



# St Thomas More RC Primary School

*'Share the light of Jesus, by learning together and loving others'*

## Upcoming dates

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October**  
Children back  
Clubs start

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**  
All Saints Mass – whole school  
mass at church 9am

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**  
Poppy Sale begins

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**  
YR 3 St Martin's visit to church

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November**  
Individual class photos

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November**  
Reception 2023 Open morning  
9.30am

Parents' Evening

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November**  
Yr 5 trip to London Aquarium

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> November**  
Other faiths Week  
Anti-Bullying Week

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December**  
KS1 (Yr1 & 2) Nativity  
2pm & 6pm

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December**  
Reception Christmas Celebration  
2.30pm

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
KS2 Carol Service at church

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**  
Christmas Jumper and Party day

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
Last day of term

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**  
All children back

## Head teacher's message

### \*Good News\* - New end of school day for REC, Yr 1 & Yr 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### End of the school day

Having spoken to numerous parents on the playground it has been brought to our attention the difficulties faced by parents who have two different pick-ups at end of day. In response to our parent voice, we have decided to **dismiss all children at 3.30pm**. This will avoid parents having to wait 15 minutes as we experience darker, colder evenings. We ask that once your child/children have been collected that you vacate the playground promptly and safely – children are not permitted to ride their scooters on the playground.

#### Reception Class 2022

I would like to say well done to our new Reception class who have had a fantastic first half term. They have settled in brilliantly and have had a lot of fun learning, exploring and making new friends.

#### Dance lessons

A reminder that the following classes will be having dance when we return so will need to be in their PE kits on Wednesday. Those classes are:

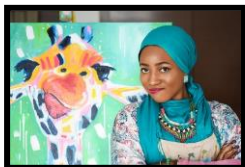
**Rec, Yr1, Yr5 & Yr6**

#### School Website

Thank you for bearing with us as we transition over to our new website format. It is now live and content/pages will be added in the coming weeks. Our school website is also a chance for you to see our twitter posts, so if you do not have an account you can still see all the fantastic things we are up to!

We wish you a restful half term,

Mrs Collins



## Black History Month – October 2022

This month, pupils are studying an artist from either the past or present. Pupils are developing a wide range of art and design techniques to recreate some of the artwork from these artists. The artists we are studying are Alma Thomas, James Little, Gee Bend, Chris Ofili, Jean Michel Basquiat, Sonia Boyce and Amira Rahim. Check out our hall during Parents' Evening to see some of their brilliant pieces or art inspired by them!

### A Figure 8



## PE House Cup Challenge

To kick-start our PE House Cup, we have introduced the PE House Cup Challenge. These are a series of challenges which are set every half term to encourage children to develop their both their skills and competitiveness. Through developing these skills, children will be able to see the benefit of practice and gain confidence from their improvement. The children will time each other completing their challenge on the last PE lesson of every half term, and will all be able to score points for their house.

Next half terms challenge is: The Figure of 8 challenge (see photo attached)

How many times can you pass the ball in a figure of 8 in 1 minute?

- Reception/year 1: pass ball/beanbag around legs
- Year 2/3: Roll ball in a figure of 8 around legs
- Year 4: Bounce ball/roll ball in a figure of 8
- Year 5/6: Bounce ball in a figure of 8

Tip for years 4-6; Start by bouncing the ball in front of you using both hands (any ball will do) before starting to move it in and out of your legs.

It would be great if you could ask your child about this challenge and to encourage them to practise even if it is doing a simpler version to begin with. They may find it difficult at first, but as they improve you will notice their confidence grow.

Many Thanks,  
Miss Green – PE Lead

## Winter Uniform

Please remember that when the children return they must be in their winter uniform. All items of their clothing must be labelled to ensure it finds its way back to them!

## **Hopscotch: Breakfast and After-school Club**

Please make sure you book in advance to avoid disappointment. If possible we would be grateful if you could book your sessions in blocks. Can we also remind you that payments should be made promptly and late payments may result in your child's place being removed from the list.

### **Term Dates**

#### **Autumn Term 2**

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

-Christmas Holiday: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023-

#### **Spring Term 1**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

-Spring half term: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February-

#### **Spring Term 2**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

-Easter Break: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April-

#### **Summer Term 1**

**\*\*INSET DAY – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April: No attendance for children\*\***

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May (Bank Holiday: 1<sup>st</sup> May)

-Summer half term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

#### **Summer Term 2**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July

**\*\*INSET DAY – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July: No attendance for children\*\***