



Newsletter – Issue 3
Week Commencing – 14 September 2020
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Thank you to our F2 parents/carers who have responded really well to the changes in drop off and pick up. We hope that this has made a positive difference to reducing congestion around the F2 entrance/exit.

Testing those who are symptomatic is a key strategy in managing and reducing the spread of the virus.

Detailed below is the government guidance on what the symptoms are of Covid19:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

In line with DFE guidance, anyone who is symptomatic we are asking that they are tested. School has received guidance from the Local Authority, which states that where families will not engage with the testing process, school will not be able to authorise the absence and as such, no schoolwork will be provided during the period of absence. Please note period of isolation for the person with symptoms is 10 days from the start of symptoms, a household member would need to isolate for 14 days.

We would like to thank all the families who have been supporting the school by adhering to social distancing and safety measures on site. We are concerned that a minority of our school community deem it unacceptable that we are asking them to adhere to these measures on school premises. The measures the school have implemented are concurrent with Government guidelines and are in place to help limit the spread of the virus. If any parents/carers/visitors to the school site consider for any reason they are unable to follow these systems and procedures, then please explain why, in writing for the attention of the Governing Body.

The start of the new term has been very successful working under the new stringent safety measures, the children have settled in and have adapted exceptionally well, they are a credit to all of us.



Year 3 swimming lessons start on Friday 25th September. If you haven't already done so, please complete the online permission form which was sent out on ParentMail so your child can attend.



As you are aware we are reducing the amount of paper we use. All letters/permission slips/correspondence are being sent to parents/carers through ParentMail. Please ensure your details are up to date so you don't miss any important information from school.

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

At St Thomas More our Mission is to love and to become the wonderful person God created us to be.

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Dinners

We are currently working with the catering provider to reinstate the full hot menu. In the meantime, Dolce are going to add a Jacket Potato to the menu as an extra option every day. We will let you know when the full menu is coming back with delicious hot meals!



National School Breakfast Programme (NSBP)

Your next breakfast pack will be handed out to children today to take home. We would love to hear your feedback on this programme. Please send us your thoughts and some pictures to: enquiries@st-thomasmore.sheffield.sch.uk



Enjoy!



During this difficult time, we are trying to keep our links with Father Andrew and the church. Next week each class will have a zoom meeting with Father Andrew so they can say hello and share a prayer with him.

We have had a couple of enquiries regarding what can/cannot be brought in from home in relation to eg topic homework so here is some clarification....

- Show & tell - in line with guidance, children cannot bring in items from home so photos of items should be e-mailed to class e-mail addresses then the pictures can be shown on the whiteboard while the child does the "tell" bit
- Topic homework - unfortunately children cannot bring in models etc. they have made at home – please take a picture and send pictures in via the class e-mail address. If it is eg a poster and it has been laminated, it can be brought in as it can then be wiped down
- Birthday sweets/treats from children (and staff!) – these can come in as long as they are pre-packaged (ie not made at home) and are in plastic packaging so they can be wiped down

Thank you for your help and support with this.

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AUTUMN TERM 2020 COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Judaism.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

(31.08.20 – 28.09.20)

Early Years	MYSELF - God knows and loves each one
Year 1	FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	HOMES - God's vision for every family
Year 4	PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	LOVING - God who never stops loving

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.
Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."
Include those who have died.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

(05.10.20 – 02.11.20)

Early Years	WELCOME - Baptism: a welcome to God's family
Year 1	BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 2	SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Year 3	PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4	CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness
Year 5	LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service
Year 6	VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

OTHER FAITHS WEEK (09.11.20)

Pupils will study various aspects of other faiths for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.
Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.
Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

(16.10.20 – 21.12.20)

Early Years	BIRTHDAY - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday
Year 1	WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



CELEBRATION FRIDAY WINNERS Friday 11th September 2020

F2		For	
Y1	Ruby-Rae	For	Absolutely blowing everyone away this week with your fantastic writing work! You have really impressed me and Mrs North with how hard you have worked, and how you challenge yourself everyday! ☺
	Jensen		Some great suggestions in lessons this week – it's been great to have you as part of the class conversations about Ernest Shackleton and Antarctica this week!
Y2	Alfie	For	For being the perfect role model to all children in the class! Every day without fail you come into school and do nothing but your BEST! You have been a wonderful friend to others and have treated them so kindly when they needed a friend. Well done!
	Emmanuel		For your excellent attitude to school and learning. You have been so enthusiastic about all our learning this week and it has been wonderful to see how passionate and excited you are about our new topic...Ancient Egypt!
Y3	Vienna	For	Your carefully considered answers during our RE lessons this week. You have thought about what it means to be a part of a family and used some beautiful phrases in your writing. ☺
	Joshua		Your super willingness and determination during our PE lessons this week. You tried so hard with your defending skills. Keep up the good work, Joshua!
Y4	Kayleigh	For	Having an amazing start to Year 4! You are always following instructions, are always ready to learn and always try your best. What a superstar! ☺
	Fredi		Fabulous effort in PE and all other lessons! You are asking for help if you need it and are trying your best. Well done! ☺
Y5	Carly	For	Using fantastic inference and prediction skills to ask questions about our new class text. Well done Carly for analyzing the front cover and blurb in so much depth!
	Elizabeth		Using brilliant dribbling and passing skills in hockey this week. Well done Cole for using these skills so effectively during our game of cats and mice!
Y6	Gavin	For	Demonstrating outstanding behaviour and exemplary attention in every single lesson! What an accomplishment! Keep it up!
	Sophia		An amazing explanation and thought-provoking RE work on Jesus as the Good Shepherd! Keep it up!!

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Last Weeks Attendance & Punctuality

Class	Percentage Attendance	Lates
F2	97.4	1
Year 1	98.7	0
Year 2	92.9	0
Year 3	94.7	0
Year 4	99.4	0
Year 5	99.3	0
Year 6	99.3	0
School Total	97.3	1

Wow! Well Done Y4 you will receive an extra playtime for your great attendance last week!

GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER!



This week's winner is Max in Y5

For:

Having a fantastic start to Y5 by trying his best in every lesson and working independently. He has also been showing excellent team working skills by working really well with his partner during lessons. Well done Max!

100% Attendance & Punctuality Winners

F2	Nathan
Year 1	Amayah
Year 2	Lily
Year 3	Arthur
Year 4	Tristan
Year 5	Sophie
Year 6	Abby

TRIPS AND EVENTS - 2020/21

Y4 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO KINGSWOOD PEAK VENTURE IN PENISTONE

Wednesday 21 April 2021 to Friday 23 April 2021

***POLITE REMINDER: THE £40.00 DEPOSIT FOR THIS TRIP IS DUE BEFORE
28TH SEPTEMBER 2020***

We have been offering a residential trip to Kingswood Adventure Centre in Penistone for the Y4 class for the last three years, which has proved to be very successful. Next year the proposed trip will be a 2 night residential and will take place between **Wednesday 21 April 2021 staying for 2 nights and returning on Friday 23 April 2021.**

The stay will include all accommodation, meals at breakfast, lunch, dinner and refreshments, across the 3 days. It will also include daytime and evening activities.

The children will travel from school by coach on Wednesday 21 April 2021 to Kingswood Peak Venture in Penistone. They will arrive in time for lunch. On the Friday after having lunch we will make our way back to school by coach. Throughout the stay, the children will participate in activities during the day and in the evenings.

The cost for the accommodation including all meals and supervised activities is £119 per child. The cost of the coach will depend on how many children take part in the residential trip and we will not be able to go ahead with the trip unless we have at least 20 children taking part. Once we know final numbers (i.e. once deposits are paid), we will be able to give a final total. **The maximum total cost will be £140 per child.**

We would encourage the whole class to take part in the residential trip, as this will be a very valuable experience for your child.

We will be offering an information session for parent/carers to attend closer to the trip date, so they can find out more about the activities the children will be participating in and further information on the Kingswood Centre. We will also be giving information on clothing and footwear the children will need for the trip.

We would like you to confirm if you would like your child to take part in the Y4 Residential Trip **by giving consent on ParentMail and making the initial deposit payment of £40 as soon as possible. The final deadline for deposit payments is 28 September 2020.** If we do not receive enough interest to make the trip viable, we will of course refund any payments made.

Once deposits have been paid, the remaining balance can be paid online in full or by instalments, but must have been paid by 28 February 2021.

Further information about the Kingswood Peak Venture Centre at <http://www.kingswood.co.uk/centres/peak-venture/>