



More News 7th March 2025

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



Year 3 First Reconciliation

Please keep our Year 3 children in your prayers as they make their First Reconciliation on Saturday 8th March at 12noon. This beautiful sacrament is a gift where we receive time and again the grace of God's loving forgiveness.

May our children feel the warmth of God's infinite love surrounding them, bringing peace, joy, and a renewed spirit as they take this important step in their faith journey.



Lent- Walk with Me Calendars

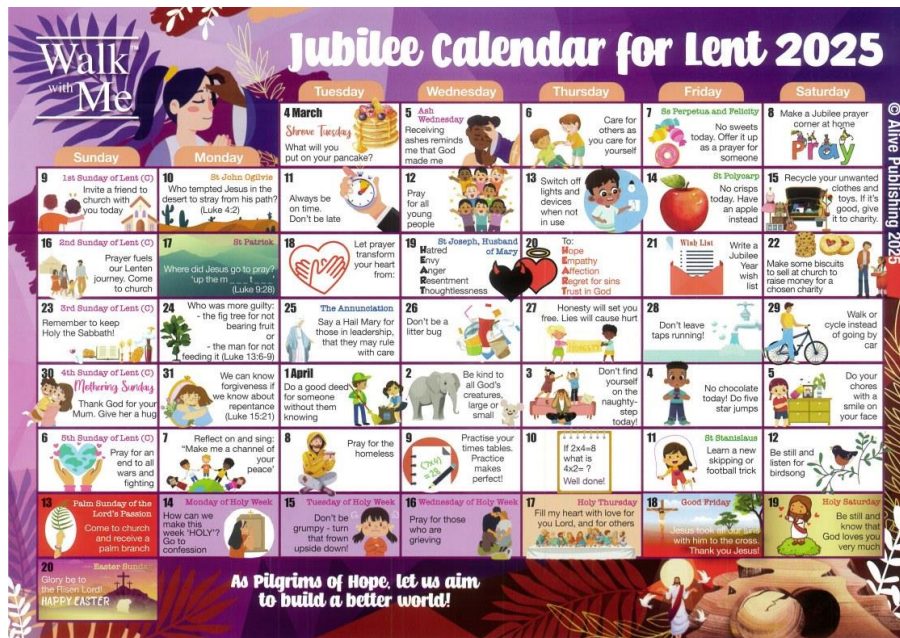


On Ash Wednesday we came together as a school family to mark the beginning of Lent. Deacon Leo and Luke (our Seminarian) came to school and led a collective worship which ended with children, staff and parents receiving ashes. The mark of the sign of the cross on our foreheads unites us as Christians as we travel with Jesus during his 40 days in the desert and allows us time to deepen our relationship with God.

During Lent we consider three aspects:

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- 1. **Prayer** - Deepening and strengthening our personal relationship with God.*
 - 2. **Fasting**- putting God before our own physical need of food, tv, gaming etc so we try and give something up*
 - 3. **Almsgiving**- fundraising or social action such as donating to the food bank*
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Your child should have brought home their **Lent Walk with Me Calendar** - I encourage you to please use this as a family to pray, care and share throughout this Lenten season.



Prayer- Lent Prayer Bags

During Lent, the children have the opportunity to take the class's Lenten prayer bag home. This is a collective worship resource for you to use with your child at home, to grow in faith as a family. There are various resources inside the bag, as well as guidance and suggestions.



*Each day, the Lenten prayer bag is sent home with a different child. We ask that you take a few minutes away from your busy lives to support your child in leading the collective worship. Afterwards, we ask that each child draws or writes a reflection about their collective worship at home in the book provided. **Please ensure your child returns the Lenten prayer bag the next day, so that another family may use it.** Prayer bags will be sent home with the eldest sibling in the school, so that as many families as possible are included.*

If you do take any photos of your child's collective worship, please do send them to the office for Miss Allison's attention. We already have some superstars who have shared photos of their Lenten collective worship with us - take a look!





Almsgiving- Food bank - Pilgrims of Hope



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 **70 items** for our MAC foodbank.*

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

Almsgiving - Charity Roadshow- Money needed.

*The Charity Roadshow is making a comeback and it is bigger and better than before! On **Friday 14th March** we will welcome some pupils from Cardinal Newman and Bishop Ullathorne with games and all sorts of activities for our children to play and win possible prizes.*

*The idea is that our children have to pay to take part in the Charity Roadshow. As you know they will win lots of prizes and sweets so it has been suggested by the secondary schools that children bring a donation of **£2 per pupil to visit the Roadshow.***

*All money collected will be put towards our **Lenten Charity Appeal- Father Hudson's Caritas.***

School Lent Mass

*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



Holy Cross MAC Trip to London

A group of Year 6 children joined other children across the Holy Cross MAC to visit London. They are representing our school wonderfully, and are enjoying a trip on the London Eye, a tour of the Houses of Parliament and a boat cruise along the Thames. They will be back later this evening, after an action-packed today!





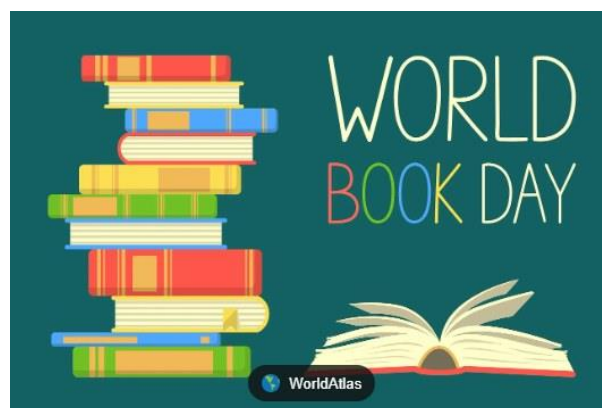


Changes to waste collection

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.

World Book Day



The children at school had an amazing time celebrating World Book Day, filled with excitement and creativity. The day kicked off with fantastic costumes, as students dressed up as their favourite characters, authors and comfy book sharing clothes. There were also thrilling 'footy and booky' themed live quizzes, where teams competed in fun challenges, testing their knowledge of both sports and literature.

Key Stage 2 children were especially lucky to have author Cathy Fitzgerald visit, sharing her inspiring journey of becoming a writer for her series Pinch Perkins. Her talk encouraged the children to chase their dreams and explore the world of storytelling, leaving everyone motivated and eager to dive into their next book.

Children took part in a chocolate bar competition, organised by the PTFA, and some superb prizes were won. It was truly a day of imagination, fun, and learning for all!

Here's a peek of the smiles and fun from the day













Stars of the week



PTFA Update

*A wonderful time was had by all at the PTFA school disco last week! Thanks to your support, the PTFA raised an incredible **£500** to enhance your children's school experience by providing those extra opportunities that the school budget can't always stretch to cover. One key focus over the past few years has been contributing towards school trips, and this year, the PTFA*

has generously given each child **£5 off their most expensive trip** of the year. A huge thank you to the PTFA for their dedication and hard work — your efforts make a real difference!

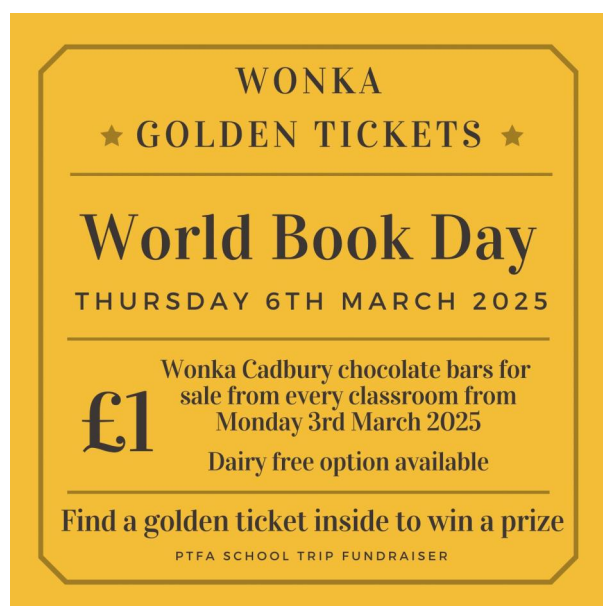
Looking ahead, on **Friday, 14th March**, the PTFA will be setting up a **tuck shop** at the end of the school day, selling treats that are just past their best-before dates at a discounted price.

And who knows? There might even be a few **Wonka bars** left to discover!

Thank you for continuing to support our school community — every contribution counts!



Golden ticket frenzy



Almost all Wonka bars were sold and opened on World Book Day. We look forward to children using their Golden Tickets.

Thank you to the PTFA for all the sourcing and wrapping of the Wonka bars. Next week we should be able to share the amount raised.

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.

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 - 89.66%
- Year 1 - 97.33%
- **Year 2 - 97.74%**
- Year 3 - 93.33%
- Year 4 - 94.82%
- Year 5 - 97.67%
- Year 6 - 92.33%

Important Dates

March

- Saturday, 8 March - Year 3 Reconciliation at 12noon in church.
- Thursday 13 March 10am - Lent School Mass (Led by Y6)
- Friday 14th March 1pm onwards Charity Roadshow- bring £2 per child to take part.
- Friday 14th March after school PTFA Tuck Shop
- Monday 17th March 9am- St Patrick's Day assembly, parents are invited to attend.
- Tuesday 25th March Y1 Mousike Ensemble
- Wednesday 26th March- Class Photos

April

- Tuesday 1st April Rock Steady Concert 2:30pm for parents and carers
- Tuesday 1st April Y5 Mousike Ensemble at Sacred Heart School
- Tuesday, 01 April - Boys Football Away Vs St Augustine's
- Wednesday 2nd April Y4 Mousike Ensemble at Holy Family School
- Friday 4th April- Non-Uniform Day -fundraising for Father Hudson's Caritas Charity. £1 a raffle ticket
- Monday 7th April - Wednesday 9th April Y5 residential to Alton Castle
- Thursday 10th April Y4 leading Stations of the Cross in church at 2:30pm
- Friday 11th April- break up for Easter holiday
- Monday 28th April- return after Easter holiday