a call to action "YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED!", and a closing statement "Your voice matters, and by working together, we can create services that benefit everyone."

**Understanding** young people and their mental health

# MENTAL HEALTH Matters

**What is Mental Health?**  
Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act.

**Importance of Mental Health**  
Good mental health is essential for overall well-being, enabling us to handle stress, relate to others, and make healthy choices.

Visit our website or scan the QR code to complete the survey: **END of survey 15th January 2025**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdp9YY3ZOLNcJ6\\_vVx1BjitRbf9MPBU7R16tgPmuIBIDSzg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdp9YY3ZOLNcJ6_vVx1BjitRbf9MPBU7R16tgPmuIBIDSzg/viewform)

**CAN YOU HELP US?**

**YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED!**

Hello there! 🌟 In Coventry and Warwickshire, we are aiming to improve mental health services for young people like YOU. 🌟

Your thoughts and experiences can assist us in developing services that will genuinely benefit you and your friends.

**What Can You Do to Help?**

We want to hear your opinions on what matters in mental health care!

We are working hard to make our services more "trauma-informed," which means recognising the best ways to support young people who may be experiencing anxiety, stress, or sadness due to difficult situations. 🌟

**Your voice matters, and by working together, we can create services that benefit everyone.**

## 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 or your child has had low attendance in the past. 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 95.43%**

Attendance this week is as follows:

- Year R - 96.3%
- **Year 1 - 100%**

- Year 2 - 94.14%
- Year 3 - 95.4%
- Year 4 - 96.55%
- Year 5 - 93.58%
- Year 6 - 89.67%

## Important Dates

- **Friday 17 - Tuesday 21 January - Bags2School Collection (Bags will be collected Tuesday 21 AM)**
- Tuesday 21 January - Football Match - STM vs All Souls
- Friday 24 January - BDES Launch Assembly of Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'
- Sunday 26 January - Thursday 30 January - Y6 Plas Doly-Moch Residential
- Wednesday 29 January - GB Athlete Launch
- Monday 3 February - PTFA Meeting - 6.30pm (Online TBC).
- Thursday 6 February - Football Match - STM vs Holy Family
- Tuesday 11 February - Netball Match Vs St John Vianney
- Thursday 13 February - Y6 Confirmation at 7pm (STM Church)
- Friday 14 February - GB Athlete Sponsorship Event
- Friday 14 February - Half Term Break