



As you will be aware from Wednesday 6th 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/carers are Critical Workers. The government guidance during lockdown says that the children of parents and carers who are critical workers may be eligible for a school place. However, this does not mean that all places should be taken up and it does not mean that there is an entitlement – the guidance says that critical worker parents and carers should keep their children at home if 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.

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 the period of isolation for the person with symptoms is 10 days from the start of symptoms, a household member would need to isolate for 10 days. Day 1 is the day after symptoms or the day after a positive test if no symptoms.

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

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).

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- 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.

GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER!



This week's winner is Cole in Year 5 for:

Working really well with a partner to complete addition and subtraction word problems! You persevered with this task even though it was really tricky!

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



CELEBRATION FRIDAY WINNERS

Friday 15th January

F2	Kai	For	Blowing us away with your fantastic Fred Talk this week and for spotting the rhyming words to make your rhyming string. Well done Kai, keep it up 😊
	Stanley		Trying really hard with your home learning this week. We are super impressed with your number writing and counting to 10! Keep it up Stanley 😊
Y1	Stasiu	For	Some amazing home learning. I really enjoyed reading your fantastic RE work all about the important people in the church, as well as you showing off your knowledge of fact families! Great job!
	Poppy		Some thoughtful and correctly punctuated questions this week! I love how hard you're trying to include adjectives and conjunctions in all your sentences to improve them! Well done!
Y2	Lily	For	For your amazing attitude to learning at home! I have loved looking through all the excellent work you have completed at home and Mrs Curry is also extremely proud of you for how well you have worked on Zooms!! Well done!
	Philomena		For your excellent multiplication and division knowledge! As always, you have worked so hard this week at school to challenge yourself and calculate various tricky equations!
Y3	Ava	For	Trying your very hardest this week in our PE lessons. It was really tricky to hold a balance, but you were determined to do this. Well done, Ava!
	Joel		Your hard work with our remote learning this week. You have tried your hardest, and we are super impressed! Well done, Joel!
Y4	Charlie P	For	Trying really hard at home and for completing some challenging problems.
	James		Producing pieces of writing that show a good range of skills. Your use of multiclauses sentences has been great to see. Well done James.
Y5	Rian	For	Really persevering with your fractions work this week – and for being a superb 'TA' for Mrs Kirk!
	Guedaliah		Putting a high level of effort into completing your arithmetic paper independently in preparation for your maths booster and for working really hard during the session.
Y6	Max	For	Demonstrating AMAZING effort and dedication to your learning! Superb focus! Keep it up!
	Leo		Sharing your fantastic knowledge of prehistoric history! Superb discussions!! Keep it up!

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Book Exchange at School

Thank you so much to those families who have donated books; as you can see we have a really wide variety for all age groups! We of course will always take further donations so please keep bringing them in so we can replenish the stock!

The book trolley will be outside the school office from Monday 25th January for children to choose a book to read. Please ensure once you have read the book, you bring it back so someone else can enjoy it. The book exchange is available for all children, whether accessing provision in school or learning at home.

For children who are in school, they can access the reading trolley every morning before school. For children at home, they can access it between 10am-2pm daily. In both instances, please ensure social distancing is maintained.



Breakfast Packs



If anybody would like an extra breakfast pack, there are plenty in the school office if you would like to pop in and collect one. If you are isolating/shielding and you would like one, please give us a call/email and we will arrange for this to be dropped off at to your house.

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Home Learning

We want to say a huge well done to our children who are currently learning from home. You are doing a great job and we love it when you send your work to us so we can see how you are getting on!

Remember to email class teachers if you have any questions about your work, or alternatively please phone the school office and staff will be happy to help.

School Remodelling Project



The School Governors have agreed on a proposal for some remodelling work in school. The planned work is to relocate the Y1 Class into the KS1 corridor, which will be much more beneficial for the children. The agreed plans involve moving the kitchen into the Deputy Head/SENCO room, Mrs Round will relocate to the small office on the KS2 corridor. Once the kitchen has been moved we will then be able to combine the current library and kitchen spaces to create a new classroom, with access to the outside play area.

The current Y1 classroom will then be revamped to become the library and additional meeting space including an accessible toilet.

Despite the pandemic, lockdowns etc the school have been working behind the scenes to progress the remodelling project. A contractor has been appointed and work should be starting on site by the beginning of February 2021.