



More News 11th April 2025

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



MESSAGE FROM FR SIMON BAKER

As we come to the end of another term, may I wish all our families, together with the children and staff a very happy, peaceful and restful holiday. I know how busy the term has been, but even amidst the hectic schedule there have been many blessed moments where the school motto has been seen, experienced and felt within the school community.

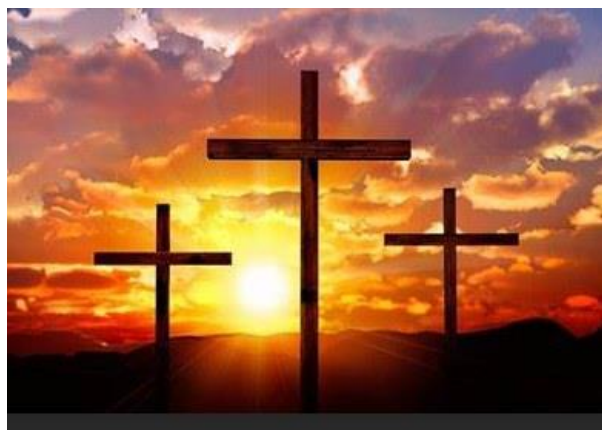
Although you break up for Easter today, there is still another week to go before we celebrate – which means keeping off those things which we have given up for Lent. As always, I extend a warm welcome to you all and encourage you to come along to our Holy Week and Triduum liturgies at St Thomas More. Details of all our services can be found on this newsletter.

On Good Friday at 10.30am we will gather in church for our Children's Stations of the Cross.

Last year, it was wonderful to welcome several families from both school and parish who were able to join in prayer as the children led us in short meditations for the final journey of the Lord.

I look forward to seeing you over the Easter weekend and hope that you can celebrate with friends and family.

When it comes, may I wish you and all your families a very joyful, happy and blessed Easter.

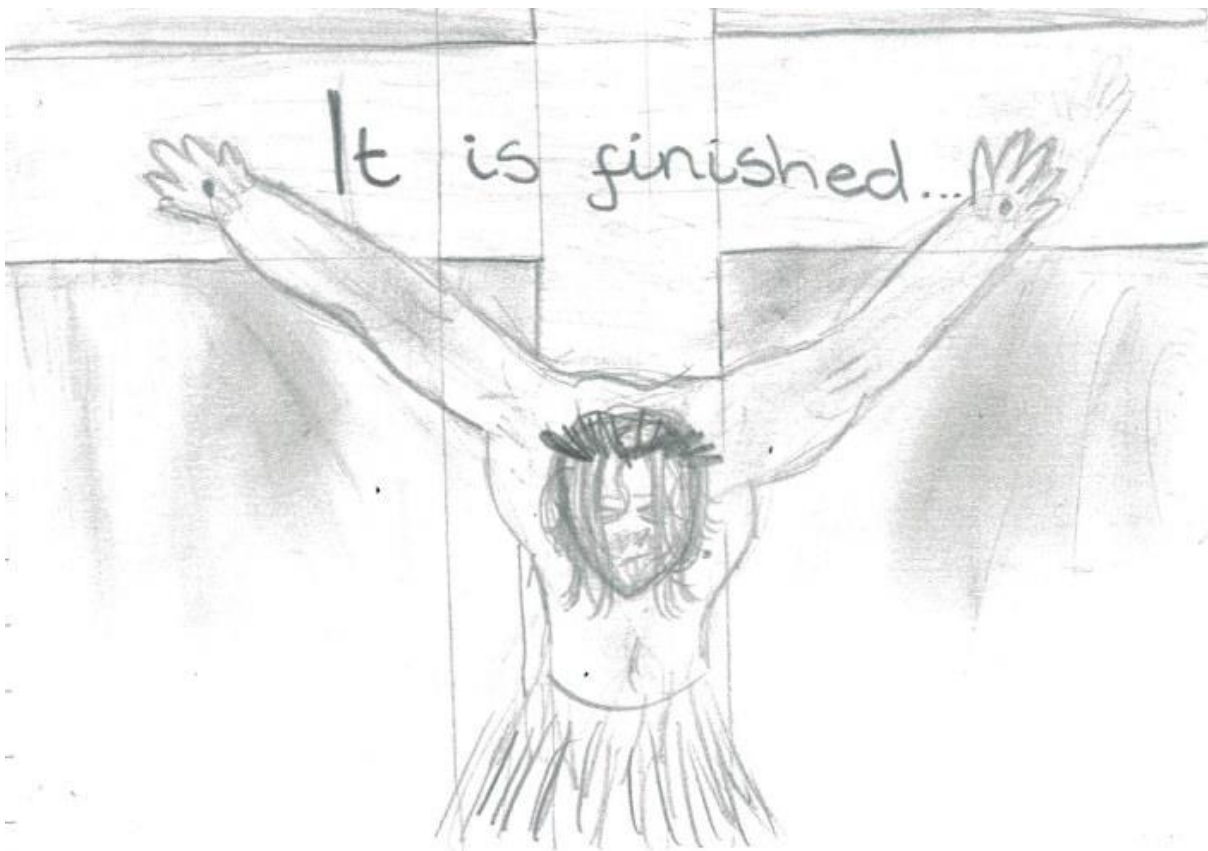


Holy Week

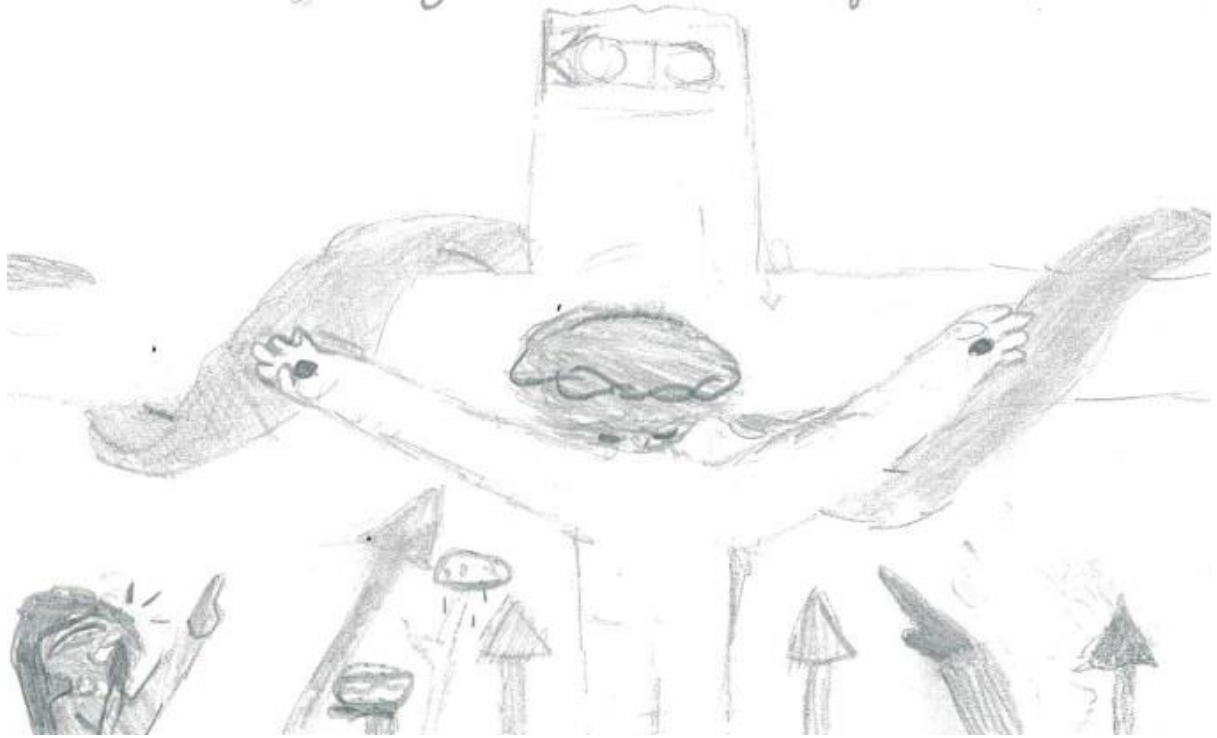


This week in school we have focussed on Holy Week. In Mission Assembly we reflected on how the mood changed from Palm Sunday to Good Friday and the huge sacrifice Jesus made in order to show us how much He loved us. Our mission was to thank Jesus for his sacrifice and tell Him how much we love Him.

All classes have completed work on Holy Week. Year 6 have been learning about the words Jesus spoke from the cross. They have used their learning of Holy Week to create some beautiful and reflective artwork - take a look!



"into your hands I commend my spirit"



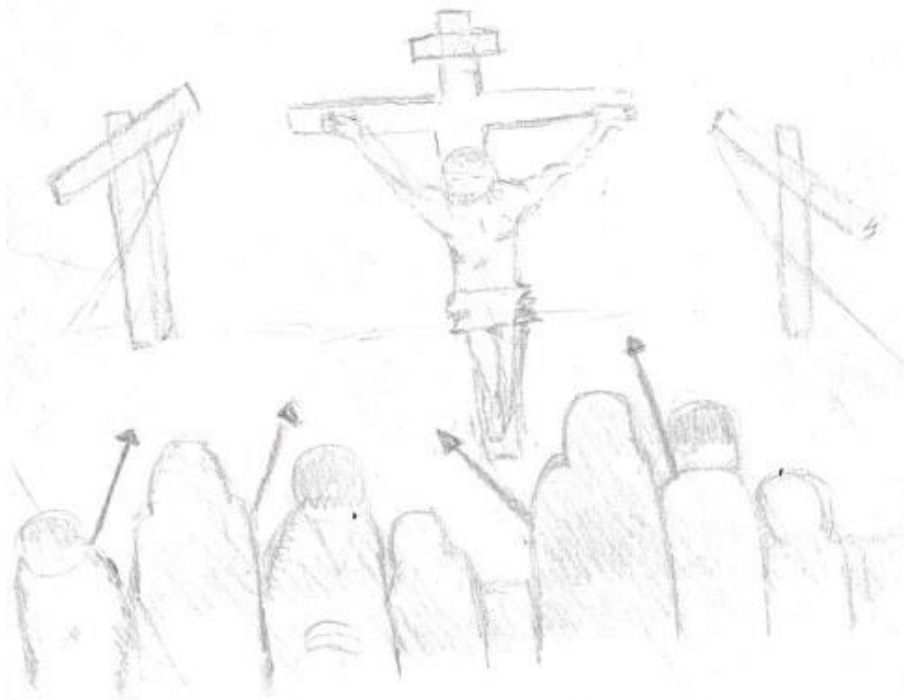
Eli, Eli, Lama
Sabach thoni

X 2 2

INRI

It is finished





"Eli, Eli Lama
Sabachthan?"



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Year 4 led the school and Parish Community in a beautiful reflective sharing of the Lord's Passion through the Stations of the Cross. It gave us all an opportunity to think about Jesus's journey to Calvary and His unconditional love for us all.

Thank you Year 4 and staff- you were all so reverent.







PALM SUNDAY MASS AND PROCESSION



Palm Sunday begins Holy Week; the most important and sacred week of the year. All Masses for Palm Sunday begin with the commemoration of the triumphant entry of Christ into Jerusalem and blessing of palms.

Could we encourage all to join us at the school playground at 8.50 am for procession to begin the 9.00am Mass. We are hoping for a special visitor / visual aid to accompany the procession!

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

St Thomas More and *St Joseph the Worker*



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2025

SATURDAY 12th APRIL		PALM SUNDAY
5.00pm	Procession and Vigil Mass at STM	
SUNDAY 13th APRIL		
9.00am	Procession and Sung Mass at STM	
11.00am	Procession and Sung Mass at SJW	
MONDAY 14th APRIL		
5.00pm	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at STM	
TUESDAY 15th APRIL		
5.00pm	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SJW	
WEDNESDAY 16th APRIL		
5.00pm	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at STM	
7.00 pm	Lent Penitential Service at STM	
THURSDAY 17th APRIL		MAUNDY THURSDAY
7.30 pm	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at STM followed by the Watch at the Altar of Repose	
11.45 pm	Compline at STM	
FRIDAY 18th APRIL		GOOD FRIDAY
10.30 am	Children's Stations of the Cross at STM	
3.00 pm	Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at STM	
7.00 pm	Maria Desolata Devotions at SJW	
SATURDAY 19th APRIL		HOLY SATURDAY
8.30 pm	Vigil and First Mass of Easter at STM	
SUNDAY 20th APRIL		EASTER SUNDAY
9.00 am	Sung Mass of the Day at STM	
11.00 am	Sung Mass of the Day at SJW	



PRAYER - LENT 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 you 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- Loom Band sale and Food bank collection.



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. .

*This week we have had a group of Year 4 girls continue the Loom Band sale to raise money for our Lenten charities. They managed to raise a total of **£71.30** in their after school sale. Well done to the girls.*

*Also a huge thank you as this week conclude the food bank collection. We have in total raised **450 items** for our MAC foodbank.*

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

Your generosity through your almsgiving this Lent has blessed many families in need.

If you would like to continue contributing, we would encourage you to drop off your food donations in the box placed in the entrance porch of Saint Thomas More Church. All donations are taken to the Cheylesmore Foodhub.

RETURN FROM ALTON CASTLE - FULL OF STORIES AND SMILES



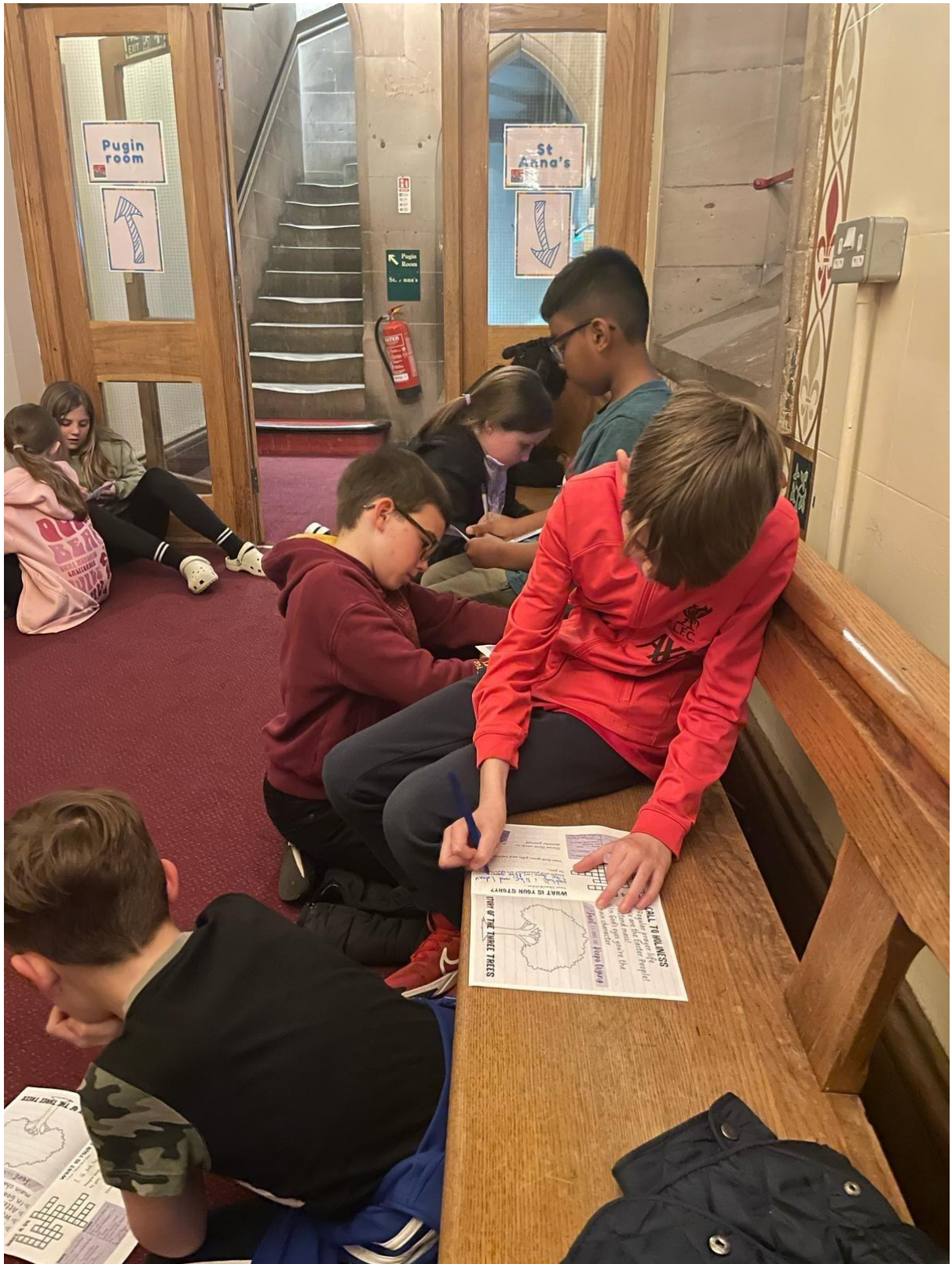
What a beautiful few days Year 5 had on their Holy Week themed retreat in Alton Castle. Perfect weather and a sharing of community spirit amongst the Holy Cross Mac as they attended alongside St John Vianney and St Elizabeth's. The children experienced many activities such as bike riding, low rope, survival and walking whilst marvelling on God's love for each and every one of them. They finished the retreat with a beautiful mass and celebration afterwards.

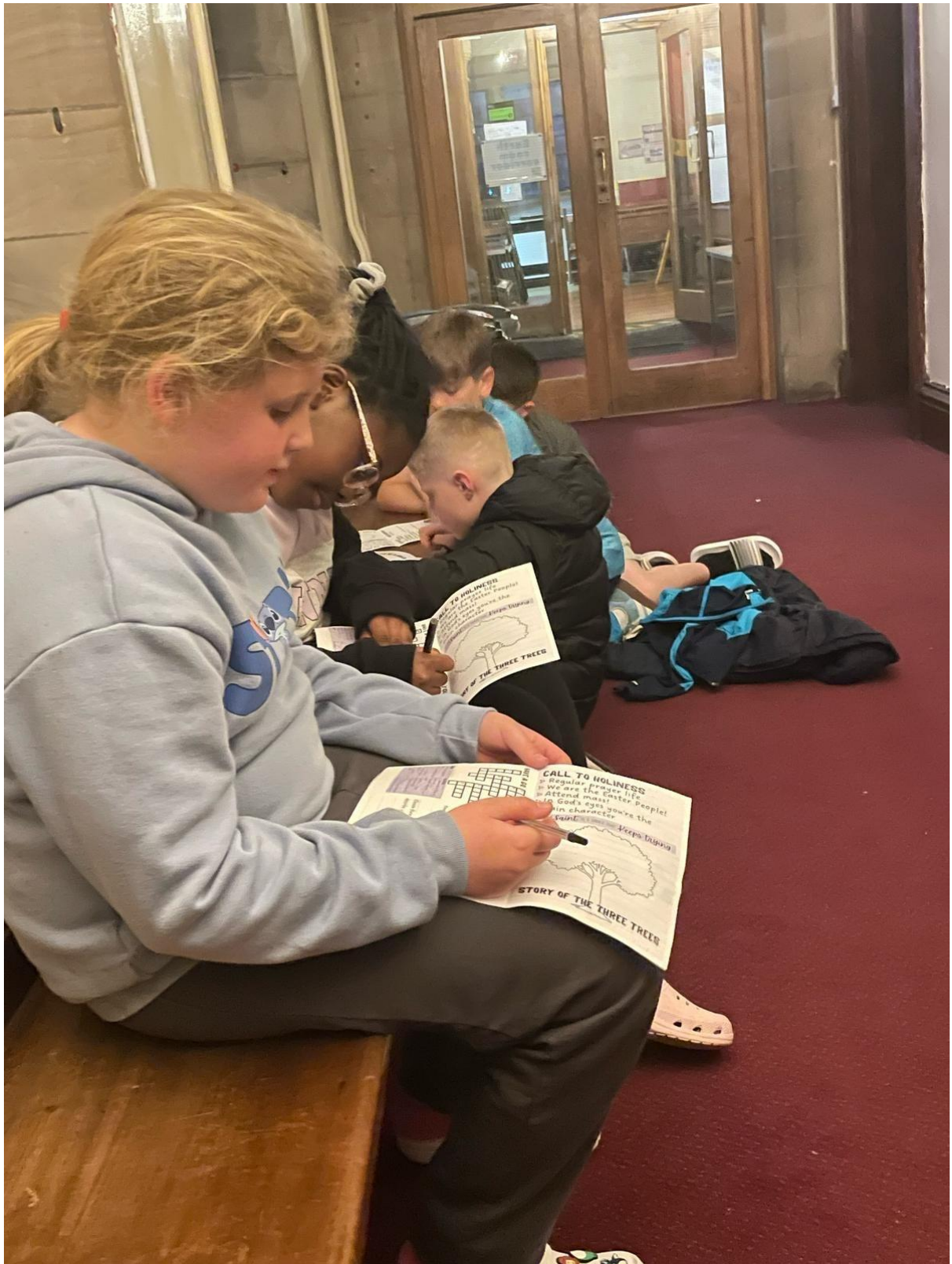


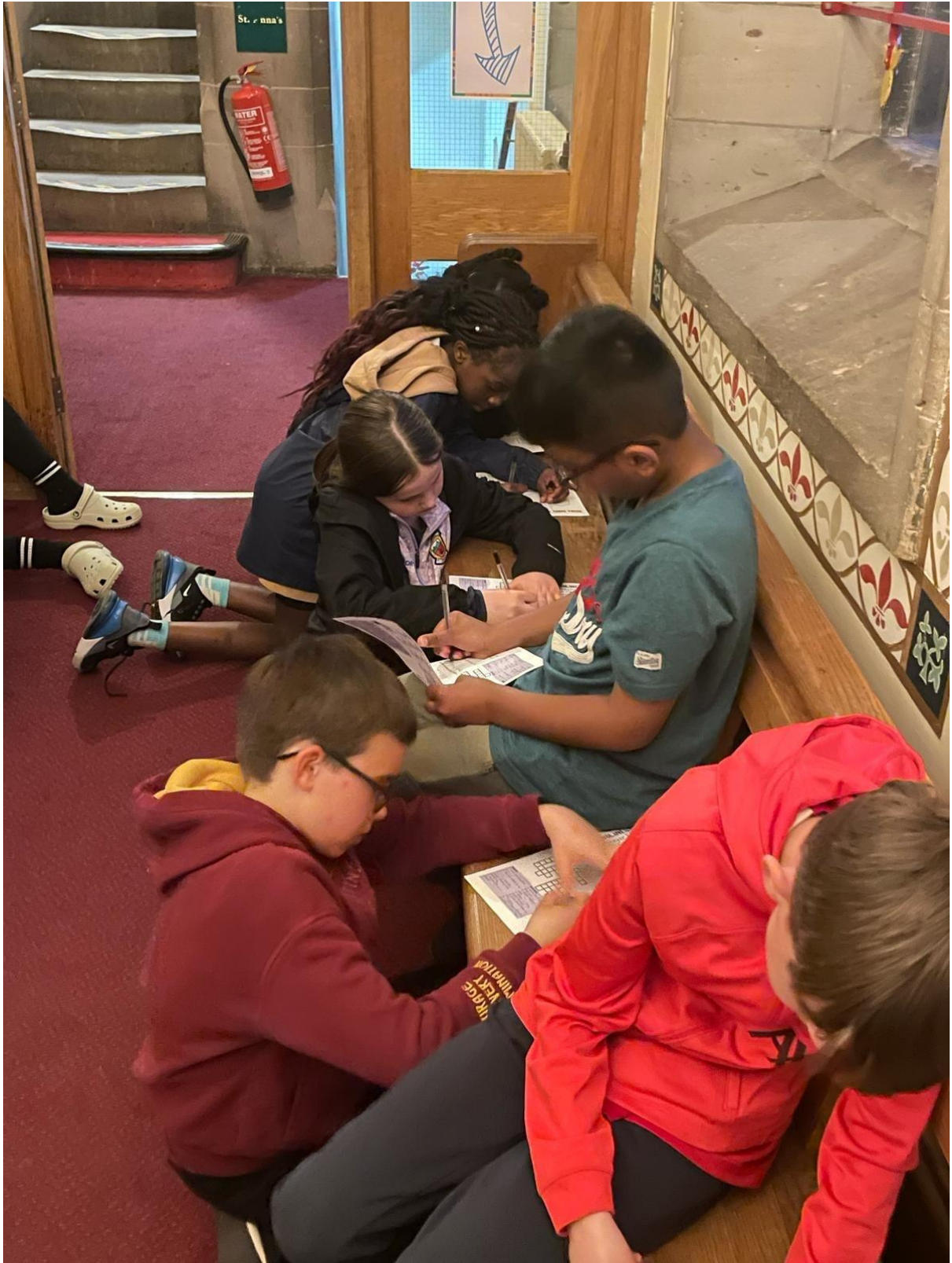


























COVENTRY CHILDREN'S MILE



*St Thomas More are excited to share that we will be taking part in the **Coventry Children's Mile on Sunday 22 June 2025 at the War Memorial Park.***

This event is organised by CV Life, Coventry City Council and School Games. Children of all year groups and abilities are invited to take part in the 1-mile course around the park. The event is highlighting the importance of a healthier and active lifestyle, both at home and at school.

*Children will receive a t-shirt and certificate for taking part. The entrance fee is £10 per child and £5 per parent/carer (Each school will have their own-coloured t-shirt's and both child and parent/carer will receive these following payment). **Only children and adults wearing the Children's Mile t-shirts will be permitted to take part.***

Children who would like to take part are required to have a parent/carer with them who will be responsible to access the route with the child and stay with them until they have completed the event.

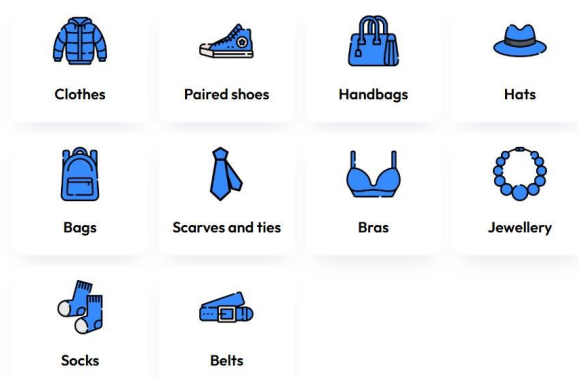
*The event schedule: **Sunday 22 June 2025: War Memorial Park***

- *8.45am: registration point opens- meet your school at the designated point (This will be shared with you once you have completed details/payment)*
 - *9.25am: Warm up begins*
 - *9.30 am: Event finishes.*
-

If you and your child would like to take part in the event, please return the consent form which was sent earlier this week with your child by Thursday, 01 May 2025.

PTFA UPDATE

Below is a list of everything that **we collect**. If in doubt, please call us on 01609 780 222.



BAGS 2 SCHOOL

Given that our last collection was a huge success, and that's all thanks to your amazing generosity - Thank you!

*This is a great opportunity to have a clear-out over the Easter holidays, so feel free to spring clean those wardrobes. **The return date for the filled bags is Thursday, 2 May!!***

For every bag we receive, your child will get two house points.

ST Thomas More Preloved First Holy Communion dresses and suits



Please donate your preloved First Holy Communion dresses, suits, accessories, smart shoes, etc

So they can be worn again by other families in our School and Parish family when celebrating the Sacrament. Please drop off at the School Office or any School disco.

The PTFA will make them available to buy or loan at preloved uniform sales and discos.



First Holy Communion and suits are available for hire or purchase. Please contact the school office via email stm-admin@hccmac.co.uk or telephone 0247 684 9910 for more information.

The April draw date is schedule on Friday 02 May



A vibrant purple and pink poster for 'SCHOOL DISCO!'. The central text 'SCHOOL DISCO!' is in large, bold, white letters with a pink outline. Below it, 'WITH A PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE' and 'Featuring DJ Steve' are written in a cursive font. The poster includes several key details: 'FRIDAY 6TH JUNE' in a white box, 'STM PTFA PRESENTS:' in white, and '£3 PER CHILD' in a white box with '+++ +++' above and below. It also mentions 'CASH & CARD PAYMENTS', 'POCKET MONEY TREATS', 'DROP OFF COMMUNITY ROOM', and 'PICK UP STUDIO DOORS'. At the bottom, it lists 'DISCO 1: 17:15-18:15 - NURSERY, RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2' and 'DISCO 2: 18:30-19:30 - YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6', along with a 'PLEASE NOTE: NO PHONES ALLOWED' sign. The bottom-most text states 'NURSERY & RECEPTION PARENTS MUST STAY' and 'ALL CHILDREN TO BE SIGNED IN & COLLECTED BY AN ADULT'.

University of Warwick - Building Communities Schools Competition

To celebrate Warwick University's 60 Anniversary, the Department of Classics and Ancient History is inviting schools to take part in an exciting competition focussed on ancient buildings and the communities that used them. Winning schools will receive a **Lego Pyramid!** The competition is open until **1st June 2025**, and entries will be judged by **Prof. Michael Scott, Prof. Alison Colley and Dr. Paul Grigsby.**

Competition Details:

Pupils are encouraged to create a piece of work based on the theme 'Building Communities', exploring ancient buildings or spaces and how they were used by communities in the past.

There are three entry categories:

- ***Minecraft*** - Recreate an ancient public space, temple or other public building in Minecraft.
 - ***Creative Design*** - Use drawing, painting, digital design, Lego, or other materials to create a representation of an ancient site.
 - ***Creative Writing*** - Bring the ancient world to life through storytelling, poetry, or drama.
-

Each entry should include a short explanation (about 200 words) describing the chosen building or space and how it was used by ancient communities.

How to enter

For more details on how to take part, please [click here](#).

Entries must be submitted through a registered institution (or parents for home schooled pupils). For teacher, please [register your interest in taking part here](#). Following registration, they will receive additional resources, including PowerPoints and promotional materials.

Coventry Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Google "Coventry HAF" or go to <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/haf>
- Email: haf@coventry.gov.uk
- Eligibility information: [Coventry Holiday Activities and Food Programme – Coventry City Council](#)

Free activities and food this Easter

12 April - 27 April 2025

Coventry City Council

Funded by UK Government

COVENTRY HAF
Holiday Activities & Food

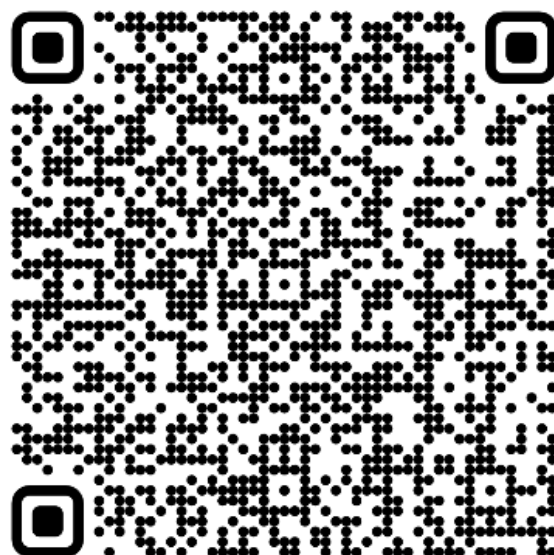
Free activities and food this Easter

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COVENTRY HAF
Holiday Activities & Food





SPORTS NEWS

The summer time After School Clubs will be available to sign up for on Saturday 12 April via Arbor.

Girls Football - St Thomas More 2-2 All Souls

*Well done to the girls football team in their match this afternoon, finishing 2-2 vs. All Souls Primary School. **Emilia** opened the scoring in the match with a well taken goal after skipping past two defenders. All souls equalised just before half time to head into the break at 1-1.*

*All Souls began the second half with real intent however our girls stood strong to win their tackles and defend solidly. The away side did eventually find the back of the net to put them ahead. Shortly after, **Kukua** smashed the ball into the far corner of the goal after an amazing run down the right-hand side which started deep within her own half. A big well done to all the girls as they worked tirelessly in the heat.*



TERM BREAK - ACTIVITY CAMP



EASTER FOOTBALL FUN DAYS

MONDAY 14TH - THURSDAY 17TH APRIL

TUESDAY 22ND - FRIDAY 25TH APRIL

@ ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL,

KNOLL DRIVE, CV3 5DE

9.30AM - 15.00PM

***WRAPAROUND AVAILABLE**



OPEN TO BOYS & GIRLS AGE 5 - 11

**BALL MASTERY, PENALTY SHOOTOUTS, GLOW IN THE
DARK FOOTBALL, MATCHES AND SO MUCH MORE...**

LINK TO BOOK PLACES OR SCAN THE QR CODE:

[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/KMAFADYNXH](https://forms.office.com/R/KMAFADYNXH)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL
INFO@SPORTDEVELOPMENTUKLTD.CO.UK**





**EASTER
MULTI SPORT &
ACTIVITY CAMP**

**MONDAY 14TH - THURSDAY 17TH APRIL
TUESDAY 22ND - FRIDAY 25TH APRIL**

**@ ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL,
KNOLL DRIVE, CV3 5DE
9.30AM - 15.00PM
*WRAPAROUND AVAILABLE**



**OPEN TO BOYS & GIRLS AGE 5 - 11
MULTI SPORTS, NERF WARS, ARTS & CRAFTS,
GLOW IN THE DARK SPORT, AND SO MUCH MORE...**

**LINK TO BOOK PLACES OR SCAN THE QR CODE:
[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/ZTPFCVEVK8](https://forms.office.com/R/ZTPFCVEVK8)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL
INFO@SPORTDEVELOPMENTUKLTD.CO.UK**



PARENT WORKSHOP

If you are a parent who is struggling to support your child in their reading, come along to my parental Reading Skills workshop. I will be unlocking the mystery of phonics, offering strategies to help improve your child's fluency and comprehension.

There will also be the opportunity to ask questions and seek advice on any reading problems that may be causing concern

Spaces will be limited. I am offering 2 repeated sessions in the morning and evening on the 21st and 23rd of April.

To secure your space, book your ticket now. Tickets can be secured by phone or through email. I've included the full details below.

EARLY READING SKILLS

PARENTAL WORKSHOP PROVIDING GUIDANCE ON HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S READING- looking at phonics, fluency and comprehension

OUNDON BASED SESSIONS. VENUE TBC
21ST AND 23RD APRIL 10 AM OR 7PM

TICKETS £25
FURTHER DETAILS:
☎ 07813809213
🌐 maeve@thereadingdoctors.com

The Reading Doctor™
COVENTRY

The poster features a black background with a pink vertical stripe on the right. The title 'EARLY READING SKILLS' is in large white letters. A pink box contains text about the workshop. Below that, session details are listed. At the bottom left, contact information is provided. On the right, a circular logo for 'The Reading Doctor' with a row of colorful books and the word 'COVENTRY' is displayed.

MATHS PROGRAM INFORMATION

Find out more about supporting your child with primary school maths

Join our free 8-week course 'Maths in the Primary School'

This course is for

All parents and carers with children at St Thomas More

What we do

- give you more maths confidence
- explain the maths methods used at St Thomas More
- learn and understand maths words used in school
- give you fun games to take home and play with your children

Where it is

Come to the main school office

When it is

1-3pm every Monday from 12th May 2025

How to join

Fill in the reply slip below and return to the school

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

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



'I felt really comfortable – they made the maths easy to understand. The great games didn't feel like homework at all'



*Assume you have a place unless you hear from us *

I would like a place on the St Thomas More / Family Learning 'Maths in the primary School' course

Your name.....Contact number.....

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

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

SUMMER UNIFORM (April to October half term)

Girls

-
- *Blue/white-check gingham dress/playsuit or Pale blue school polo shirt with crest or generic pale blue polo shirt and grey skirt/pinafore/trousers/shorts.*
 - *Royal blue cardigan or royal blue V neck jumper with school crest.*
 - *Black flat shoes/ dark (blue/brown/black) closed- toe sandals*
 - *White/grey socks*
-
-

Boys

- *Pale blue school polo shirt with crest or generic pale blue polo shirt*
 - *Grey shorts or trousers*
 - *Black shoes/ (blue/brown/black) closed-toe sandals (not trainers or shoes with a sports logo)*
 - *Grey socks*
-
-

WATER BOTTLE REMINDER

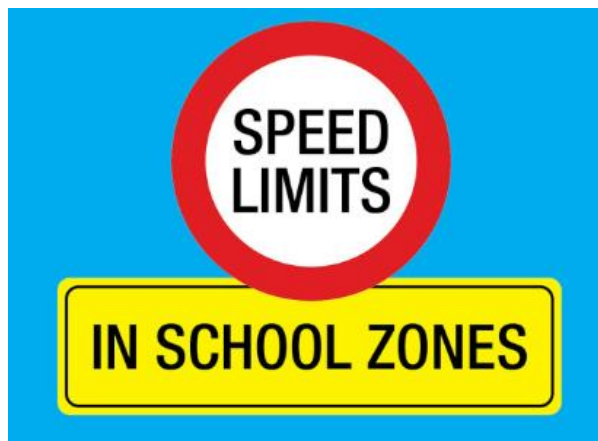
*As the warmer weather approaches, we'd like to remind parents and carers that **all children should bring a refillable water bottle to school each day.** Staying hydrated helps children stay focused, healthy, and happy throughout the school day.*

Please ensure bottles are clearly labelled with your child's name and are taken home daily.



SPEED LIMITS WITHIN CAR PARKS

*We kindly remind all parents and carers that are collecting children from school that the speed limit with the school and church car parks is **5mph**. Please drive slowly and carefully at all times. The safety of our children, families and staff is our top priority and your cooperation helps keep everyone safe.*



PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS

*To help track personal items and reduce lost property, we kindly ask all parents to clearly label **ALL** of their child's belongings - all uniform items, cardigans, jumpers, PE kits, shoes, lunch boxes, water bottles and everything else!*

Named items are much easier to return to their rightful owner.

Thank you for your support!



Taking care of library and reading books

*Please can you encourage your children to respect their **reading and library books**. We have had several damaged by leaking water bottles and several lost. Schools are struggling financially and we all need to take responsibility for items we borrow.*

Thank you for your understanding and support.

UK Car Seat Belt Laws for Children

*Ensuring your child's safety while traveling is not only essential — **it's the law**. Please take a moment to review the current UK regulations for child car seats and seat belts by visiting the official UK Government website: [Child car seats: the law: Using a child car seat or booster seat - GOV.UK](#)*

Key Points:

- *Age & Height Requirements: Children must normally use a child car seat until they're 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first.*
- *Seat Belt Use*

- *Car Seat Types*
- *Front Seat Rules*

Following these guidelines not only ensures compliance with UK law but, most importantly, helps protect children from injury in the event of an accident.

Let's work together to keep our children safe on the road!

MY SCHOOL FUND



The graphic features the My School Fund logo at the top left, with the text 'In association with' and logos for Sainsbury's, Argos, and ESPRIMO below it. To the right is a photograph of children walking in a school hallway. The main body of the graphic is purple and contains the headline 'Boost your budget with My School Fund'. Below this is a paragraph explaining the program's benefits. A diagram shows a 1% reward going to a school/nursery and a 2% reward going to an individual. A QR code is provided for more information, along with the website URL 'myschoolfund.org'.

MY SCHOOL FUND

In association with

Sainsbury's Argos ESPRIMO

Boost your budget with My School Fund

Thousands of schools and nurseries are boosting their budget through My School Fund. By activating your free account, families and staff connected to your school or nursery can earn cashback on your behalf, as well as pocketing some for themselves when they spend with participating retailers including Sainsbury's and Argos.

1% School/nursery

2% Individual

With My School Fund, both the school/nursery and the individual benefit! When an individual shops in participating stores, they receive 2% back on their spend and 1% of their spend goes straight to their chosen school or nursery in the form of eGift rewards! Add that up against your network of families and you can soon make a big difference!

Scan me to Find out more!

myschoolfund.org

Getting started is simple:

1. Visit myschoolfund.org to register your school/nursery for free*.
2. Use the free promotional materials provided to advertise your involvement in the scheme and encourage Families, staff and your wider community to sign up and link to your school/nursery.
3. Start receiving cashback in the form of eGift rewards from their collective spend.
4. Spend your eGift rewards with participating retailers including Sainsbury's or Argos.
5. Keep advertising the scheme to get more people involved.

“ It’s a win-win situation. I get a gift card every month and the school also benefits from the funding ”

Happy My School Fund User

“ If you’re not yet signed up, you definitely should. It is a great scheme to raise money for the school and the parents/staff, with very little effort involved ”

St Luke's CE Primary School

myschoolfund.org

*To register your school/nursery, you'll need a unique reference number from ESPO. Request this from communications@espo.org

VACANCY



The headteacher advert is now live on My New Term. Please see link below for those wishing to apply.

UPCOMING PARENT SCHOOL TOUR

We warmly invite prospective parents to join our next Parent Tour scheduled on **Wednesday, 30th April 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 94.97%

Attendance this week is as follows:

- Year R - 95.67%
- **Year 1 - 98.33%**
- Year 2 - 94.84%
- Year 3 - 91.82%
- Year 4 - 97.93%
- Year 5 - 91.67%
- Year 6 - 88.98%

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

- **Friday 11th April- break up for Easter holiday**
- **Monday 28th April- return after Easter holiday**
- Monday 28th April - Stay and Play session for Rising 3's (3:45 - 4:15)
- **Tuesday 29th April 3:30-6pm Parent Consultations**
- Wednesday 30th 9-9:30am Parent Tour

MAY

- **Thursday 1st May 3:30-5:30pm Parent Consultations**
- Friday 2nd May- Bags To School- Hand in to school office First Day
- **Monday, 5th May - Bank Holiday**
- Thursday 8th May- Whole School Easter Mass 10am
- Thursday 8th May- Bags to school- Last Day- Collected from school
- Monday 12th May- Friday 16th May Y6 SATs Week
- Monday 12th May PTFA Meeting
- Friday 16th May 3:20pm -PTFA Tuck Shop Sale
- Sunday 18th May 9am First Holy Communion
- Thursday 22nd May May Procession following 10am Mass
- Friday 23rd May- Non-Uniform Day- fundraising for Feast Day Celebration
- Monday 26th to Friday 30th - HALF TERM BREAK

JUNE

- Friday 6th June PTFA Disco
- Friday 13th June Non-uniform day- bring in bottles for Summer Fayre
- Friday 13th June 3:20pm PTFA Tuck Shop Sale
- Friday 20th June 3:30-5:30pm Summer Fayre