



MORE NEWS 4th SEPTEMBER 2026



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Welcome

*It has been so lovely welcoming back children and families and meeting our new families this week. All seem to be settling into their new classroom routine and the school has had a lovely calm and purposeful feel. Our assembly on Wednesday celebrated how we were one big family of Saint Thomas More school, each one of us playing an important part. We reflected on our school Mission **To Learn and Grow as God's Holy People.***

A very warm welcome to all our new children in Nursery and Reception as they begin this exciting journey with us.

We welcome all our new staff as they join us this academic year:

- Mrs Towers- Deputy Head Teacher
 - Mr O'Shannessey (aka Mr O) Inclusion Lead
 - Mrs Mistrano- Y5 Class teacher (Mon, Tue, Wed)
 - Mrs Hartley- Y5 Class teacher (Thurs, Fri)
 - Miss Taylor- Teacher Apprentice
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Mission

To act as one family, one body, showing us working together to
Learn and Grow as God's Holy People.



Whole school Mass

On Thursday we gathered as our school family to celebrate our first whole school mass of the academic year. During the mass Father Simon commissioned all staff and then gave a special blessing to all children. He reminded us of the wonderful example of Saint Thomas More, our Patron Saint, who always stayed true to God.



Parish Mass Times

*On **Thursday 17th September 10am**, there will be the **Year 6 class mass**. All are welcome to join.*

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

***Little Church** will begin again on Sunday 6th September in both STM and SJW. This is the Liturgy of the Word with children, offering them the opportunity to listen and respond to the Sunday Gospel at an age appropriate level. The Children and a Prayer Leader are called forward at the beginning of Mass and process to their sacred space where the scriptures are explored through reflection, discussion, song and other appropriate activities. An adult may accompany a very young child until they are settled. All return to Mass at the Procession of Gifts for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.*



Allergy Awareness & Benedict's Law

*New statutory government guidance, known as **Benedict's Law**, has been introduced for schools regarding the management of allergies. To support the safety and wellbeing of our children, we have strengthened our procedures:*

- We now have a dedicated **School Allergy Policy** and clear procedures for responding to allergic emergencies.*
 - **Mrs Hoare** is the named member of staff responsible for overseeing the policy and the management of prescribed allergy medication.*
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- We have **spare adrenaline auto-injectors**, as well as a spare asthma inhaler and spacer, available in school.
 - All staff have received updated **allergy awareness and emergency response guidance**.
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A reminder for parents/carers:

- Please inform school of **any medical condition** your child has, even if medication is not required in school.
 - If your child requires **medication or an inhaler in school**, the appropriate paperwork and care plan must be completed.
 - Please check your child's details on **Arbor**, particularly medical information and telephone numbers.
 - Please ensure we have **at least two emergency contacts** for your child and that their details are up to date.
 - **We are a nut-free school.** Please check all packed lunches and snacks carefully. Products containing nuts, including foods such as Nutella and Kinder Bueno, must not be brought into school.
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Meet the teacher from Y1 to Y6

We invite all parents and carers to our important meet the teacher sessions at the beginning of the school year. This gives you a chance to experience your child's classroom, meet their teacher and hear about the year ahead. It is a valuable opportunity for us all to share vital information.

This year we have had various improvements made in school with a refurbished Sport's Hub, a new Art and Design Technology Room and newly decorated Year 1 and 2 classroom with new flooring along with more religious art work painted on walls. Our lower learning avenue depicts the beginning of Jesus' life including The Annunciation, The Visitation, The Birth of Jesus, Epiphany, Escape to Egypt and Presentation in the temple.

This then develops into a immersive mural in our staircase 2 up to Year 3 and Year 4 where the beginning of Jesus' ministry is captured at the moment of Jesus' baptism in the River Jordan by John the Baptist.

We would therefore invite you to come 20 mins before your teacher's presentation so that you have an opportunity to walk around school and see the new developments.

Tuesday 15th September

Year 6 - 5:00pm This will include vital information about the Educational visit to Plas Dol y Moch in December 2026. It is essential that all children are represented.

Year 5 - 5:30pm

Thursday 17th September

Year 1 and Year 2 - 5:00pm

Year 3 and Year 4 - 5:30pm

Sports News

School Football Trials

*We are excited to announce that **football trials for our school boys' and girls' teams** respectively will be taking place on the below dates. **Sign ups close on the 9th Sept and 16th Sept respectively.***

If your child is interested in representing St Thomas More, please click the link below for further details and to register. Please note this is for Year 05 and Year 06 only.

[**Boys Football Trials**](#)

[**Girls Football Trials**](#)

We're delighted to be a **2026–27 Junior Parkrun Primary School!** Encourage your child to get involved and enjoy the fun of being active every Sunday. 🏃‍♀️🏃‍♂️🏃‍♀️🏃‍♂️

Click here to join the fun: [parkrun](#) | [join us](#)



Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

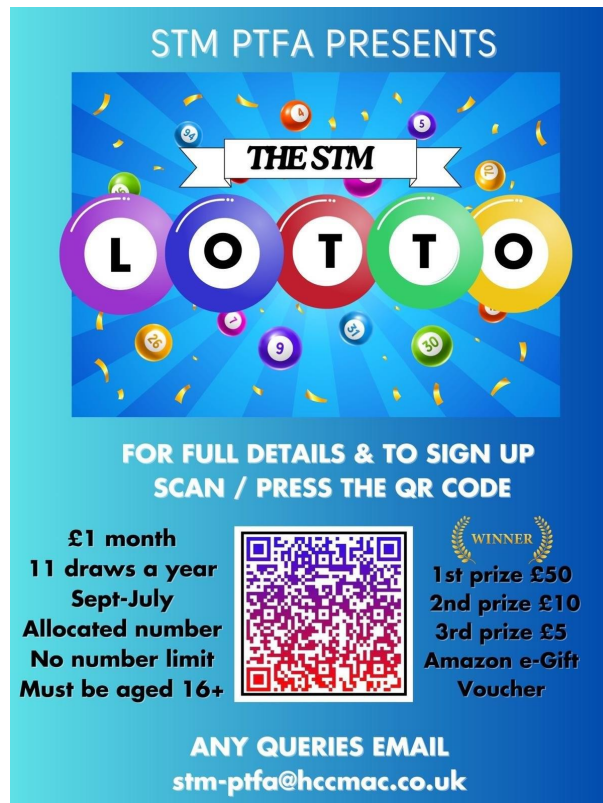
STM PTFA Lotto

If you haven't already signed up for the **STM PTFA Lotto 2026–27**, there's still time to join! For just **£1 per month**, you'll have the chance to win prizes while helping to raise valuable funds for our school.

Sign up or renew your membership here:

<https://forms.gle/KZASWVGaDud9UeDm6>

You can also scan the QR code on the attached poster.



ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

As you are aware attendance is crucial for your child to achieve their maximum potential. We aim to achieve 95% or more each year. It would be wonderful if we aim for each child was able to improve on last attendance by 1%. 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 92.71%

Attendance this week is as follows:

- Year Reception - 69.87%
- Year 1 - 97.96%

- Year 2 - 94.25%
 - Year 3 - 95.56%
 - Year 4 - 97.31%
 - Year 5 - 98.92%
 - Year 6 - 98.06%
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IMPORTANT DATES

September

- Monday, 7th September - Sports After school Club commences
 - Tuesday, 15th September - Meet the Teacher (Y6 at 5:00pm) and (Y5 at 5:30pm)
 - Thursday, 17th September - Year 6 class mass at 10 am
 - Thursday, 17th September - Meet the Teacher (Y1 & Y2 at 5:00pm) and (Y3 & Y4 at 5:30pm)
 - Sunday, 20th September - Year 6 Confirmation enrolment forms available after 9am mass
 - Thursday 24th September 5-7pm **Bishop Ullathorne Open Evening**- A must for all Year 6 pupils.
 - Thursday, 24th September - Year 5 class mass at 10 am
 - Sunday 27th September - Year 06 Confirmation Enrolment mass at 9 am
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October

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- *Saturday, 3rd Oct - Year 06 Confirmation Class (Time TBC)*

- *Half Term Break (26th to 30th October)*
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November

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- *Wednesday, 11th November - Individual and sibling photo session*
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