

Newsletter – Issue 4

Week Commencing – 21 September 2020

St Thomas More Catholic Primary, A Voluntary Academy Creswick Lane, Grenoside, Sheffield, S35 8NN T : 0114 2468020 e-mail <u>enquiries@st-thomasmore.sheffield.sch.uk</u> Visit our website: www.st-thomasmoresheffield.co.uk



Testing those who are symptomatic of Covid19 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. 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.

Attendance expectations

From the start of the autumn term 2020 pupil attendance is mandatory and the usual rules on attendance apply, including:

- parents' duty to ensure that their child of compulsory school age attends regularly at the school where the child is a
 registered pupil
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

School has received guidance from the Local Authority, which states that where families will not engage with the testing process of Covid19, school will not be able to authorise the absence and as such, no schoolwork will be provided during the period of absence.

Information from Mr Kelly, HT at Yewlands re Open Evenings:

"It is with great sadness that I share that we will be unable to host our highly successful Y5 and Y6 open evening as a face to face offer on 1st October. In recent years, attendance to this event has been incredibly high and has led to a large number of oversubscriptions for our incoming Y7. As much as we love opening the Academy to showcase our students, staff and facilities the current situation means our offer this year will have to be a virtual one. A video has gone into production that will show families within our community the fantastic opportunities that are available for their children should they choose Yewlands Academy. This will be launched on 1st October."

School Council

Thank you to everyone who applied to join School Council this year! The following children secured a position in this years School Council:

Y2 Reps: Douglas and Milly Y3 Reps: Nancy and Myles Y4 Reps: Darcy and Priscilla Y5 Reps: Brody and Sophie Y6 Reps: Max and Grace Chair: Nikola Vice-Chair: Raphael Treasurer: Maya Secretary: Sophie

New drop off time:

The window is now 08:50am- 09.05am

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.

Playground Markings

A huge thank you to our families who supported the school in raising money towards the new playground markings. As a result of these amazing efforts, the Friends Association were able to contribute a fantastic £2000 towards the cost of the playground markings. The remaining cost was funded through the school's Sports Premium. Thanks everyone- we are sure our children will enjoy the new playground markings!





Parent Newsletter

September 2020

The 'New Normal'

Going back to school after the summer holidays can feel like a very busy and often stressful time for many families. It's a time of new beginnings: new classrooms, new teachers, new lessons, new schools, new uniform...the list goes on. But this year, school will feel even more different with a 'new normal' after the extended period of school closures. With new start and finish times and new year group bubbles, there will be a lot of 'new' things for children and parents to get used to.

In September every year, we at Ten:Ten take time to refocus on Jesus - the reason for doing what we do. Our resources for the start of term often invite children to consider Jesus' invitation for them to follow Him through everything known and unknown that the year will bring. This seems more pertinent than ever this year, and so for this newsletter, we share with you an imaginative meditation that children experienced in the first week back of term.

Click to play the recorded meditation below, and then why not discuss it with your child.

https://vimeo.com/448834887

In the Gospel, Jesus says: "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him...take up his cross and follow me." Matthew 16: 24

Children heard the Gospel and how Jesus will help us every step of the way and help us to carry our 'cross'. We don't have to carry an actual cross but it's like the bag in the meditation - we carry it on the path and when it gets too heavy, Jesus helps us.

Children learned that Jesus longs for us to follow Him, because He knows we will be happiest when we follow the path He lays out for us.

Space was made for children to consider the questions below, which you might like to discuss with them:

Will you follow Jesus this year? Will you let Him help you and guide you?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, We don't know all that this year holds, but you do. Help us with our schoolwork and our friendships. Help us remember that you are with us in the good times and the bad. Amen

Great News! We have an exciting Disney themed menu on Thursday 1st October. See below. Also, we are expecting the full hot menu to be reinstated the following Monday on 5th October!





Mulan's Mains

Mickey's & Minnie's Hot Dog and Ketchup Tigger's Chicken Nuggets with Dips Moana's Vegan Nuggets Woody's Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings

Snow White's Super Sides

Happy's Chips Grumpy's Garden Peas Bashful's Baked Beans

Dumbo's Desserts

Elsa's Iced Chocolate Cake Princess Jasmine's Yoghurt Olaf's Fresh Fruit

8	CELEBRATION FRIDAY WINNERS Friday 18 th September 2020			
F2	Rosi-Mae	For	Always coming into school with a smile and showing us your super listening and joining in on the carpet. Keep it up Rosi-Mae [©]	
FZ	Albert	For	A fantastic start in F2 and exploring lots of different messy activities, especially the MUD kitchen!!	
Y1	Grayson	For	Fantastic suggestions throughout all lessons this week – you have tried really hard to always speak in full sentences! Well done – keep it up!	
	Faithe		Lovely writing work this week – all the adults in Y1 have been very impressed by how hard you have worked with your spelling this week! Great job!	
Y2	Philomena	For	For your excellent mathematical skills! You have completed some extremely challenging maths equations all on your own! You listen so carefully during lessons and this ensures you know exactly how to tackle each equation! Well done! You are such a role model!	
	Romaine		For your wonderful enthusiasm for ancient Egypt! You have taken it upon yourself to research all about different pharaohs in our class books and was super excited to share your new found knowledge with the class! This independent and positive to attitude to learning is amazing, keep it up!	
	Joel		Your wonderful efforts in our English lessons this week. You have thought of fantastic reasons as to why Harmony should be allowed a pet. Super writing Joel!	
¥3	Kylan	For	Your fantastic determination during our maths lessons this week! You have shown your willingness to challenge yourself with addition. Well done!	
	Susanna		Susanna, you're an outstanding role model to other children in school, your politeness, effort and kindness has been something that I have really noticed this week. Your presentation in your work is absolutely amazing too. Well done.	
¥4	Rosie	For	Rosie, you are always ready to learn, have supported your peers excellently this week and have accepted every challenge you have been given with the same positive attitude. You have shown great maturity all week and I have been really impressed by you. Well done.	
	Guedaliah		Excellent use of fronted adverbials to indicate time and place. Well done Guedaliah, I can't wait to see how fantastic your informal letter is going to be!	
Υ5	Joshua	For	for using great mathematical language when modelling the column method to the class and for persevering even when you found it difficult. Well done Joshua!	
VG	Harry	For	Demonstrating an exemplary behaviour, maturity and attitude in all your learning and activities! Keep this up!	
Y6	Nathaniel	For	Putting in amazing effort in our RE lesson and improving your presentation as well! Keep it up!!	

Class	Percentage Attendance	Lates	
F2	97.9	0	
Year 1	95.1	0	
Year 2	92.2	0	
Year 3	92.1	0	
Year 4	98	0	
Year 5	98.9	0	
Year 6	94.2	0	
School Total	95.4	0	

Wow! Well Done Y5 you will receive an extra playtime for your great attendance last week!

100% Attendance & Punctuality Winners			
F2	Jacob		
Year 1	Anayah		
Year 2	Rhys		
Year 3	Eoghan		
Year 4	Sophia		
Year 5	Kadija		
Year 6	Мауа		

GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER!



This week's winner is Dantaye in Y4

For:

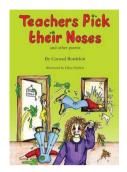
For being confident in his use of column method in maths this week. His positive mindset and determination to get the right answers in maths has been a pleasure to see. Well done Dantaye.

OUTSTANDING HOMEWORK Week ending 18th September

Class	Winner	
F2		
Y1	Heath	
Y2	Katie	
Y3	Masi	
Y4		
Y5	Brody	
Y6	Max	

TRIPS AND EVENTS - 2020/21

Live Poetry Event with Conrad Burdekin



We have been invited to a special event to celebrate Libraries Week 2020. Local writer, fun poet and storyteller Conrad Burdekin will be hosting a Zoom event on **Wednesday 7th October at 1.30pm**. Conrad inspires children up and down the country to want to write. Conrad will be performing his poems and funny stories with a Q&A to follow. To comply with safeguarding, video and audio of attendees won't be activated, the Q&A will be activated via the chat feature. This is a free event and years 3 – 6 will be taking part.

Parents' Evening Autumn 2020

Due to the current climate and guidance from DFE and Public Health, we will not be having a face to face parents' evening as we usually would do in the Autumn term. Your child's class teacher (Year 1-Year 6) will however be either sending parent(s)/carers an email or making a phone call next week. This communication will be primarily to inform you how child has settled into school life which would be in line with information shared if face-to-face parents' evening were to take place at this early stage in the school year. There will also the opportunity for you to respond with questions if needed.

Y4 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO KINGSWOOD PEAK VENTURE IN PENISTONE Wednesday 21 April 2021 to Friday 23 April 2021 *CANCELLED*

In line with the current guidelines which advises school's not to have overnight residential trips, based on the current situation, whilst this is disappointing for the children, we have made the decision to **cancel** the Y4 Kingswood Residential, planned for next Spring. Refunds of any payments already made will be organised as soon as possible.