



**St Thomas More Catholic Primary,
A Voluntary Academy**

2021/22 Newsletter – Issue 11

Week Commencing – 22 November 2021

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Visit our website: www.st-thomasmoresheffield.co.uk



Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets will be on sale from Monday the 29 November 2021. The tickets are available on Parentmail and the cost is £1 each.



Ventilation:

In line with DFE guidelines, we are continuing to ensure there is good ventilation in all rooms, being used in school - this is achieved by having windows open. As the colder weather is now approaching, you may wish to consider children wearing an additional layer under school uniform. Please ensure any additional layers are in line with our uniform policy.

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.

Important Dates



Y1 Local Walk

Wednesday 8 December 2021

Y6 EIS Athletics

Thursday 9 December 2021

Y3 Local walk

Tuesday 14 December 2021

F2 Festive Fun - Ecclesall Woods

Wednesday 15 December 2021

**Whole School Christmas Jumper/
Dinner day**

Thursday 16 December 2021

**F2, Y1 & Y2 - Christmas Drama
Workshop**

Friday 17 December 2021

Y2 EIS Gymnastics

Monday 10 January 2022

Y2 EIS Invasion Games

Thursday 17 March 2022

Y4 Kingswood Residential

Monday 16 May 2022

Wednesday 18 May 2022

Y6 York Residential

Monday 27 June 2022

Wednesday 29 June 2022

**This is not an exhaustive list of
planned events for the year, more
items will be added each week,
watch this space ☺**

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



This Sunday (28th November) is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent marks the beginning of the Church's year. The word ADVENT comes from the Latin word 'adventus' which means 'arrival', 'coming' or 'a drawing near'. During Advent, Christians focus on preparing for a three-fold coming.

- The coming of Christ in history (the birth of Jesus which we celebrate on December 25) and a remembrance of how the people of God waited expectantly for the Messiah;
- How Advent encourages believers to prepare to meet Jesus who comes every day in their lives;
- That believers wait in joyful expectation for Jesus to come again in glory at the end of time (the Second Coming).

Therefore Advent affirms that:

- Christ has come
- He is present in the world today
- He will come again in power.

Advent is a time of waiting in joyful hope for the coming of Jesus into the world. It is also a penitential season; one that prepares Christians for the Second Coming (hence the liturgical colour of the season is purple). Advent has a strong, positive message. Simply put it is – 'get ready!' Or as the Scriptures put it – 'prepare the way of the Lord'. For Catholics the call to work for charity and the common good are heightened during Advent. It is a time of renewal, personal growth and transformation.

There are so many beautiful readings at this time of the year, wonderful symbolism of the Advent wreath and Advent colours. The deeper we understand Advent as an opportunity to draw closer to God then the deeper and richer our appreciation of the true meaning of Christmas will be. We can try to spread joy and peace to those we live with not so much by any great announcements but by the small everyday things we do both at home and in our places of work. This was St Therese's 'little way.' Mother Teresa also said that it is not what we give that counts so much as the love with which we give it.

With the dark evenings and short days, light is a particularly powerful symbol. It only takes the light from one small candle to dispel a great deal of darkness and one act of kindness to transform someone's day. If you have an Advent Candle or wreath at home it is nice to light it every evening and think and say a prayer for the people you love.

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Advent events:



Advent is such an important and special time for us here at St Thomas More. It is a real opportunity to explore this liturgical season with our children and families. As parents/carers have been unable to come into school for such a long time we want to facilitate you being able to attend our Advent events, whilst keeping everyone safe and ensure we consider business continuity. We know that the larger the events and the more mixing, the more likely an outbreak will occur and we want to avoid this and keep any disruption for children, families and staff to a minimum. We have therefore decided that each class will lead an Advent performance eg a liturgy and parents/carers will be able to attend. The class performing their Advent event will be the only class of children in the hall. A max of 2 parent/carers per family (of the class that are doing the Advent performance) will be able to attend. This allows us to manage capacity within our hall and keep mixing to a minimum and maintain a level of social distancing between visitors. Prior to each Advent event, families will be invited via parent-mail and asked to complete a form, providing details of the 2 parent/carers/family members that will be attending. Please note, the 2 family members attending will be seated together and be required to wear face coverings, any younger family members attending are to be included in the 2 - for example a parent and a younger sibling would count as 2. Please note, if school is experiencing any outbreaks or there is any change to the guidance, then events may need to be re-scheduled or cancelled.

The dates/times set for our Advent events are below....

All events are due to start at 9.15am so please wait off site and the gate will be open at 9.05am. F2's Advent event will start at 2.30pm and the gate will be open at 2.20pm.

Y6	Wednesday 1 st December
Y5	Wednesday 8 th December
Y4	Wednesday 15 th December
Y3	Wednesday 22 nd December
Y2	Thursday 16 th December
Y1	Tuesday 21 st December
F2	Monday 20 th December

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



Sunday the 28th November marks the start at Advent so we are encouraging our children to come in an item of Purple on Monday the 29th November. Children can wear their own clothes combined with purple if they want to or an item of purple with their uniform. Please be aware that this is the same date as the photo catch up day so if your child will be having a photo taken then please send them with a school jumper to change into.

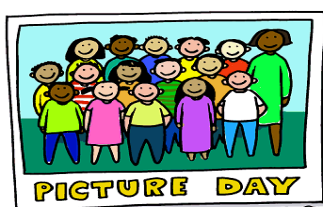
F2 Admissions – September 2022

We are now welcoming visits from families who are thinking of St Thomas More Catholic Primary as an option for children starting F2 in September 2022.

We have the following date and time available –Thursday 09 December 2021 at 2.00 pm

We are still limiting visitor numbers in school so please contact the school office on 0114 2468020 to book in for a visit. We ask that only 1 parent/carer and child attend and also adult visitors should wear masks while in the school building.

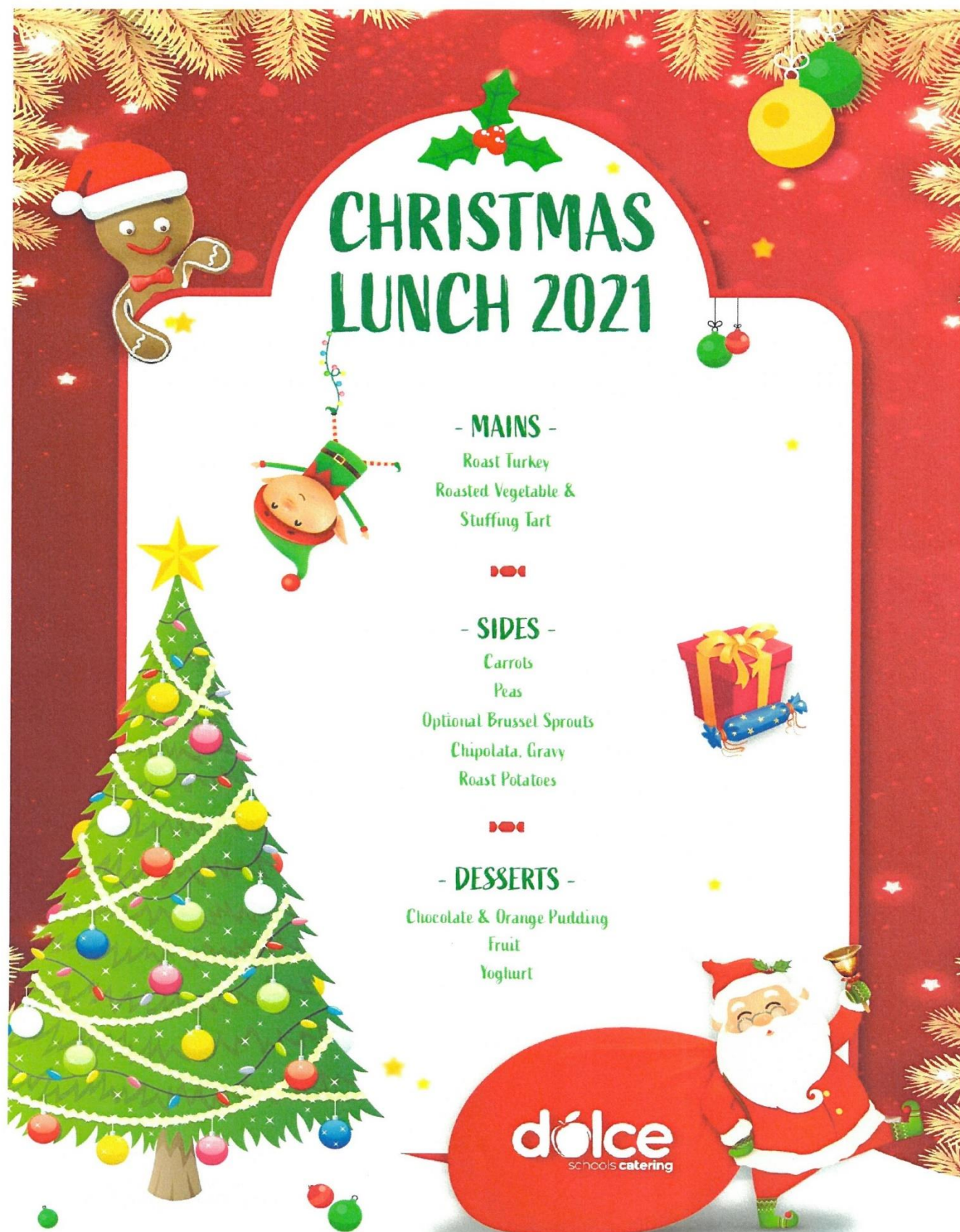
Braiswick Photo catch up day



Braiswick Photography will be coming into school in the afternoon on Monday 29th November 2021, to do a catch up visit for any children that did not have their photo taken when they came in on Monday the 8th November. We are aware that this is PE day for some children, so they can come in their school uniform and bring their PE kit with them to change into!

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day - Thursday 16th December 2021



WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Last Friday Year 4 had a fantastic time Fencing at EIS where we learnt some great techniques.



WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Year 2 had a fab day at their Egyptian workshop at Weston Park Museum on Friday 19th November .



Egyptian Workshop at Weston Park



PIC•COLLAGE

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



Severe weather notification

As we approach the winter months and the potential for bad weather, it is important that we have up to date contact information for notification of school closures or late starts.

Any notifications for families regarding this will be sent via Parent mail.

Christmas Fair

November 28th

St Thomas More Church Hall

**Gifts, Books, Cakes, Toys,
Refreshments, Raffles, Bric a Brac
and more!**

Come and see Santa in his Grotto

DOORS OPEN AT 2PM  **ADMISSION TO FAIR 50p PER PERSON**

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WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Celebration Winners

w/e 26 November 2021

F2	Maks	for	Showing confidence across all areas of learning this week! You did some fantastic dancing in PE and have joined in great with all the actions in RWI this week too! Great job!
	Joshua		Kindness towards your friends this week - you have played lovely with the other children and have been a great role model for sharing and taking turns. Well done!
Y1	Georgie	for	Trying really hard in your Maths.
	Seb		Trying hard in your big write this week and using conjunction 'and'.
Y2	Jacob	for	Being really focussed on your learning this week and for showing great listening in lots of lessons. Well done!
	Erin G		Being an amazing role model in maths meetings this week. You are always engaged and enthusiastic in these lessons.
Y3	Douglas	for	Excellent effort in handwriting! I am so impressed with your joining lines and letter formation! Keep it up! 😊
	Oliver		A fantastic comparison of past and present Sheffield in Geography! 😊 Well done!
Y4	Allyssia	for	Improving your swimming skills and confidence this week! Way to go!! Keep it up!
	Harry		Putting in so much effort into your non-chronological report! I am proud of you and the skills you demonstrated! Keep it up!
Y5	Jessie	for	Your outstanding effort during our music lesson this week. I am so proud of you for performing on your ukulele in front of the class. Well done Jessie!
	Harry		Your high level of focus and engagement during our RE lessons this week. You have made a fantastic start to our new unit, which is all about Advent and you were able to show a really good understanding of the symbolic meanings behind the advent wreath. Well done Harry.
Y6	Jennifer	for	Your supportive and kind ways during our dancing lesson. You offered support to your peers if they were finding this difficult. Well done, Jennifer!
	Amanor		Your amazing efforts in our English lessons. You used figurative language to describe the conditions of the trenches in the war. Well done, Amanor!

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

"Virtues to Live by"



w/e 26 November 2021 - Winners

F2

Aliza

Y1

Amy

Y2

Stasiu

Y3

Rhys

Y4

Joshua

Y5

Charlie P

Y6

Sophie

GROWTH MINDSET AWARD WINNER

W/E 26 November 2021



This week's winner is Emmanuella in Y3 for:

You continue to challenge yourself in everything you do and your knowledge and skills are really progressing. Well done!

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Attendance & Punctuality w/e 26 November 2021

Class	Percentage	Lates
F2	91.3	1
Y1	89.1	1
Y2	99.3	0
Y3	96	1
Y4	98.7	2
Y5	94	3
Y6	94.7	1
School Total	94.8	9

Wow! Well Done Y2! You will receive an extra playtime for your great attendance and punctuality.

Outstanding Homework w/e 26 November 2021



F2	Maya
Y1	Casey
Y2	Woody
Y3	Bruno
Y4	Rohan
Y5	Zofia
Y6	Carly

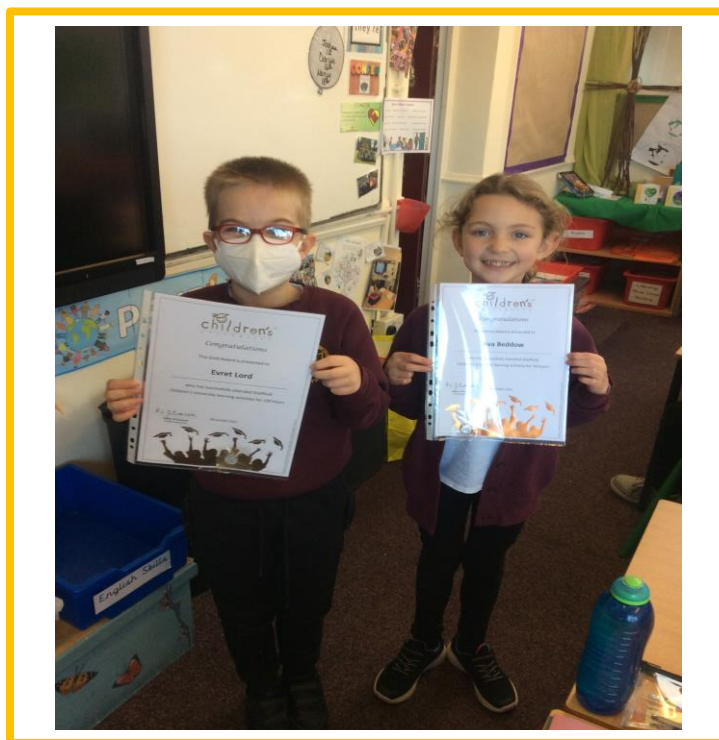
100% Attendance & Punctuality w/e 26 November 2021



F2	Emilia D
Y1	Rosi-mae
Y2	Finley H
Y3	Kornelia
Y4	Eve
Y5	Gracie F
Y6	Joshua

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Out of school activities



Congratulations to Ava of Y4 who received her bronze award and Evert on getting his gold award from children's university.

TRIPS AND EVENTS



Qualitas Sporting Events and Competitions 2021-22

Event	Year	Venue	Date/Time
Athletics	6	EIS	09.12.21 / 09:00 - 12:30
Gymnastics	2	EIS	10.01.22 / 09:00 - 12:30
Dance festival	1 & 5	Winding Wheel	28.03.22 / 09:00 - 12:00
Invasion games	2	EIS	17.03.22 / 09:00 - 12:30
Tag Rugby	4	Hallam sports park	22.04.22 / 09:00 - 12:00
Mini-tennis	1	Places 4 People	19.05.22 / 09:00 - 12:30
Derby county football festival	2	Derby County football club	17.06.22 / 09:00 - 12:00
Crown green bowling	SEND children	Places 4 People	21.06.22 / 09:00 - 12:00
Sports day	2&6	EIS	23.05.22 / 09:00 - 15:00
Quick cricket	TBC	Mount St Marys	18.07.22 / 09:00 - 13:00
Rugby union	TBC	Mount St Marys	19.07.22 / 09:00 - 13:00
Elite mini Olympics	TBC	Mount St Marys	19.07.22 - 09:00 - 13:00

F2 will have an event arranged during the summer term

There will be no cost to parents/corers for any of the above events.

These events including transport will be fully funded from the school's sports premium grant.

TRIPS AND EVENTS

Y1 Local walk

On the 8th December from 1pm-2pm, Y1 will be going for walk to the stream in Grenoside (a 5-7-minute walk from school.) This is so they can test out the boats they made in DT; they will see if they float/sink and how fast/slow they are ! On the day, please ensure that your child come's in their school uniform as usual. They will need to get wrapped up warm so please ensure they have a coat/hats/scarf/gloves wellies or other a suitable foot wear etc.

Depending on the weather, you may want to bring them an additional layer too e.g. a fleece/jumper. If you would like your child to attend, please go to the link that will be sent via Parentmail to fill out the permission form.

Y3 Local Walk

On the afternoon of Tuesday 14th December Y3 will be exploring the local area of Grenoside. This is part of our geography learning on the human and physical features of our local area. We will be aiming to set off after lunch at around 1.15pm and will be back in time for the end of the day at 3.20pm. As we will be walking, your child needs to be wrapped up suitably over their school uniform, Wellies or suitable footwear and carrying a bag to put their water bottle in should they get thirsty. There is no cost to you for your child to attend so please complete the electronic permission form on the link sent via Parentmail.

TRIPS AND EVENTS

F2 Festive Fun Workshop - Ecclesall Woods

On Wednesday the 15th of December 2021, F2 will be visiting the Discovery Centre at Ecclesall Woods for a day of festive fun! Activities during the day will include a campfire with marshmallows, creating clay hedgehogs, exploring how animals hibernate in the winter and making a reindeer Christmas decoration! The coach will be setting off at 8.30am so please ensure you arrive at school by 8.15am at the latest. We will be returning to school before the end of the school day (approx. 2.30pm).

The contribution is £18 which includes a full day workshop and coach travel. Payments should be made and consent given on Parentmail.

If we do not receive enough contributions the trip may have to be cancelled.

Children will need:

- Warm, waterproof clothing/shoes (inc. hats, scarves, gloves, etc!) as we will be outside for most of the day!
- A packed lunch and water bottle. If you would like a packed lunch to be provided by school, please indicate in the options on Parentmail.

EYFS and KS1 Christmas Drama Workshop **Friday 17 December 2021**

On Friday 17 December 2021, F2, Y1 and Y2 get to experience an in-school live performance from West End in Schools!

The Christmas spirit will be brought into school with a drama workshop and we will join Scrooge on his adventures through Victorian London based on A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens!

Using drama techniques drawn from professional theatre, the children will become immersed in the story's world as they inhabit the characters, recreate the Victorian setting, and explore the themes of the story.

We are asking for a contribution of £3.00 per child, towards this event. Payments should be made on Parentmail.