



**Newsletter – Issue 26**  
**Week Commencing – 22 March 2021**  
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Here is the link for the activity newsletter with lots of exciting things to do during half term : <http://bit.ly/SCUEasterPassportNewsletter>

Looking for some

# Easter fun?

Download the Sheffield CU Passport  
Activity Newsletter for ideas !

You can collect CU credits at all activities listed using a Passport  
to Learning. Pick up your CU passport here:  
<https://bit.ly/SCUOrderPassporttoLearning!>

**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



**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.

We have had a number of children absent from school recently with a cold. We appreciate parents/carers being wary of illnesses recently due to the current climate. However, children are fine to come in to school with a cold. If they have a continuous cough or high temperature, please follow the Covid19 government guidance.

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).

- 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.
- **Once you have dropped off/picked up your child/children, please do not congregate in groups outside the school gates. We ask that families move away from the entrance/exit to avoid causing congestion, which causes problems for others entering or leaving the school site.**

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



## **Welcome to Beat the Street in Sheffield!**

Beat the Street is a fun, free walking and cycling game which gets staff, pupils and their families out and about in the local area, having fun and keeping healthy.

Developed by a team of doctors and physical health experts led by Dr William Bird MBE, a GP working on the NHS frontline against COVID-19, Beat the Street is the perfect way to get pupils and their families moving safely after lockdown. Physical activity is proven to boost physical and mental health and immunity, which helps the body resist bacteria and viruses including COVID-19.

Beat the Street is designed to inspire people to make small changes, such as walking or cycling to school every day, to improve health and help embed physical activity into everyday life. So far over 1.3 million people have taken part in Beat the Street games across the UK, Ireland, and beyond.

'Beat Boxes' will be positioned around Sheffield including one outside our school. Players will receive a card or fob which they hover next to the contactless Beat Boxes as they walk, cycle, run, roll or scoot around the area, earning points for themselves and their team.

Players can view their progress online at [beatthestreet.me/sheffield](https://beatthestreet.me/sheffield).

There will be prizes for winning schools and teams, as well as plenty of lucky spot prizes, which could be won by any registered player taking part in the game.

The Sheffield game is due to start on 16<sup>th</sup> June and will run until 28<sup>th</sup> July.

To find out more about how 'Beat the Street' works please view the short video below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJbOghMQ5ZM&t=>

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## School Nature Garden

We Need Your Help



We want to create a space in our woodland area that will have a positive impact on learning in school. Our aim is to have a space that will support children's social, emotional and personal development. We want them to use this space for learning in science and geography, to help improve reading in school and to have a space where children can benefit from work in a great outdoor environment.

We have a plan of what we want it to look like, but we now need your help. If you are able to do so, we are asking you to donate any resources that you may have at home that you are no longer using.

Thank you to everyone who has already offered donations or help. We still need the following things:

- ~~Exterior fence and masonry paint – any colours!~~ – Thank you to Darcey Y4's Mum and Ronseal who are kindly donating all the exterior paint we need
- Timber
- Clear and green 2 litre plastic bottles.
- Bricks
- Bamboo
- Gardening gloves
- Gardening tools
- Plant pots - Not plastic ones!
- ~~Car tyres~~
- Pond liner, fish food,
- Leftover bags of stones/pebbles/bark
- Wooden pallets

Also, if you work for any businesses that may be willing to donate any of the above materials we would love to hear from you.

If you think you have any of the following, and would like to donate these to school, please email [enquiries@st-thomasmore.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@st-thomasmore.sheffield.sch.uk) before bringing them into school as we will need to arrange when they can be dropped off.

We appreciate all of your help with this, and please keep an eye out for the next update as we will be asking parents to get their gardening gloves on!

Thanks,

Mr. Platts

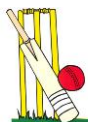
# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## Easter Hamper Raffle

Staff at STM have donated easter items to make these lovely Easter hampers for our raffle. As we are discouraging cash handling in school we have set up a payment item on ParentMail for you to pay for raffle tickets on there. Tickets are £1.00 each and you can buy as many as you like. All money raised will go to The Good Shepherd Appeal, which we support each year. The raffle will be drawn and the winners will be announced on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Good luck everyone!



## Whitely Hall Cricket Club Coaching



Year 6, Year 4 and Year 2 will be taking part in a cricket coaching session provided by Whitely Hall cricket club. Each year group bubble will have a 50-minute session. This will take place in school time on the morning of **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** and will be free of charge. Children in these year groups will need to ensure they have their outdoor PE kits in school on this day.

## National Autism Awareness Week in Sheffield: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

**National Autism Awareness Week in Sheffield #AutismAwarenessWeek**  
Working together to better support Autistic Children, Young People and their Families  
[www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/ASDSupport](http://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/ASDSupport) and [www.sheffielddirectory.org.uk](http://www.sheffielddirectory.org.uk)



# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE FUND

In the past, Catholic Schools have asked for a voluntary contribution from parents/carers to the Schools Maintenance Fund. The Maintenance Fund was established by Bishop John to support Voluntary Aided Catholic Schools in meeting their 10% share towards capital projects (for any repairs and improvements to the external fabric of the school building).

As an Academy, we are funded differently for our capital projects. Funding for capital projects is now secured by bidding in to the EFA (Education Funding Agency) like all other academies whether they are Catholic or not. However, it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure this funding as it relies on meeting criteria that states the school needs to expand or the condition is so poor there are health and safety concerns. Therefore, this means it is more important than ever that we maintain our schools on an ongoing basis yet with ever reducing budgets this is proving more and more difficult to do.

As a result, many schools, including those in Our Lady Umbrella Trust, are continuing to ask parents/carers to make a voluntary contribution to a School Maintenance Fund. This fund will be used to enable small projects such as painting, decorating, window cleaning, refurbishment and minor repair works to be undertaken to ensure that our school environment is as safe, welcoming and attractive as possible.

The governors wish to make it clear to parents that there is no obligation to make any contribution and children of parents who do not contribute will not be treated any differently.

The amount being requested towards this fund is £10 per child (This works out at 20p per child per week) or £15 per family or whatever voluntary contribution you are willing / able to make. Payments can be made on ParentMail.

Thank you for your continued support of the School.

## Breakfast Club March 2021



Breakfast Club will resume on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March**. Following feedback, we will initially be continuing with a drop in provision. This will be slightly different for the children in school to ensure they remain in their class bubbles. We will continue to review how successful this is and may need to make some change if this becomes un-manageable as a drop in session.

Drop off will be between **8:00am and 8:30am** with strictly no admissions after 8:30am. The cost is **£2 per session** (a reduction due to the free breakfast provision currently available in school). Payment will need to be made in advance via ParentMail, and accounts will be charged daily after each attendance. If there are insufficient funds on your child's account, they will be allowed to attend that day, but will subsequently, not be given entry until there are sufficient funds paid to their Breakfast Club Account.

Children must be brought to the main entrance by a parent/carer - please queue up the ramp, following the 2m markings. Children will sign in at reception as normal; however, **no cash will be accepted in school**.



# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## PARKING SAFELY

Now that all the children are back to school, the area outside our school has become very busy again in the morning and even more so at leaving times.

We have had more reports of parking incidents.

Parents/carers who park close to entrances act irresponsibly, placing children in danger. We can't stress enough how important it is that the 'School Keep Clear' Zig Zag markings should maintain an area free from parked cars. Please do not drop your children off at school by stopping in the middle of the road. This is very dangerous. By keeping the space in front of school free from cars, it is allowing parents/carers and children walking in and out of school to cross safely, where they can see and be seen by approaching traffic.

We understand that parents/carers have places to be but please be sensible and think about the safety of all of our school community. We dread to think that one of our children could potentially be harmed due to irresponsible driving and/or parking. Please also be respectful of other drivers when parking, ensuring there is room to pass on the road. Blocking the road may pose a risk to nearby residents who may require urgent medical assistance in the event of a fire or illness. Please also refrain from parking on the grass verge outside of school.

If you have to drive to school, please try to park as far away from school as you can and walk the rest of the way.

**If you happen to see any dangerous parking please take down the details and report this to the police on the below link:**

<https://smartcontact.southyorkshire.police.uk/>

We thank you for your support with this.

## Uniform


Our uniform policy can be found here on our website:

<https://www.st-thomasmoresheffield.co.uk/our-school/uniform>

We understand with limited shops open, it may have been difficult to ensure correct uniform. We have noticed a significant number of children who are wearing incorrect footwear- e.g. trainers. Trainers should only be worn in school for PE. Please ensure your child is wearing correct school uniform.

Thank you for your support.

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

	<b>CELEBRATION FRIDAY WINNERS</b> <b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
F2	Nerae	For	Coming back to school with a super positive attitude to your learning. We are really proud of you! Keep it up 😊
	Theo		Independently making your own story map for 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and retelling the story. Well done Theo 😊
Y1		For	
Y2	Oscar	For	Your excellent independent and speedy work! You have worked so hard this week concentrating very well and putting your mind to all your learning. Because of this, you have produced some excellent writing in English! Well done, keep it up!
	Shayne		Your excellent attitude to school and learning. You have come back to school as if you have never been off! You have been setting such a good example to others with your perfect listening skills and enthusiasm! What a great role model
Y3	Bobby	For	Your amazing efforts in our English lessons this week. You created really effective, descriptive similes to describe the Space-Bat-Angel-Dragon, and you thought about what image you want your reader to have. Well done, Bobby!
	Lewam		Always giving 100% during our liturgy practice. You have impressed us so much with your amazing singing, reading your lines and thinking carefully about our focus during the liturgy. Well done, Lewam!
Y4	Gracie W	For	Working really hard in RE this week. You made a great booklet about Ash Wednesday. Well done!
	Jonas		Writing an amazing Big Write this week. Your use of different sentence types was really impressive. Well done!
Y5	Amanor	For	Always trying your best and showing me that you are ready to learn, this week and every week! Well done Amanor!
	Macy		Trying your best with your fractions work this week. The tasks have been really tricky but you have persevered and showed great resilience. Well done Macy!
Y6	Nikola	For	Producing an excellent explanation on how Jesus is the bread of life! Fantastic work! Keep it up!
	Rienedi		Putting in 100% effort into your Maths work this week! Great perseverance on your independent work! Keep it up!



# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

## GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER!



### Last week's winner is Tristan in Y4 for:

You have been so focussed since returning to school, and you have had a positive mindset towards your learning. Well done Tristan!

## Last Week's Attendance & Punctuality

Class	Percentage Attendance	Lates
F2	99	2
Year 1	100	1
Year 2	98.6	1
Year 3	97.8	5
Year 4	100	1
Year 5	98.7	1
Year 6	97.7	7
<b>School Total</b>	<b>98.8</b>	<b>18</b>

Wow! Well Done Y1 and Y4! You will receive an extra playtime for your great attendance last week!



### 100% Attendance & Punctuality Winners

F2	Amari
Year 1	
Year 2	Emmie
Year 3	Arthur
Year 4	Fredi
Year 5	Cole
Year 6	Gavin

## OUTSTANDING HOMEWORK WINNERS!

Week ending Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Class	
F2	Zack W
Y1	
Y2	Luna
Y3	Rohan
Y4	Naomi
Y5	Claudia & Rian
Y6	Raphael

# WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



Congratulations to Layla and Nikola on receiving their Gold and Silver certificate for the Sheffield Children's University! Fantastic job!

