



**Newsletter – Issue 15**  
**Week Commencing – 4 January 2021**  
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As you will be aware from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021, School is closed until further notice for all children, except those who are vulnerable (ie, have an EHCP or social worker) and those whose parents are Critical Workers, who should only attend school if they have no other provision for them. Children should remain at home where they can, out of the transmission chain.

**We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding through this difficult time.**

**We hope that you are all keeping well, it has been lovely to hear how the children are getting on at home. Please keep in touch with us!**

**Please help everyone by adhering to the social distancing rules set by the government and keep yourselves and your family safe.**

**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

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.

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.

Here is a reminder of the key protective measures we are asking you to follow. (Please do not be offended if school staff remind you regarding the below, it is about working together to help stop the spread of the virus).

Here is a reminder of the key protective measures we are asking you to follow. (Please do not be offended if school staff remind you regarding the below, it's about working together to help stop the spread of the virus)

- Please keep 2m apart from anyone not in your household- this helps to limit the spread of the virus. There are 2m markings throughout the school site to support this.
- **Please wear a face mask/covering on school site unless you are exempt.**
- Please keep your child/children with you at all times- this supports the protective bubble we have in place in school.
- Although we love to chat to our families, in order to keep lines moving, please phone/email or send a note into school with any messages, for staff.
- Only 1 parent/carer per family to come on school site at drop off/pick up times- this helps to keep the number of people on school site at any one time to a minimum.

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## Increasing Data Allowances On Mobile Devices to Support Disadvantaged Children:

This scheme, offered by the Government, temporarily increases data allowances for mobile phone users on certain networks. This is so that children and young people can access remote education if their face-to-face education is disrupted.

### **Who can get help?**

Schools, trusts and local authorities can request mobile data increases for children and young people who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

Children with access to a mobile phone on one of the following networks might be able to benefit:

- Three
- Smarty
- Virgin Mobile
- EE
- Tesco Mobile
- Sky Mobile
- O2

Other providers may join the scheme at a later stage.

For each request, we need to know:

- the name of the account holder
- the number of the mobile device
- the mobile network of that device (for example Three)

If the above applies to you and you would like school to apply on your behalf, please contact us with the required information. We will send off requests in weekly batches and our first request will be sent on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January then every Wednesday after that.

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



## CELEBRATION FRIDAY WINNERS

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

|    |          |     |   |
|----|----------|-----|---|
| F2 | Jacob    | For | Using your super imagination to talk about what Tim the elf has been up to in our classroom and sharing your ideas with your friends. Well done Jacob 😊   |
|    | Erin     |     | Being a very thoughtful and caring friend to the other children our class. You are always willing to help you're your friends and the teachers with jobs in the classroom. Well done Erin 😊   |
| Y1 | Scarlett | For | Persevering on our boat making day this week – there were times when you found it hard to do, but you kept going! And you made a successful floating boat! Great job 😊  |
|    | Finlay W |     | Some amazing work this week with your acrostic poem and your Christmas-themed writing – you have been confident to read out your own writing in your big voice! Great job!  |
| Y2 | Katie    | For | For your beautiful handwriting. Every day you take care to ensure your writing is perfectly presented. You never rush and always try your best! You are now starting to join up too, which is excellent! Well done!   |
|    | Rebekah  |     | For your kindness to other children. You are a lovely girl and are always putting others before yourself! You have made many friends and treat them with heaps of respect, generosity and are always looking to be helpful. What a great role model! Well done! |
| Y3 | Ava      | For | Trying your hardest this week with our tricky two-step word problems. You showed your working out in an efficient way. Well done, Rohan!  |
|    | Rohan    |     | Your amazing efforts this week in our RE lessons. You have reflected carefully on the journey that the shepherds had to take to visit Jesus. Well done, Ava!  |
| Y4 | Naomi    | For | Making great progress in reading this half term.  |
|    | Mia      |     | Writing an impressive big write.  |
| Y5 | Shaun    | For | A fantastic Big Write – your writing was outstanding! Well done Shaun!  |
|    | Rian     |     | Persevering in maths when learning about angles and classifying triangles! Well done Rian!  |
| Y6 | Yuxiang  | For | Putting amazing attitude and effort into your dance assessment piece – great role model for your group! Keep it up!   |
|    | Sophia   |     | Taking ownership and responsibility for your own maths learning! Wonderful positive effort and attitude! Keep it up!  |

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## Last Week's Attendance & Punctuality

| Class               | Percentage Attendance | Lates     |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| F2                  | 97.3                  | 0         |
| Year 1              | 95                    | 2         |
| Year 2              | 96.3                  | 1         |
| Year 3              | 98.3                  | 4         |
| Year 4              | 75.7                  | 3         |
| Year 5              | 97.9                  | 0         |
| Year 6              | 93.1                  | 1         |
| <b>School Total</b> | <b>93.3</b>           | <b>11</b> |

Wow! Well done Year 3! You will receive an extra playtime for your great attendance last week!

## GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER!



This week's winner is Sebastian in F2

For:

Always trying your best even when you are finding something a little bit tricky. We are so proud of all of your fantastic learning, and what a super, positive attitude you have when you come in every morning. Well done Seb! 😊

## Outstanding Homework Winner

Week ending 18<sup>th</sup> December

| Class | Winner  |
|-------|---------|
| F2    | Dominic |
| Y1    | Anayah  |
| Y2    | Bruno   |
| Y3    | Oskar   |
| Y4    |         |
| Y5    | Kaisie  |
| Y6    | Zeph    |

## 100% Attendance & Punctuality Winners

|        |         |
|--------|---------|
| F2     | Robyn   |
| Year 1 | Anayah  |
| Year 2 | Oskar D |
| Year 3 | Darcia  |
| Year 4 |         |
| Year 5 | Rian    |
| Year 6 | Cole    |

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**SPRING TERM 2021**

**COME AND SEE AT HOME**

Dear Parents/Carers,

This term we will be studying the three themes of Local Church (Community), Eucharist (Relating) and Lent/Easter (Giving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics.

### LOCAL CHURCH - COMMUNITY

*(04.01.21 – 29.01.21)*

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Early Years   | <b>CELEBRATING</b> - People celebrate in Church                                       |
| Year 1        | <b>SPECIAL PEOPLE</b> - People in the parish family                                   |
| Year 2        | <b>BOOKS</b> - The books used in Church   |
| Year 3        | <b>JOURNEYS</b> - Christian family's journey with Christ                              |
| Year 4        | <b>COMMUNITY</b> - Life in the local Christian community and ministries in the parish |
| Year 5        | <b>MISSION</b> - Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese (ecumenism)                     |
| Year 6 Church | <b>SOURCES</b> - The Bible, the special book for the                                  |

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Explore the Diocesan website, looking at the number of churches, and finding out about our bishop.

Read Bible stories together or encourage older children to read a child's Bible.

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## EUCCHARIST - RELATING

(01.02.21 – 05.03.21)

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Early Years         | <b>GATHERING</b> - Parish family gathers to celebrate Eucharist           |
| Year 1              | <b>MEALS</b> - Mass, Jesus' special meal                                  |
| Year 2              | <b>THANKSGIVING</b> - Mass, a special time to thank God                   |
| Year 3              | <b>LISTENING &amp; SHARING</b> - Jesus gives himself to us                |
| Year 4              | <b>GIVING &amp; RECEIVING</b> - Living in communion                       |
| Year 5<br>memorial  | <b>MEMORIAL SACRIFICE</b> - Eucharist as the living of Christ's sacrifice |
| Year 6<br>communion | <b>UNITY</b> - Eucharist enabling people to live in communion             |

## SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Look through the family photograph album to help the children remember important events and special people in their lives.

Discuss how we come together for special celebrations.

## LENT/EASTER - GIVING

(08.03.21 – 01.04.21)

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Early Year | <b>GROWING</b> - Looking forward to Easter                                   |
| Year 1     | <b>CHANGE</b> - Lent: a time for change                                      |
| Year 2     | <b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> - Lent: an opportunity to start anew                    |
| Year 3     | <b>GIVING ALL</b> - Lent: remembering Jesus' total giving                    |
| Year 4     | <b>SELF DISCIPLINE</b> - Celebrating growth to new life                      |
| Year 5     | <b>SACRIFICE</b> - Lent: a time of aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus |
| Year 6     | <b>DEATH &amp; NEW LIFE</b> - Celebrating Jesus' death and resurrection      |

## SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

As a family talk about how you are going to practice self-control and self-giving for the rest of the season of Lent. You may decide to give up biscuits or cakes and donate the money to a charity.

If you have an older child provide him/her with an opportunity to take part in The Stations of the Cross. Ask your child/ren how the school is focusing on Lent and self-giving.

## TRIPS AND EVENTS - 2020/21

### Y6 Crucial Crew Trip

**WEDNESDAY 20th JANUARY 2021**

Unfortunately, based on the current lockdown rules we have to cancel the Year 6 trip to Crucial Crew on 20th January. We will be issuing refunds over the next few days.

### Breakfast Club

Following the announcement on Monday evening and the subsequent school closures we will not be reopening the Breakfast Club next Monday (11 January 2021) as originally planned.

Whilst we appreciate that a few families would still use Breakfast Club if available, now that we are reducing the number of contacts and staffing numbers on site on a day to day basis, we are unable to