



Newsletter – Issue 8

1st November 2016

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Important Dates and What's Happening

Thursday 3rd November

School Disco

F2/KS1 children - 2.15pm-3.15pm

KS2 Children - 3.20pm – 4.20pm

Tuesday 8th November

F2 & Y1 Visit Church

Wednesday 9th November

Parents coffee and cake morning

Monday 14th November

No Pen Day

Thursday 17th November

KS2 poetry performance in school

Friday 18th November

Y1 and Y2 trip to Vue Cinema, Meadowhall.

Friday 18th November @2:30pm

Monday 21st November @ 5pm

Reading Comprehension Parent sessions

Wednesday 23rd November

Y5 Advent Retreat Day

Monday 5th December

F2 Totley Hall Farm

Wednesday 7th December

Y5 & Y6 Cafod Workshop

Friday 9th December

Y5 Ice Sheffield Show

Tuesday 4th to Wednesday 5th April 2017

Y4 Residential Trip to Kingswood Centre

Last Week's Attendance

Class	Percentage Attendance	Lates
F2	96.1	0
Year 1	92.0	0
Year 2	98.0	1
Year 3	98.0	3
Year 4	95.9	0
Year 5	99.6	0
Year 6	99.3	0
School Total	97.0	4

Well Done Y5, they will receive an extra playtime for the best attendance this week!

Well done everybody! Let's keep up the fantastic attendance!

100% Attendance & punctuality winners

Well done to our prize winners for last week. Each child chose a small prize.....

F2	FREDI
Y1	ZEPHANIAH
Y2	REBEKAH
Y3	MILLIE
Y4	RUBY
Y5	FAITH
Y6	REBECCA

No Pen Day

Monday 14th November

Jesus said: "Love one another as I have loved you."

At St Thomas More our Mission is to love and to be loved. We believe that Love is:

Kindness, justice, acceptance, forgiveness and friendship; it is unconditional and inclusive, allowing each one of us to learn and to grow to become the wonderful person God created us to be.



MERIT

Friday 21st October

F2	Charlie	For	Having a fantastic attitude to everything you do! You always try hard and have a smile on your face. Well done 😊
	Susanna	For	Brilliant effort with topic homework this half term. You have worked so hard at home. Keep it up, well done 😊
Year 1	Sebastian	For	Amazing maths learning, you have blown us away with your adding skills! Well done Seb. 😊
	Guedaliah	For	Fantastic enthusiasm when learning about Usain Bolt in our topic learning. Well done Guedaliah! 😊
Year 2	Sophia	For	Her super effort in all subjects, but especially in RE. We do a lot of thinking and reflecting in RE and Sophia takes a lot of pride in this aspect of her learning, well done!
	Max	For	His brilliant attitude to learning across all subjects, but especially in maths where we've been learning lots of new methods. Fantastic effort. Keep it up, Max - well done!
Year 3	Diana	For	An incredibly focused learning hero this morning, thank you for setting such a great example.
	Erin	For	Thank you for your positivity and effort in your big write and for your welcoming smile.
Year 4	Paulos	For	Outstanding topic work this week on Black History Month.
	Charlie	For	Outstanding topic work this week on Black History Month.
Year 5	Nathanael	For	Gaining confidence and independence in his maths division work this week! Well done!
	Lily	For	Creating beautiful and reflective work in RE on mission, including writing her own poem!
Year 6	Bradley	For	Your enthusiasm in all areas of your learning. You are making great contributions and supporting others. Thank you!
	Sarah	For	Your efforts and improvements with your reading and literacy work. You are really challenging yourself. Keep it up!

We are saying congratulations to Mrs Round who just prior to the October half term break was appointed as permanent Deputy Head here at St Thomas More. Mrs Round underwent a very thorough and rigorous interview and selection process and we are delighted she has been appointed - well done Mrs Round.

Mrs Simpkins (Y3 job share teacher) will be leaving us at the end of this term to take up a post in another school - we wish Mrs Simpkins all the best. I will update you on a replacement for Mrs Simpkins.

Christmas Dates for your Diaries:

Monday 28th November 2.30pm -Blessing of the advent wreaths by Fr Martin

Tuesday 29th November 9.15am Y5 Advent liturgy

Tuesday 6th December 9.15am Y6 Advent liturgy

Wednesday 7th December at 2pm & 6pm -F2/KS1 Advent production

Tuesday 13th December 9.15am Y4 Advent liturgy

Thursday 15th December 9.30am Mass in school

Friday 16th December 9.15am Y3 Advent Liturgy

Friday 16th December 1.45pm Christingle

As you will note this year we are not going to be doing a KS2 Advent production. We have given a lot of thought to this and the decision has not been taken lightly. The reasons for this are detailed below, not in any particular order:

Each KS2 class also prepares and leads an advent liturgy in school - these are very spiritual and a lot of effort, time & thought are put into these.

Last year we received a number of concerns from parents about the amount of time children were missing from their learning to walk to and from church.

We have issues securing enough adults to walk to & from church and often have to take KS1 staff which impacts on learning in KS1.

There have been an increase in instances of parents/carers/family members speaking inappropriately to staff at all levels regarding eg tickets, parts allocated to children. We have instances of people speaking inappropriately on the evening of the performance to those involved in organising/attending the event.

We have had equipment damaged by visitors attending the performance.

Over the past couple of years, the stress and demands of the production have contributed to staff illness.

Wish upon a star...

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and family members who have donated to our school using our wish wall. Thank you for your support 😊

Name of Parent	Class helped	What has been donated
Lisa Hancock	F2 and Y1	Fence paints and varnish. Spare hats, gloves and scarves.
Rachel Nunn	F2 and Y1	Buttons and tablecloths
Angela Kay	F2 and Y1	Tablecloths
Adele Darwent	F2 and Y1	Pine cones
Emma Shaw	F2 and Y1	Loads of conkers!!
Joanne Welsby	F2 and Y1	Fabric and dressing up clothes
Emma Clement	F2 and Y1	Spare underwear



REMINDER DISCO

**Thursday 3rd
November**

**organised by our Friends Association.
The cost is £2 per child**

**The timings are as follows:
F2/KS1 Children 2.15pm -3.15pm
KS2 Children 3.20pm - 4.20pm.**

**Please come to school in uniform and
bring your Disco Clothes with you to
change in to.**

**Please send money for the disco in an
envelope clearly marked with your
child's name and Disco Money so this
can be passed onto members of the
Friends.**

**At the disco, there will be hot-dogs,
crisps, sweets and drinks on sale so
children can bring money on the day to
buy these things.**

On 7th December, Y5 and Y6 will be taking part in the **CAFOD** follow up refugee workshop entitled, "Send my Friend to School". This is the 2nd part to the Pilgrimage Refugee Workshop that these children did last year with CAFOD.

Last year, the children really enjoyed the "pilgrimage" around the hall while learning about the different aspects of life for refugee children. They were thinking about what those children might be going through and seeing a different person's point of view.



Please note the Film and Review club held on Tuesdays after school is open to children from Y2 to Y6. The cost for this club is £12. Please contact the school office if you would like your child to take part in this club.

Thank you

Keeping Safe

The link below has been sent to us from British Transport Police to publicise a warning about keeping safe around railway lines. Please note that the film at the bottom of the press release is quite graphic so we advise you view this yourself first before sharing it with your children.

http://media.btp.police.uk/r/13290/urgent_warning_from_transport_police_as_school_ho

Thursday 3rd November



Dolce are having a Bonfire Themed lunch on Thursday 3rd November. The menu will include Hot Dogs, Chilli Con Carne and Jacket Potatoes with fillings.

Dessert will include Sticky Toffee Pudding!

The new menu will be shown on live Kitchen for you to order online.

REMINDER Y3 TO Y6 **CLASSIC POETRY PERFORMANCE**

Thursday 17th November at 1.30pm in school.

We are asking parents to make a small voluntary contribution of £2.50, to help towards the cost of the performance. Please send your contribution into school in a named envelope.

Thank you for your support

Parent's coffee and cake morning



We are holding a parents coffee and cake morning **on Wednesday 9th November at 9am**. This session is designed to share information about children and parent services in the area and have a chat and a catch-up with other parents. We can share ideas and offer support on many areas of parenting such as sleeping worries, eating habits, behaviour issues at home, relationships, money...the list goes on!

We have two representatives from the Multi-Agency Support Team attending that morning to offer their advice, so please ring school and speak to Mrs Round if you wish to attend this coffee morning.

Thank you

Y5 need any unwanted newspapers, magazines to be cut up and used in class please!

We are asking parents if you could please donate these to class by Friday 11th November.

Please can we ask that it is appropriate material!

Thank you for your support.

Flasks/containers carrying hot food

A number of children have started bringing flasks to school for their packed lunch which contain e.g. soup.

The liquid in the flasks is very hot and concerns are being raised regarding health and safety in case the liquid spills out. Please note that in order to ensure health and safety of all members of our school community, flasks and other containers carrying hot food/liquid cannot be brought into school.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

TRIP INFORMATION

REMINDER

Y1 and Y2 Trip to the Vue Cinema Meadowhall

Friday 18th November 2016

I give permission for my child:

to visit the Vue Cinema, Meadowhall
on Friday 18th November 2016.

I enclose a voluntary contribution of £3.50 ☐ If school doesn't receive enough voluntary Contributions unfortunately the trip will have to be cancelled.

Children will need to bring a packed lunch to school that day. If you wish for a packed lunch to be provided by school please indicate below.

I would like to order a packed lunch from school of:
Ham Sandwich ☐ Cheese Sandwich ☐ Tuna sandwich ☐

I will provide my child with a packed lunch ☐

Signed Parent/Carer-----Date-----

REMINDER

Y5 Ice Sheffield Show - Friday 9th December

I give permission for:

To attend the Y5 Ice Sheffield Show trip on
Friday 9th December. I enclose a voluntary
contribution of £10.00 ☐

*Unfortunately, if insufficient contributions are
received the trip will not be able to go ahead.
Please complete the slip below and return it to
school along with your contribution by the 16th
November.*

Signed _____ Date _____

My child is entitled to free school meals and I
would like to order a packed lunch of: Ham
Sandwich ☐ Cheese Sandwich ☐ Tuna
sandwich ☐

**Children must wear school jumper/cardigan,
school trousers or water proof
leggings/trousers, a coat and gloves while on
the ice. NO scarves are allowed for safety
reasons.**

F2 Trip to Totley Hall Farm Monday 5th December



F2 will be taking a trip to Totley Hall Farm to perform and act out the nativity scene on Monday 5th December.

This is a lovely chance for the children to immerse themselves in the story of Jesus' birth. The children will be able to act as the characters from the story, sing nativity songs and ride on a donkey.

There is a voluntary contribution of £12.00 which will go towards the cost of the trip. This is voluntary, but unless enough contributions are received, we will not be able to go ahead with the trip. On this day the children will need to bring a packed lunch to school. However, if you would like to order a free packed lunch from school then please ensure we have your order in as soon as possible please complete the slip below.

If any parents are CRB or DBS checked and would like to help on the trip please see Miss Campbell.

F2 Totley Hall Farm Trip – Monday 5th December

I give permission for my child _____ To attend the Trip to Totley Hall Farm
on Monday 5th December. I enclose a voluntary contribution of £12 towards the entry & travel cost ☐

I would like to order the following packed lunch: Ham Sandwich ☐ cheese Sandwich ☐ Tuna Sandwich ☐ I will provide
a packed lunch from home ☐

Signed Parent/carers: _____ Date: _____

Y1 and F2 are walking to Church on Tuesday 8th November. This is to support our learning on Baptism. We will be walking from school to St Thomas More Church in the afternoon, where Father Martin will be performing a special Baptism for us. Parents do not need to sign for permission of this, as this was signed on home visits. If you are available and would like to join us on this walk then please speak to Miss Campbell or Miss Bennett by the end of the day on Thursday 3rd November.

Y5 Advent Retreat Day

Y5 will be participating in the Hallam Youth Ministry's Advent Retreat Day on

Wednesday, 23rd November at school. This day will be filled with activities, mini-workshops, prayers and liturgies relating to Advent. This will be a very reflecting and, at the same time, exciting day. Over the past few years, the Y5 class have been able to participate in the Advent Retreat days, and it always is such a memorable day. I am hoping that this retreat will be just as memorable!!

A HUGE thanks goes out to the Friends Association for funding the entire day for us to the amount of £150! Now, this event is free for our children!

Reading Comprehension Sessions for Parents/Carers

We are holding two parent comprehension sessions on Friday 18th November at 2:30pm and Monday 21st November at 5pm.

These sessions are designed for to help you as parents/carers to support your children with their comprehension skills. Most of our children love to read, but do they always understand what they have read?

The workshop will give you an insight into the way we teach our children to comprehend effectively, therefore giving you more scope to support them in using these strategies at home, particularly with their guided reading homework.

Please fill out the slip below indicating which date you would like to attend and return to Mrs Round ASAP.

I/we would like to attend the parent comprehension session on:

Friday 18th November at 2.30pm ☐

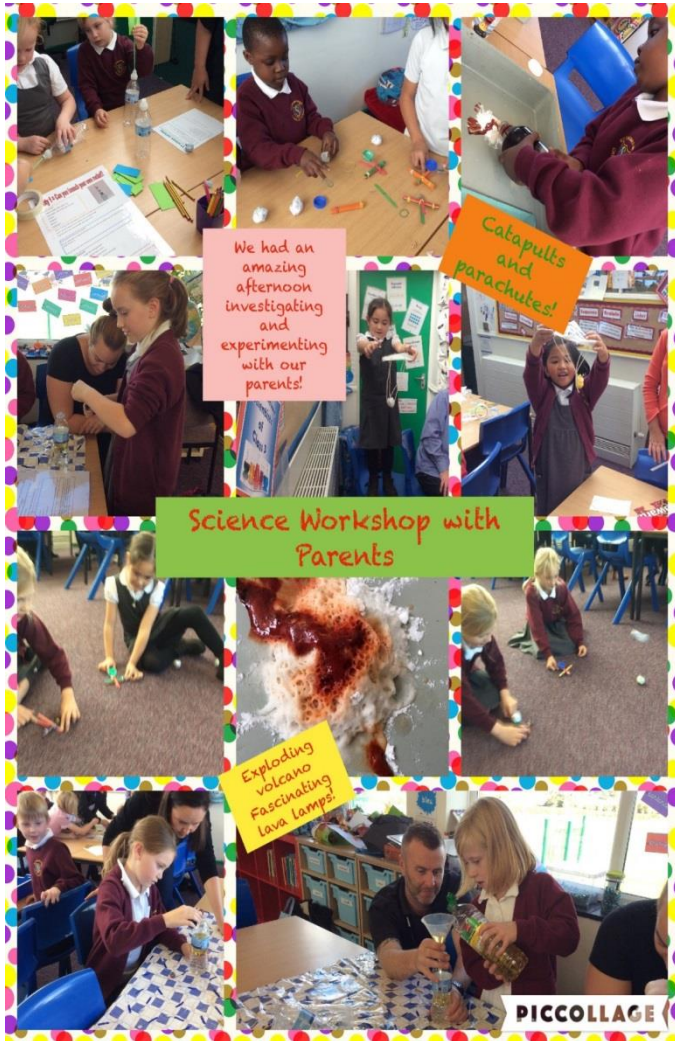
Monday 21st November at 5pm ☐

Signed _____

Parent of _____ class _____

Y3 Science Workshop

We had a fantastic afternoon experimenting and investigating with our parents and grandparents. We learned about so many exciting things.



Mission Together: On Monday, 17th October, we had a Mission Together assembly. We heard that last year we raised over £200 for the people in Malawi. Our goal was £200, which we surpassed! We heard how our money went to help buy mosquito nets as well as build a hospital.

This year we are going to help the people of Kenya. We are going to help buy food for children who are going to school instead of having to work in the fields with their parents. Our money will help these children get one proper meal a day of rice, beans, milk and a banana.

Please make sure that you are filling up your red mission together boxes at home with any spare change that you can! Once they are full, bring them back to school! Thanks to all for helping Mission Together and for your donations last year too!



