



More News 28th February 2025

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



Spring 2- Half Term

I hope you all had a refreshing half term break and were glad to wave your children into school on Monday morning. We have a 7 week half term and hopefully we will see some warmer signs of spring as the daylight increases over the coming weeks.



Ash Wednesday - 'Walk with me' Calendars for Lent

*On **Wednesday 5th March** we will mark the beginning of Lent with **Ash Wednesday**. This will be the first time we have been in school for Ash Wednesday for many years. As a school family we are meeting in the school hall for a whole school collective worship on **Wednesday at 2:30pm** led by Deacon Leo and our Seminarian Luke. Children will be invited to receive a sign of the cross marked in ash on their foreheads. This is optional. **Parents are very welcome to join us for this service.***

During this season of Lent we are encouraged to strengthen our relationship with God. I always view it as my 'spiritual annual service'. During this time we fast, pray and give alms (charitable fundraising and giving). By fasting we are putting God before our own physical needs of greed, through prayer we are opening up the dialogue with God and through alms giving we are thinking of others.

Each family will be receiving a Lent Walk with Me Calendar early next week to help you focus as a family through Lent.



Jubilee Year 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope- Almsgiving



One of the challenges that was set for us all in the year of hope was social action. Making a difference to others in our community and global family.

*A huge thank you as this week, as a school we have collected **60 items** for our MAC foodbank.*

Thanks to our GIFT team leaders who are counting items and giving practical assistance.

*During the next half term across the Holy Cross Catholic Mac schools we are asking that **every child / family** to bring in **one item a week** to donate towards a **MAC food bank (where possible)**. These items will be collected and then redistributed to some of our own families in our own communities who are struggling.*

We are asking for any item from the list below. Please continue to make a difference to our community.

If you are a family who would like to benefit from this social action please can you contact the admin office by email / phone call or speak to a member of staff. We will be as discrete as we can when distributing goods.

Donations we would like for our community shop.
Thank you for helping us to help others

Sterilised milk	Pasta	Toothpaste
Tea	Soup	Shampoo
Coffee	Tins of beans	Deodorant
Sugar	Tins of tomatoes	Soap
Cereal	Jars of pasta sauce	Shower gel
Porridge	Rice	Wet Wipes
Part baked bread	Tins of spaghetti	Nappies
Crackers	Packets of instant potato	<u>Tooth brushes</u>
Jam	Tins of stew	Washing up liquid
Eggs	Jars of <u>pasta sauce</u>	Detergent
Pitta Breads	salt	Surface cleaner
Wraps	pepper	Clothes
Baby food	Tomato ketchup	Toilet roll
Biscuits	Tins of vegetables	Kitchen roll
Rice Pudding	Tins of fruit	
Custard	Brown sauce	
Crisps	Tins of Tuna	
Fruit	Curry sauce	
Potatoes	Tin fruit	
	Tin Vegetables	



School Lent Mass

*Year 2 class mass on 27th February was cancelled due to a funeral at St Joseph the Worker.
Please note there is no class mass next week.*

*As a whole school family we will be marking the beginning of Lent with a whole school mass
on **Thursday 13th March at 10am** led by **Year 6**. All are very welcome to attend.*

A reminder weekend Mass times are:

Saturday

5:00pm - Vigil Saint Thomas More

Sunday

9:00am - Saint Thomas More (includes Little Church)

11:00am - Saint Joseph the Worker

Ash Wednesday Mass Times

9:30am - Saint Joseph the Worker

11:00am - Saint Thomas More



GIFT Team visit to Bishop Ullathorne

On Wednesday 26th February our Chaplaincy GIFT Team leaders visited Bishop Ullathorne. They took part in different activities and focussed on the stations of the cross and thought about ways of how they can help the rest of the school Grow In Faith Together especially during the up and coming season of Lent.

Henry wrote

" Today the GIFT team went to a special meeting and it was very exciting. First, we did some mindfulness colouring linked to the Year of Hope. Then we had a power point presentation

and discussed different things. We acted out 10 stations of the Cross. Finally, we played a game of Splat, before we finished and returned to school."







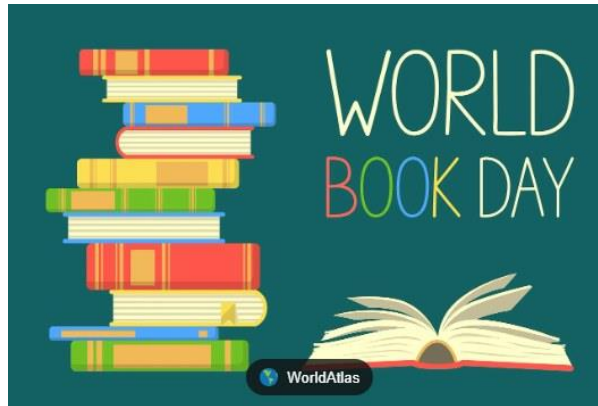


Changes to waste collection

From now on we will be asking children who have a packed lunch to take all waste home. We are establishing a new system across our schools collecting food waste separated from recycling materials and the general waste. As the children struggle at times to separate cutlery from rubbish we would like packed lunch children to take all their waste home in their lunch box. As a parent I think you will then really be able to monitor what your child does and doesn't eat as we have on occasions found whole packs of sandwiches thrown away.

Thank you for supporting in making our school most sustainable.

Reading CAFE - World Book Day



*World Book Day is fast approaching, **Thursday 6th March** and we have some very exciting things planned.*

Children are invited to come into school dressed as their favourite author, character from a book or comfortable clothing that they enjoy reading their books in book in for example their pyjamas.

*Throughout the week we would like to invite parents/carers into our school 'Reading Cafe' where you will be able to read a chosen book from our school library with your child and enjoy a drink and biscuit. Please see Reading Cafe times in the table below starting on **Monday 03 March. Please note changes to the time for Year 4***

*We are very pleased to announce that Kenilworth Books will be providing a pop-up book shop **on Friday 7th March** in the Community Room. Each child will receive a £1 book token on Friday which can be used on any book at the book fair. Come along and explore the pop-up shop and buy a new book. Book sales will reward school with a discount.*

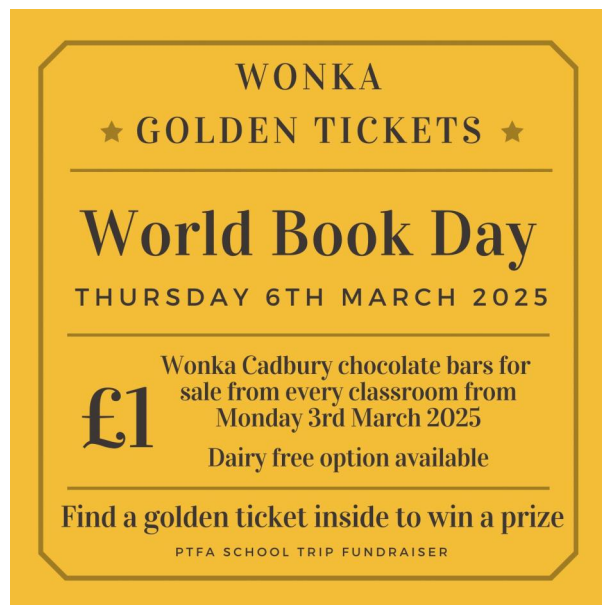
Reading Cafe		
Monday	Nursery/ Reception – 9.05am to 9.35am	
Tuesday	Year 1 9.05am to 9.35am	Year 5 and 6 2:40 to 3:10pm
Wednesday	Year 2 9.05am to 9.35am	
Thursday	Year 3 & Year 4 9.05am to 9.35am	Nursery 2:40 to 3:10pm

Wonka Bars on sale- Golden tickets to win- £1.00 each

Next week, in true Willie Wonka style, chocolate bars with potential golden tickets will be available in class for children to purchase from Monday 3rd March to Thursday 6th March. They cost £1 each. (We do have dairy free bars available too).

The idea is that on Thursday (World Book Day) the children who have paid, will then all open their bars in class and see who have won the golden tickets. They will then come home and eat their chocolate at home!

A huge thank you to the PTFA for all their buying/ wrapping etc.



Times Tables Rock Stars MAC Competition



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

As you are aware we as a school won the inter school MAC TTRS competition. Today at WOW assembly the top 3 children in each class were presented with a certificate.

Our top 20 children in true Top of The Pops style were presented with a puzzle prize and the MAC kindly provided a prize for the top scoring pupil in each class.

6T were our highest scoring class so they will be receiving an extra break at Mr Rooney's convenience.

A huge team effort so a big thank you to all.

STM's Top 20

1. Kuruvilla 107,293

2. Max	58,369
3. Vinayak	58,020
4. Ian	56,827
5. Ignacy	54,855
6. Emmanuel	50,937
7. Timmy	33,755
8. Rishi	29,303
9. Michael	25,728
10. Fife	20,207
11. Joseph D	18,630
12. Jack D	12,123
13. Henry D	10,960
14. Monica	10,212
15. Khaizer	6,140
16. Noora	4,301
17. Abel	4,195
18. Jacob B	4,106
19. Theo	3,978
20. Agastyaa	3,876



SPORTS NEWS

Next week our school will be part of a nationwide celebration, highlighting the importance of inclusivity in sports, showing pupils in your school that girls belong in football.



Stars of the week

Well done to our stars of the week !!!

Reception	Tommy
Class 1	Evie and Parker
Class 2	Marissa
Class 3	Mia D and Ruari
Class 4	Oshae and Max
Class 5	Will be announced next week
Class 6	Charlie, Kalina, Mia R

Upcoming Parent School Tour

We warmly invite prospective parents to join our next Parent Tour scheduled on **Tuesday, 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.

Vacancy- Class Teacher for September 2025



We would like to draw your attention to a vacancy for a temporary Year 2 contract teaching position for September 2025.

If you are interested or know of other suitable people please share this information. We want to recruit the best teacher for our children.

Please see link to access [My New Term](#) where all vacancies for the MAC are advertised.
Please note the closing day is today, Friday 28 February 2025.

PTFA

*School disco this evening **Friday 28th February**. I am hoping to see many of you dancing and enjoying yourselves.*

FRIDAY
28TH
FEB

STM PTFA
PRESENTS:

£3
PER
CHILD

+++
+++

CASH & CARD
PAYMENTS

SCHOOL DISCO!

POCKET MONEY
TREATS

**DROP
OFF**
COMMUNITY
ROOM

WITH A PRE-LOVED
UNIFORM SALE

**PICK
UP**
STUDIO
DOORS

*Featuring
DJ Steve*

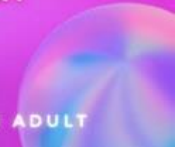
DISCO 1: 17:15-18:15 - NURSERY, RECEPTION + YEAR 1

DISCO 2: 18:30-19:30 - YEARS 2, 3 + 4

DISCO 3: 19:45-20:45 - YEARS 5 + 6

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NURSERY & RECEPTION PARENTS MUST STAY
ALL CHILDREN TO BE SIGNED IN & COLLECTED BY AN ADULT



STM PTFA PRESENTS



THE STM

L O T T O

**FOR FULL DETAILS & TO SIGN UP
SCAN / PRESS THE QR CODE**

£1 month
11 draws a year
Sept-July
Allocated number
No number limit
Must be aged 16+



WINNER
1st prize £50
2nd prize £10
3rd prize £5
Amazon e-Gift Voucher

ANY QUERIES EMAIL
stm-ptfa@hccmac.co.uk

Congratulations to this months winners!!

1st Prize Number 96 - Natasha Hindmarsh

2nd Prize Number 58 - Ann Mills

3rd Prize Number 59 - Ann Mills

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 94.87%

Attendance this week is as follows:

- Year R - 94.83%
- **Year 1 - 97%**
- Year 2 - 96.77%
- Year 3 - 89.7%
- Year 4 - 96.55%
- Year 5 - 96%
- Year 6 - 91.17%

Important Dates

February

- Friday 28 February - PTFA Lotto Monthly Draw (Feb)
- Friday 28 February - School Disco (5 - 9pm)

March

- Wednesday, 5 March - Ash Wednesday Prayer service in school 2:30pm

- Thursday 6th March World Book Day- Come dressed as a character from a book or in pjs
- Saturday, 8 March - Year 3 Reconciliation at 12noon in church.
- Thursday 13 March 10am - Lent School Mass (Led by Y6)

April

- Tuesday, 01 April - Boys Football Away Vs St Augustine's