



MORE NEWS 13TH MARCH 2026



# SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Mission: Third Week of Lent

---

*This week, the children heard the reading when Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well. She is lonely. Jesus knew the woman completely; her worries, her mistakes, her hopes and he loves her. Jesus knows each one of us completely and loves us too. Jesus promises the woman "living water". Water keeps our bodies alive but Jesus' living water keeps our hearts and spirits alive. His living water fills us with love, hope and joy from God.*

*Our mission was to be a well of kindness and reach out to someone lonely or unnoticed.*

---

<p><i>Mission Be a well of kindness</i></p> <p><i>"To be like Jesus at the well and reach out to someone who might feel left out or unnoticed."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Play with someone new at playtime.</li><li>• Say hello to someone who looks lonely.</li><li>• Include someone in a game or conversation.</li></ul>	
--	---

## Lent- Growing Closer to God

---

### *Come and Pray in Lent*

*This week we had our Come and Pray Sessions for Nursery and Year 3. 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.*

*We have **Come and Pray Sessions for Year 6 and Reception** in their classroom on **Tuesday 24 March**. 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**

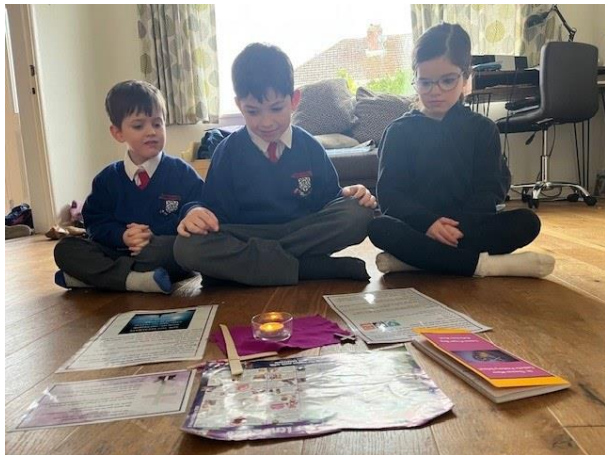
*During Lent, the children will have the opportunity to take the class's Lenten prayer bag home. This is a prayer resource for you to use with your child at home, to grow in faith as a family. There are various resources inside the bag, as well as guidance and suggestions.*

*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 you 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



---

*All our Catholic children in Year 3 and one in Year 5 made their First Reconciliation on Saturday 7th March. The children beamed as they received the special grace from God, saying their penance and lighting a candle at the statue of Our Lady.*

*The sacrament of reconciliation allows us to examine our conscience, say sorry for our poor choice and be completely reunited/ reconciled to God who will give us His grace to grow closer and closer to Him on our journey of faith.*

---

## **LENTEN CHARITY**

---

### ***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.***

### ***Charity Roadshow***

***On Thursday 19th March, Cardinal Newman will be visiting the school with their Charity Roadshow.*** This is a wonderful occasion for children to raise money for Father Hudson's Caritas and join in with lots of games and activities - plus win some prizes! ***We ask that all children bring a donation of £2.***

---

## Parish News



---

*On Thursday, 19th March, **the Feast of Saint Joseph, Year 3** 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*
- 

*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*

---

## **Staffing Update**

---

### **Deputy Head Appointment**

*Following a rigorous process we are delighted to announce that Mrs Esther Towers will be our new Deputy Headteacher from September 2026. She has a wealth of experience to share with us. She is really excited about joining our school community and know we will all make her feel very at home.*

### **SENDCo**

*Mrs Sarah Webster has successfully been appointed as permanent Assistant Headteacher at All Saints C of E school in Wigston starting in May. She will be using her talents to run the Resource Provision in the school. We are delighted for her, as she will be much nearer to where she lives but sad to see her leave our STM family. We know how much she has done as our SENDCo reassuring so many of our families on their journey. We will be advertising for A SENDCo role asap. Mrs Webster will be working with us to ensure a thorough hand over during the summer term.*

---

## **Saint Patrick's Day 17th March**

---

*Children of Irish heritage are invited to come in to school accessorising their uniform with emerald green, white, gold to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day.*

*We will start the day with an assembly welcoming **Inspire Dance** to share their Irish Dancing with us before they head off to Saint Patrick's primary to dance there too.*

---

## Year 6 Adventure at DYM

---

*Year 6 have had a marvellous week at Plas Dol y Moch in Snowdonia, Wales- a rite of passage for our Year 6 friends. They have faced many challenges with positivity, enthusiasm and determination. They have demonstrated the 3 Rs at DYM; Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. From mountain climbing to kayaking, mining to orienteering, night line to labyrinth, coastal walking exploring erosion to eating ice creams. We have enjoyed sun and gusty winds- nothing has deterred them from rising to the challenge. We are so proud of you and have really enjoyed getting to know you all better.*

---





























## Sustainability Team

---

*Next week, our school will be celebrating **Water Week**, where the children will be learning about the importance of water and exploring ways we can all help to save it in our daily lives.*

*As part of this, our **Sustainability Team** has organised a small fundraiser in support for CAFOD. To take part, children are invited to come to school wearing **something blue** for a **non-uniform day** on **Friday 20 March** and bring a **£1 donation**.*

*All funds raised will go towards supporting communities around the world who struggle to access clean water through CAFOD.*

*Thank you for your continued generosity and support.*

---

**Wear Blue on Friday  
20<sup>th</sup> March for Water Week!**

**NON-UNIFORM**

**£1 Donation for CAFOD**



**Dress in BLUE to support clean water for all!**

## 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](mailto:stm-admin@hccmac.co.uk)

## SPORTS NEWS

---

### *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.*

---



---

### *EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP*

*Please see poster below for details. To register your child, either scan the QR code or use [this link](#).*

---



**MULTI SPORTS & ACTIVITY FUN DAYS**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**  
**Week 1 - 31<sup>st</sup> March - 2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
**Week 2 - 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> April**

Year 1 - 6    09:30-15:00

**\*\*Wraparound available 08:45-15:30\*\***

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School,  
Knoll Drive, Coventry, CV3 5DE

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/Xca55QU2iE>



**BOOK NOW**

 [admin@sportdevelopmentukltd.co.uk](mailto:admin@sportdevelopmentukltd.co.uk)



## Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

---

*UPCOMING PTFA EVENTS*

---



---

***February Lotto Draw Winners***

*1st prize - No. 63 - Deborah King*

*2nd prize - No. 52 - Ricardo Szabo*

*3rd prize - No. 89 - Rosalind Howarth*

***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/Huw9CGrtiqzdg5k47>  
ANY QUERIES PLEASE EMAIL: [slm-ptfa@hccmc.co.uk](mailto:slm-ptfa@hccmc.co.uk)



**THE SIM**  
**LOTTO**

£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

## 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](mailto:HAFprogramme@coventry.gov.uk)*

---



## 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 95.25%***

*Attendance this week is as follows:*

---

- 
- *Year Reception - 85%*
  - *Year 1 - 98.33%*
  - *Year 2 - 95.67%*
  - *Year 3 - 97.19%*
  - *Year 4 - 92.19%*
  - *Year 5 - 95.67%*
  - *Year 6 - 95%*
- 

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

---

### **MARCH 2026**

---

- *Wednesday 18th March - Open Day at 9am*
  - *Thursday 19th March - Year 3 Mass*
  - ***Friday 20th March - Non-uniform day (Water Week) £1 donation to CAFOD***
  - *Tuesday 24th March - Come and pray in Lent (Years R & 6)*
  - *Wednesday 25th March - Class Photographs - Full winter uniform*
  - *Thursday 26th March - Stations of the Cross*
  - ***TERM BREAK (30 Mar to 10 Apr)***
- 

### **APRIL**

---

- 
- *Year 5 Residential Retreat to Alton Castle Mon 13th - Wed 15th April*
  - *Tues 14th April Parent Consultations 3:40-5:40pm (Y5 will be rearranged as staff on Residential)*
    - *Thurs 16th April Parent Consultations 3:40-5:40pm*
  - *Thurs 23rd April Whole School Easter Mass and celebration of St George's Day*
- 

---

### **MAY**

---

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

---

### **JULY**

---

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