



More News 31st January 2025

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



## Jubilee Year 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope



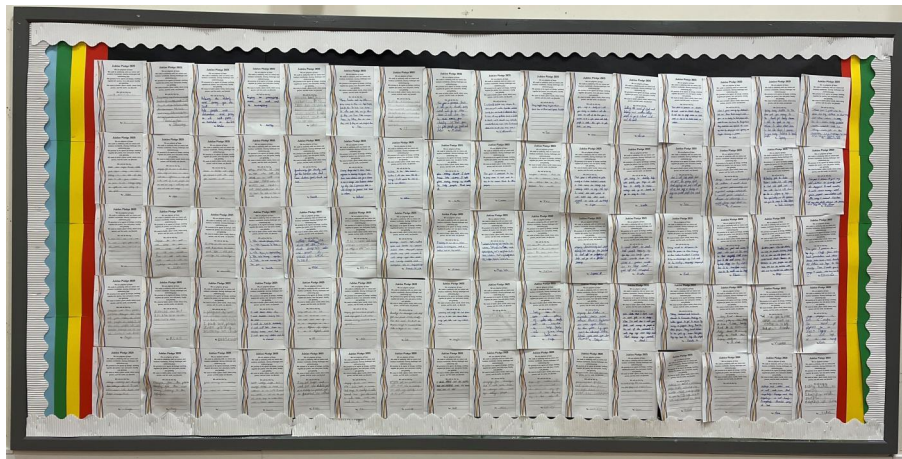
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*This week in our Mission assembly we continued to think about the Year of Hope. We were all asked how we were going to be open to growing our friendship with God. All of the children could recall the three challenges we had been set last week to help with this; to pray, to think of others through our social action and fundraise. We also considered what acts we could do each day in school and at home.*

*During this week the work the children completed during last week's launch has been displayed in our school hall to be a constant reminder of our pledges of hope and support to this special Jubilee year of Hope.*

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## Candlemas - Presentation of our Lord



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*At 9am mass on Sunday 2nd February Father Simon will bless new candles that will be used in classrooms and assemblies during collective worship. One child from each class has been selected to hold the candle at the steps of the altar for Father to bless and then these will be taken back to school.*

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## Whole School Mass

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*This week we will be celebrating a Jubilee Year of Hope Launch mass as a whole school family on **Thursday 6th February at 10am.***

*Year 3 will be leading the school having prepared the readings and bidding prayers. During the mass we will also be commissioning our GIFT Team Leaders from Year 5. All are very welcome to join.*

*A reminder weekend Mass times are:*

**Saturday**

*5pm Vigil Saint Thomas More*

*Sunday*

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

*11am Saint Joseph the Worker*

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## Times Tables Rock Stars MAC Competition



Begins 31.1.25 at 9am. Ends 14.2.25 at 9am. KS2 only.

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*Top of the Rocks returns...!!*

*This is a Holy Cross Catholic MAC competition between schools for Years 3,4,5 and 6. Children can log onto TTRS from 7:30am to 8pm from today 31st January through to 9am on 14th February. They should all have log ins to TTRS but if your child does not have one can you contact admin/ class teacher. Try and have a go 'little and often' to gain as many points as possible. There are prizes for top scoring individuals and classes.*

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## SPORTS NEWS

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### ***Visit from GB Athlete Joel Fearon!***

*We are thrilled to announce that on **Friday, 14th February**, we will be welcoming **GB bobsleigh and sprinting star, Joel Fearon**, to St Thomas More! Joel, a **GB medallist**, will be leading a **sponsored fitness circuit** for all pupils, followed by an inspiring **assembly and Q&A session**. This is a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to meet an elite athlete, hear his story, and be motivated to stay active and pursue their own sporting dreams.*

*Not only will this event encourage a love for fitness, but it will also help us **raise funds for new sports equipment** for our school. Let's get involved and make the most of this incredible experience!*

*Mr Brown our Sport's Coach has visited all classes this week to talk to the children about this event and hand out sponsorship forms ready for your children to start gathering sponsors.*

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Photo: PyeongChang Organizing Committee for the 2018 Olympic (POGOC)

## Welcome back Year 6 from Plas Dol y Moch



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*Year 6 have had an amazing week at Dol-y-Moch on their outdoor adventure residential trip to the stunning mountains of Wales! The children settled in so quickly, and they made such a great first impression on the wonderful staff that greeted us. We had three action-packed days of activities where the children worked on their respect, resilience and responsibility.*

*The children were a real credit to everyone in our St. Thomas More family, with how they behaved and tackled every challenge with effort and enthusiasm, showing great teamwork and perseverance. We are so proud of them, and it was a joy to see each of them grow and experience this once-in-lifetime opportunity! A special thanks to Johnny and his amazing and dedicated team who looked after us so well, keeping us safe, fed, sheltered, challenged and entertained!*

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## Children's Mental Health Week



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Next week 3rd- 9th February is **Children's Mental Health Week**. The theme this year is '**Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**'. The idea is that we shine a spot light on how we can build resilience, grow and develop by understanding who we are and what makes us tick.

For more information [About Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week](#)

We are having a **non- uniform day** at the end of this week on **Friday 7th February** where children are encouraged to celebrate their uniqueness- perhaps dressing up in their favourite dressing up costume/ sport/ colour/ clothes. As a school we will embrace all our individuality in WOW assembly. Children are to bring in £1 in return for a raffle ticket if they want to be part of non-uniform day . A winner will be drawn in WOW assembly- they will receive a mystery prize! All the money raised will be going towards the school fund.

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## Chinese New Year - 4 February 2025



**St Thomas More**  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025

**Sweet & Sour Crispy Chicken**  
With peppers and pineapple  
Served with steamed rice

**Singapore vegetable curry**  
**Noodles**  
with a mini spring roll

**Both meals served with**  
**Peas & sweetcorn**

**Syrup Sponge Cake**  
**Mango with Orange Jelly**  
**Or Fruit**

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Next week (**Tuesday February 4th**), our kitchen caterers are offering a delicious menu on the occasion of celebrating Chinese New Year. If your child **DOES NOT** receive school dinners but you would like them to have one on this day please email [STM-admin@hccmac.co.uk](mailto:STM-admin@hccmac.co.uk) and we will put them on the dinner list. Please be aware that the meal cost £2.30 unless you are FSM or UFSM.

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## CIRV Family Event - 19 February 2025



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*There is a free family event running at the Moat Family Hub (North East) during the school holidays on Wednesday, 19th February. It is aimed at 8 - 18 year olds from across the city.*

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## Narnia Casting Call

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Netflix is looking for two exceptionally talented children, a boy and a girl aged 10-11, to play key roles in an upcoming Narnia film, directed by Oscar-nominated Greta Gerwig (Barbie, Little Women). Casting director Nina Gold (Paddington, Star Wars, The Crown) is seeking young actors of all experience levels. Filming will take place in the UK from June to Christmas 2025. Parents or guardians can submit applications via email, including a short video introduction. For full details, see the official casting call attached.

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## **NARNIA KIDS CASTING CALL**

Nina Gold (PADDINGTON, STAR WARS, THE CROWN, GAME OF THRONES) is looking for two exceptionally talented kids, a boy and a girl, to play important roles in a new NARNIA film that Oscar nominated Greta Gerwig (BARBIE, LITTLE WOMEN, LADY BIRD) has written and will direct.

We want to hear from all interested young actors, regardless of experience.

We are looking for a boy and a girl to play characters that are 10/11 years old.

The film will rehearse and shoot from June – Christmas 2025 in the UK.

Parents and guardians are asked to apply by email to [casting@ninagold.co.uk](mailto:casting@ninagold.co.uk) with name, age, location, height, along with a short piece to camera (on a phone is fine, approx. 30 seconds) about their happiest memory.

**Parents and Guardians must state their relationship to the applicant and that they have their permission to be considered for a role in this production.**

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**Please only use this email address to apply.**  
[casting@ninagold.co.uk](mailto:casting@ninagold.co.uk)

Netflix is committed to inclusive, diverse casting. For every role, please submit qualified performers, without regard to age, sex, ethnicity, disability, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation or gender identity or any other basis prohibited by law unless otherwise specifically indicated.

## Stars of the week



## Junior Police Community Support Officers





Order in court! On Thursday we held a court trial after investigating a 'fake' murder last week. All our Junior PCSOs took on roles of judge, lawyers, suspects and jury. The verdict was that one of the suspects was found guilty as charged and sentenced to life imprisonment.

## Upcoming Parent School Tour

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We warmly invite prospective parents to join our next Parent Tour scheduled on Monday, 11 March at 9am. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore our school, meet our dedicated staff, and see our learning environment in action. The tour will provide insight into our values, curriculum, and the supportive community we offer.

To book your place, please contact the school office on 0247 684 9910 or email [stm-admin@hccmac.co.uk](mailto:stm-admin@hccmac.co.uk).

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## PTFA

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*Congratulations to the PTFA Lotto January winners !!!*

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- *1st Prize - No 1. Danielle Kingham*
  - *2nd Prize - No 42. Terry Farmer*
  - *3rd Prize - No 40. Charlotte Turner*
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***PTFA Meeting – Monday 3rd February 6.30pm to 7.30pm online via MS Teams***

*The next PTFA meeting is to be held on Monday and after several requests we have decided to host this one online via Microsoft Teams in the hope it enables more people to attend and see what we do. The main points for discussion at this meeting will be organising the Spring Disco, World Book Day activities, and future events for the school year – we always welcome new ideas and help from parents 😊.*

*Here is the [meeting link](#) . If you don't already have Microsoft teams on your device you will need to download it, but shouldn't need to sign up to an account. So it may be worth doing this ahead of the meeting time.*

*We look forward to seeing lots of you on Monday evening.*

*Many thanks,*

*STM PTFA*

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## 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 95.14%**

Attendance this week is as follows:

- Year R - 94.67%
- **Year 1 - 97.33%**
- Year 2 - 95.16%
- Year 3 - 93.94%
- Year 4 - 89.14%
- Year 5 - 81.33%
- Year 6 - 86.83%

## Important Dates

### January

- Friday 31 January - PTFA Lotto Monthly Draw

### February

- 3rd-9th February Children's Mental Health Week - Know Yourself, Grow Yourself.
- Monday 3 February - PTFA Meeting - 6.30pm (Online see above for details)
- Thursday 6 February - Boys Football Match - STM vs Holy Family (Home)
- Thursday 6 February - School Mass (led by Y3)
- Friday 7 February - Non Uniform Day Bring a £1.00
- Saturday 8 February - 5pm mass and Y6 Confirmation Rehearsal
- Tuesday 11 February - Netball Match Vs St John Vianney (Home)
- Thursday 13 February - Y6 Confirmation at 7pm (STM Church)
- Friday 14 February - GB Athlete Sponsorship Event
- Friday 14 February - Half Term Break
- **Monday 24 February - Back to school**
- Thursday 27 February - Football match Vs Our Lady (TBC)
- Friday 28 February - PTFA Lotto Monthly Draw (Feb)
- Friday 28 February - School Disco (5 - 9pm)

### March

- Saturday, 8 March - Mass followed by Y3 Reconciliation (Time TBC)
- Thursday 13 March - School Mass (Led by Y6)