



MORE NEWS 6TH MARCH 2026



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Mission: Second Week of Lent

This week, the children reflected on Jesus' transfiguration, when he revealed His divine glory to His disciples. God affirms that Jesus is His Son and strengthens the disciples hope. The children reflected on when they feel God's hope, especially during this season of Lent.

<p>Listen, shine and share God's hope.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose one way to quietly listen to Jesus each day.• Be a light and shine encouragement, hope, and kindness.• Tell one person, "God loves you - and I'm here for you."	
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Lent- Growing Closer to God

Come and Pray in Lent

This week we had our Come and Pray Sessions for years 4 and 5. We had some lovely parent feedback, sharing how calm and inclusive the sessions were and how wonderful it was to share this time with their children. It is wonderful to share our class liturgies with you.

*Next week we have **Come and Pray Sessions for Nursery and Year 3 at 9am** in their classroom on **Tuesday**. A beautiful opportunity to share with your child/grandchild.*



Whole School Mass - Lent

Thank you to Year 4, who supported the school this week in reading scripture and prayers at our Lenten Whole School Mass. During Father Simon's Homily, he asked the children to 'ask, seek and knock' during this special season. As a way of growing closer to God, Father Simon set our Catholic children the challenge to ask their parents and carers to take them to Mass, to seek Jesus out by finding our church, and finally, to knock on the door to find Jesus present in the Mass.

Lent Bags

During Lent, the children will have the opportunity to take the class's Lenten prayer bag home. This is a prayer 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 prayers. Afterwards, we ask that each child draws or writes a reflection about their prayer time 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.***

Some families may not feel it is appropriate to use the Lenten bag, such as those observing Ramadan. You may wish to explore the bag with your child to learn about Catholicism, and your child may wish to share how they worship in their faith with the class instead. Please do speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions.

If you do take any photos of your child's prayer time, please do send them to the office for Miss Allison's attention.

First Reconciliation

Please keep members of our Year 3 family who are making their reconciliation on Saturday, 7 March in your prayers. They have prepared well and ready to receive this special sacrament for the first time.

LENTEN CHARITY

CAFOD Family Fast Day

*A BIG thank you to our school community in fundraising for CAFOD's Family Fast Day. We have raised a grant total of **£482.60**.*

Wheelbarrow of Hope

As part of our focus on fasting, our GIFT team have designed the initiative of the Wheelbarrow of Hope. Every morning, the GIFT team will be waiting by the Watercall Avenue gate, to collect items for the foodbank. These items will be donated to Cheylesmore Community Foodbank. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Colouring Competition!

*Our GIFT team are running a colouring competition to fundraise for Father Hudson's Caritas. The children are invited to design an egg, focusing on Jesus' resurrection. **Entry forms are available from the office for £1**. The winning entry will receive an Easter egg and will be published as the school's Easter card.*

Deadline for entries: Monday 16th March.

Parish News



On Thursday, 12 March, Year 04 will be celebrating class mass at the side chapel. All are welcome.

In addition to the usual mass times during Lent we have several extra things happening in our Parish. Try and take advantage of them and fully enter into the season of Lent by dedicating more time to God and growing in faith.

- *Every Tuesday- 6:45am Mass STM*

 - *Every Wednesday 11am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross STM*
 - *Every Friday 6:30pm Stations of the Cross STM*
 - *Monday 30th March 7pm 'The Passion' Film STM*
 - *Tuesday 31st March 7pm Penitential Service STM*
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A reminder that Mass times are:

Saturday

5pm - Saint Thomas More (Vigil Mass)

Sunday

9am - Saint Thomas More (includes Little Church)

11am - Saint Joseph the Worker

Sustainability Team

On Tuesday afternoon, Eliza, Aine and Henry, three of our Sustainability Heroes, proudly represented our school at Cardinal Newman Catholic School for a whole MAC meeting. They confidently shared our school's sustainability successes and worked collaboratively with other schools to make plans for next term.

The children took part in quizzes and thoughtful discussions, particularly around upcoming Water Week activities (week beginning 16th March). Eliza, Aine and Henry did a wonderful job representing our school and returned with a refreshed understanding of sustainability issues and plenty of new ideas to help us continue making a positive difference.

We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm, maturity and commitment to protecting our planet! 🌍

World Book Day - Thursday 5 March

Our school has had a fantastic time celebrating reading together! We were delighted to welcome author Aaron Ashmore, who visited the whole school to share his stories and inspire our young readers. Children who ordered copies of his books were excited to receive them signed. As part of our celebrations for World Book Day, every child received a book token to choose a new book to enjoy. Classes also joined live World Book Day lessons happening across the country, shared their favourite books and authors with one another, and took part in buddy reading with children from different year groups. The day was made even more special by the wonderful costumes, with pupils and staff bringing their favourite characters to life and celebrating the joy of reading together. 📖👉







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9x5=45

Calculator
Yellow bin
Desk









Year of Reading

The children are working so hard on Year of Reading challenge with lots of children completing the 10 book challenge. This week Theo was the first to complete the 30 book challenge and is now working towards the 50 book challenge! Well done Theo!

Year 6 Adventure at DYM

*We wish our **Year 6 pupils** a wonderful time as they set off for their residential trip to **DYM** next week. This is always a wonderful opportunity for the children to develop independence,*

build friendships and take part in new and exciting experiences. We hope they have a memorable week filled with fun, learning and adventure.

Safe travels to everyone, and we look forward to hearing all about their experiences when they return.

Important Notices

SHOULD I KEEP MY CHILD OFF SCHOOL

Please see below NHS guidance

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Upcoming Parent Tour

We warmly invite prospective parents to join our next Parent Tour scheduled on **Wednesday, 18 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.

SPORTS NEWS

GYMNASTICS

Well done to our fantastic Year 3 gymnasts! They showed great confidence and effort while performing their vault and floor routines. We are so proud of the determination and teamwork everyone demonstrated.



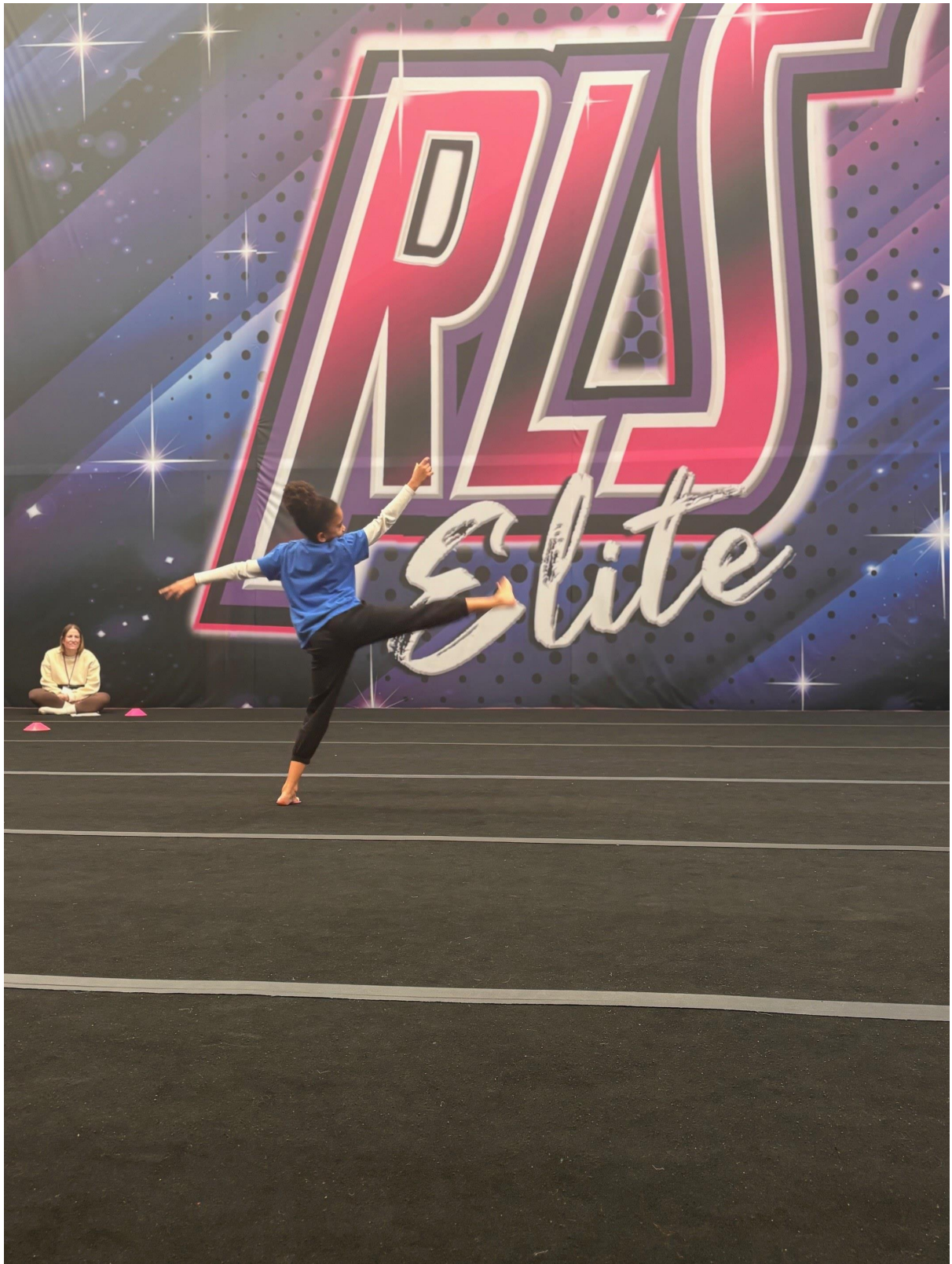






















STM Team Kit Sponsorship Appeal

*We are looking for sponsorship of our Girls Football Team kits. Our current kits have been used for about 5 years and are in need of a refresh. **Do you own a business or work for someone who would be willing to partly or completely sponsor a new kit?** If yes, please contact the school office.*



Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

BAG 2 SCHOOL IS BACK

*Thank you so much for all the bags to school. We have collected a total of **£80.70**.*

UPCOMING PTFA EVENTS



If you haven't signed up to the PTFA lottery please use the QR code to follow the steps to sign up. You have the chance to win the first prize of £50!!

FOR FULL DETAILS & TO SIGN UP SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO: <https://forms.gle/Huw9CGvrtqzq5k47>
ANY QUERIES PLEASE EMAIL: stm-ptfa@hccmec.co.uk

	<p>£1 month 11 draws a year Sept-July Allocated number No number limit Must be aged 16+</p>		<p>WINNER 1st prize £50 2nd prize £10 3rd prize £5 Amazon e-Gift Voucher</p>
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HAF Spring Holiday

*Bookings are now live for the **HAF Spring Holiday Programme**, offering a fantastic range of **free, bookable activities** for children and young people across Coventry. Activities include sports, creative workshops, STEM sessions, coding, dance, forest school, swimming, trampolining, ice-skating, and much more — there is something to suit every interest.*

For eligible children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), additional experiences are available at venues including Ash End Farm, British Motor Museum, Perkisound, Red

Kangaroo, Spencer's Retreat, Twycross Zoo, Coventry Transport Museum and Coventry Outdoors.

Families can find full details and book directly via the HAF programme website. For further information, please contact HAFprogramme@coventry.gov.uk

A promotional poster for Coventry HAF 2026. The top section features a child swimming underwater with the text 'Coventry HAF Holiday Activities and Food Programme 2026'. Below this, a yellow banner states '28 March - 12 April 2026'. The middle section has a blue background with the text 'Be inspired and try some free activities this school holiday' and lists activities like archery, coding, and cooking. A 'Book now' section includes a QR code and the note 'No HAF code required'. The bottom section shows a girl smiling and a group of children at a table, with contact information: 'For more information visit coventry.gov.uk/haf or email hafprogramme@coventry.gov.uk'. Logos for Coventry City Council, UK Government, and child friendly CVV are at the bottom.

ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

Congratulations to many of you as your child's attendance is improving. We do appreciate all your support and encouragement to get your children into school. This is typically the time of year that our children pick up bugs as they tire towards the end of term. So if your child is genuinely too poorly to be in school, please keep them at home. However, if in doubt send them in and we will always call you if we need to.

We aim to achieve 95% or more each year. 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 95.38%

Attendance this week is as follows:

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- *Year Reception - 96.6%*
 - *Year 1 - 90.67%*
 - *Year 2 - 97%*
 - *Year 3 - 96.88%*
 - *Year 4 - 96.56%*
 - *Year 5 - 96.17%*
 - *Year 6 - 94.67%*
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IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 2026

- ***Saturday 7th March - First Reconciliation***
- *Monday 9th - Friday 13th March - Plas Dol-y-Moch Y6.*
- *Tuesday 10th March - Come and Pray in Lent (Year Nursery) at 8.45 am*
- *Thursday 12th March - Come and Pray in Lent (Year 3) at 9.00 am*
- *Thursday 12th March - Year 4 Class Mass*

- *Thursday 19th March - Year 3 Mass*
 - *Tuesday 24th March - Come and pray in Lent (Years R & 6)*
 - *Thursday 26th March - Stations of the Cross*
 - *TERM BREAK (30 Mar to 10 Apr)*
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MAY

- *Mon 04 May - Bank Holiday*
 - *Mon 25 to Fri 29 - Half Term Break*
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JULY

- *Fri 03 July- INSET DAY (School closed for students)*
 - *Mon 20 Jul - INSET DAY (School closed for students)*
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