



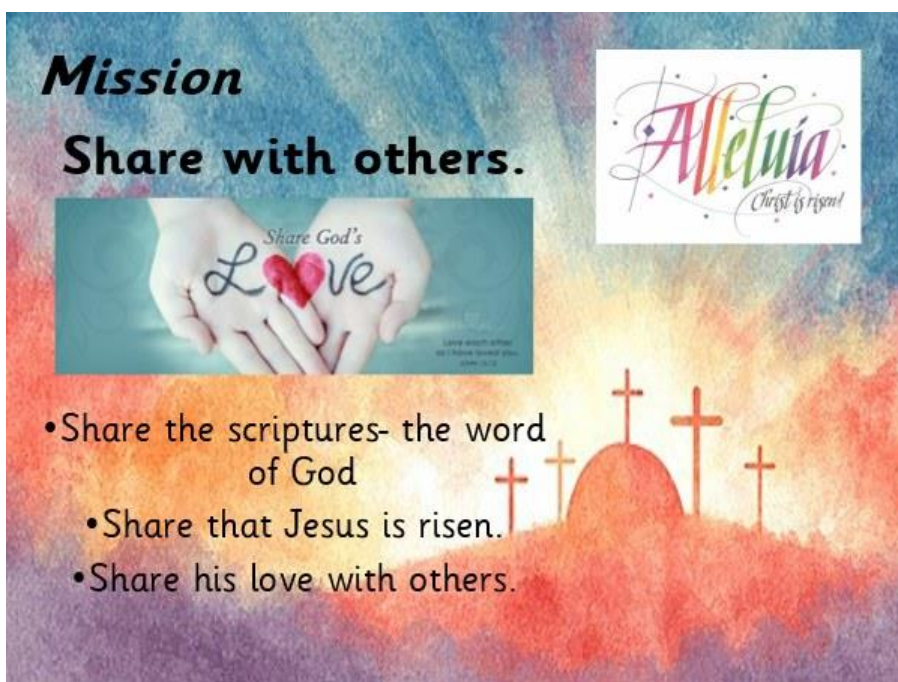
MORE NEWS 24th April 2026



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The Road to Emmaus

In our Gospel reading from Sunday we had the story of the two disciples walking to Emmaus. They were joined by a stranger who was in fact Jesus but they did not recognise him. Jesus explained the scriptures to them and then said with them and it was when he took the bread, blessed it, broke it and shared it with them that they suddenly realised it was Jesus. We reflected on how Jesus came to share the meaning of the scriptures with us and to share how we should live but then shared his one body and blood with us through Holy Communion. The children were given the mission to share Jesus' love with others in the way Jesus shared his love with others. We can share scripture together, share the news that Jesus is risen be kind and caring to others.



Mission
Share with others.

Share God's
Love

Alleluia
Christ is risen!

- Share the scriptures- the word of God
- Share that Jesus is risen.
- Share his love with others.

Whole School Easter Mass

On Thursday, we gathered as a school community to celebrate the Easter season and the solemnity of St. George. The children reflected on the hope and new life that Eastertide brings and how they will face their own dragons as St. George inspires us to do.

Catholic Social Teaching - Dignity of Work



This half-term, the children have been focusing on the Catholic Social Teaching: Dignity of Work. This means that everyone's work is important. God made each person special, and when we work, we use our gifts to help others. All jobs matter and people should always be treated kindly and fairly at work. Year 4 were challenged to creating a community and organising themselves so that everyone is happy, safe and working together. Take a look at the photos below!

You are going to become a community. Your job is to organise yourselves so everyone is safe, happy and working together.

Half the class = Island Group A
Half the class = Island Group B

You must decide:

- Who will be your leaders?
- What jobs are needed?
- How will everyone help?
- How will you make sure it's fair?
- How will you stay positive?

Colossians 3:23

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart."

Every job matters – do it well.

Did everyone have a job?

Was every job important?

What happened when people worked together?

What happens if someone doesn't help?

Every job has dignity. Everyone's work matters.



Class Discussion



R.E. Books

From September, we will be implementing a new Religious Education curriculum in line with the mandate from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. As part of this transition, we are reviewing our previous practice to ensure the highest possible quality of teaching and learning.

*To support this, we kindly ask that any **R.E. books from previous academic years are returned to school** if your child still has them at home. This will greatly assist us as we develop and embed the new curriculum.*

GIFT Team News



Ukrainian Candle Appeal

As we reflect on the light Easter brings us, the GIFT Team have been inspired in collecting used and unused candles for the Ukrainian Candle Appeal. This can include candles in any

form, such as used tealights or even a scented candle (which might not be to your taste!). The wax and candles are melted to create "trench candles", providing essential light, heat and cooking sources to fuel soldiers and civilians without power.

Food Hub Visit

*A huge thank you for all your donations to the GIFT Team's Wheelbarrow of Hope initiative. In total, we collected **196** items during the Lenten period. Today, the GIFT Team visited Cheylesmore Food Hub and packed these items into bags for our local community.*































Coventry City F C- PUBS



Monday got off to a very joyful start as a sea of blue flowed through the gates of Saint Thomas More to the sound of the Enemy- We live and die in these towns. There was definitely an air of excitement and joy around the school celebrating the promotion of CCFC to the Premier League. The CCFC flag flew proudly against the aptly coloured sky blue sky. The excitement then reached dizzy heights when Mrs Staines spoke to Coventry and Warwickshire Radio show live whilst out on the playground followed up by a recording of the pupils chanting.

Earth Day 2026

On Wednesday, our STM Community joined together to celebrate the world God has given us on Earth Day. The children considered how we can best look after our planet through assemblies and activities, and even joined other schools to share their pledges through a Teams call. See below on what Year 1 were up to:

Year 1 joined Reception, year 2 and year 3 in a special gathering focusing on oracy and protecting the beautiful world that God gave us. Afterwards we heard about Brooklyn, a 7 year old girl in the USA and how she has used her voice to advocate for Earth. We were inspired and went to do a litter pick in our school grounds. We were surprised by how much we found!

Later we thought about the beautiful natural treasures God has given us and we made Earth Mandala's. In the afternoon we wrote promise about what we are going to try to do to protect our planet and we joined St Elizabeth's School on TEAMS to find share what we had been learning. It was a great day. The key message we left the day with was:

"Old enough to save the planet: use your voice for good."















Saint Thomas More Catholic Primary School 75th Anniversary

During the summer term our Parish and Primary school will be celebrating their 75th anniversary (1951-2026). We will be marking this occasion in many ways over the term.

Please look carefully over all the dates at the end of this newsletter. Children have contributed in sharing some ideas of how they want us to celebrate our 75th Anniversary- it is a bumper packed term.

On Monday Mrs Staines shared some of the ways the school would be celebrating this momentous occasion.

Tuesday, 23rd June at 10:30am there will be a Special 75th Anniversary Mass celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley.

Following the mass there will be a procession down to the school grounds and a blessing of St Thomas More. Then all are invited to join with the school in a picnic on the field (weather permitting).

*At the end of the day the School and Parish will then continuing the fun by holding the '**STM 75th Festival**'.*

A big thank you to all the memories and photos that have been shared so far. They are fascinating to read and I know will help make our rich history come alive for our children. The photographs are amazing. So please keep sending them in.

We would appreciate if past pupils, staff and Governors were able to write some memories of their time at STM including the dates they were there. It is our intention that each Year group will focus on one decade of the school's life and wider events in Coventry and Britain. The primary sources will allow pupils to get a sense of how school life has changed from the uniform, subjects, discipline etc and help the history of the school come alive.

We would welcome memories from those who remember the different buildings of the school - the KS1 building, KS2 School and life in the portacabins prior to the new school build.

If you could hand your memoirs to the school office or email them to

STM-Admin@hccmac.co.uk we would be very grateful. The sooner the better please so lessons can be planned. If anyone would be willing to come in and speak to the children about a particular decade in the life of our school you would be very welcome. Please contact the school office. It would be lovely to get someone from each decade the school has existed.

Community Day



Following the huge success of our Big Build we will be holding our second Community Day on Sunday, 26 April from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. The focus will be getting our grounds and garden area ready for our 75th Anniversary celebrations.

Year of Reading



Last week some children were offered complimentary tickets to go and listen to a talk given by Cressida Cowell who is famous for writing How to Train your Dragon books. Here is one of the lucky children who attended and managed to get a signed copy of her book.

Other Notices

Parents' Guide: Growing Up with Phones and Taking Photos

Parents' Guide: Growing Up with Phones and Taking Photos

Many children do not realise that photos they take, even if never shared, can be automatically stored online.



Your Phone Saves More Than You Think

Most smartphones can automatically save photos online if backup is switched on and the phone has Wi-Fi or mobile data.

This means:

- Photos can be uploaded as soon as they are taken
- They are no longer just on the phone
- They can stay online even if deleted from the device
- If someone gets into the account, they can see and download these images.

Avoid taking images you would not want shared.



A trusted resource that supports open, honest conversations between parents and children about sensitive topics and how to stay safe.



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

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>.

Girls Rugby Fun Session Wednesday 29th April '26 6pm-7.30pm ish



- **this session for**
- school years 3-6
- no experience necessary
- already at Barkers - bring a mate!
- FREE session
- FREE hot chocolate post training!
- **why Barkers Butts**
- long established girls section
- successful at national level
- qualified coaches
- dedicated girls only u9s and up
- all playing kit provided FOC*
- plenty more reasons!



Barkers Butts RFC
Pickford Grange Lane
Allesley
Coventry
CV5 9AR

for more details of this session
email mattianbull@hotmail.com



♥ your team
♥ rugby

Get involved at
findrugby.com

* if signed up as a member for '26-'27 season, doesn't include boots, gum shields

Adult Education Service

Find out more about supporting your child with reading and writing

Join our free 9-week course – ‘English in the Primary School’

This course is for:

- › all parents and carers with children aged 2-10 years

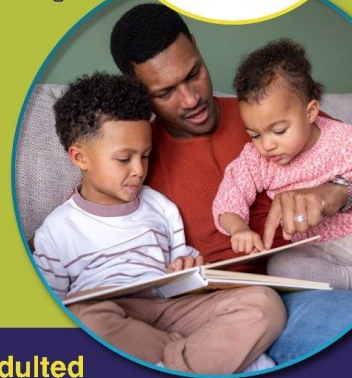
What we do:

- › learn the correct phonics sounds
- › explore ways to help your child with reading
- › focus on the grammar, spelling and handwriting taught in modern English primary schools
- › give you fun games to take home
- › share a drink and snack

Where and when:

- › Every Tuesday from 28 April, 6-8pm
- › Adult Education Centre, Telfer Road, Radford, Coventry CV6 3DR

“The games have helped make phonics fun. I am amazed by how much my son can do!”



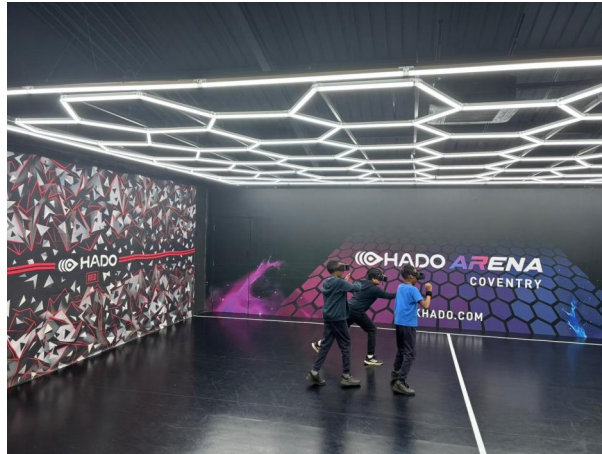
- › To enrol visit coventry.gov.uk/adulted
- › For further details email aeslifeskills@coventry.gov.uk



SPORTS NEWS

HADO

Well done to our Year 5's who represented us at the HADO competition



May Sports Holiday Camp

To book please scan the QR code below or complete the booking form [here](#). If you are having issues please email admin@sportsdevelopmentukltd.co.uk



MULTI SPORTS & ACTIVITY FUN DAYS
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
26th - 28th May

Year 1 - 6 09:30-15:00

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

[BOOK NOW](#)

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

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/hhhkc1MXcM>

 admin@sportdevelopmentukltd.co.uk

Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

UPCOMING EVENT

Our next PTFA Meeting will be held on Monday 27th April at 6:30-7:30pm.

**DROP OFF: COMMUNITY ROOM
PICK UP: STUDIO DOORS**

**£3 PER CHILD
CASH & CARD PAYMENT**

STM PTFA PRESENTS:

SCHOOL DISCO

WITH @RAFFERTY_DJ

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE POCKET MONEY TREATS

FRIDAY 15TH MAY 2026

DISCO 1: 17:15-18:15 – NURSERY, RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2
DISCO 2: 18:30-19:30 – YEAR 3, YEAR 4, YEAR 5 & YEAR 6
PLEASE NOTE: NO PHONES / DEVICES ALLOWED
ALL CHILDREN TO BE SIGNED IN & COLLECTED BY AN ADULT
NURSERY & RECEPTION PARENTS MUST STAY

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/Huw9CCvrtqzq5k47>
ANY QUERIES PLEASE EMAIL: stm-ptfa@hccmec.co.uk



THE STM
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

ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

As the summer months approach please remember that term time holidays will not be authorised and fines issued. Whilst we know how important holidays are we are very aware of the missed learning children experience. 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.

*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 95.28%

Attendance this week is as follows:

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- *Year Reception - 96.67%*
 - *Year 1 - 98%*
 - *Year 2 - 94.33%*
 - *Year 3 - 95%*
 - *Year 4 - 98.44%*
 - *Year 5 - 94.83%*
 - *Year 6 - 96.33%*
-

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

- **Sun 26th April - Community Day (10 am to 3pm)**
-

MAY

- **Mon 04 May - Bank Holiday**
-

- *Friday 8th May Year 3 First Holy Communion Retreat Day*
- *Monday 11th- Friday 15th May Year 6 SATs week.*
- *Thursday 14th May- Ascension Day- Holy Day of Obligation - Mass at 10am*
 - *Friday 15th - PTFA School Disco*
 - *Sunday 17th May 9am First Holy Communion*
 - *Monday 18th - 22nd May Walk to School Week*
 - *Tuesday 19th May- Marian Procession*
 - *Friday 22nd May- PTFA Tuck Shop*
 - *Mon 25 to Fri 29 - Half Term Break*

JUNE

- *Sunday 7th June- STM's Open Gardens 12-3pm*
- *Friday 12th June- Feast of Sacred Heart- Adoration in church at 10:30am followed by Corpus Christie Procession and then Benediction in school grounds. Children from Year 3 are invited to wear their First Holy Communion clothes and will lead the procession.*
 - *Sunday 14th June- Children's Mile*
 - *Tuesday 23rd June 10:30 75th Anniversary Mass followed by picnic*
 - *Tuesday 23rd June Saint Thomas More 'Festival' 3:30-5:30pm*
- *Thursday 25th June Open Evening 5:30pm for children's families joining Nursery and Reception in September 2026.*

- *Friday 26th June Sport's Day Morning (all classes in the morning) followed by The Colour Run at the end of the day.*
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JULY

- *Wednesday 1st July- Transition Day*
 - *75th Anniversary STM's Got Talent- more info to follow*
 - *Fri 03 July- INSET DAY (School closed for students)*
 - *Friday 17th July Leavers Mass 9:15am*
 - *Mon 20 Jul - INSET DAY (School closed for students)*
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