



St Thomas More RC Primary School

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

Upcoming dates

Monday 20th February 2023

Children return to school

Tuesday 21st February

Pancake day celebration
lunch

Wednesday 22nd February

Ash Wednesday Service
2pm

Thursday 2nd March

World Book Day

Year 6 trip to Church

Wednesday 8th March

Parent's Evening

Friday 17th March

Year 5 trip to church – St
Patrick's day

Monday 20th March

Year 1 trip to church – St
Joseph's day

Friday 31st March –last day of term 3.30pm finish

Year 6 perform Stations of
the Cross

Monday 3rd April- Friday 14th April

Easter break

Monday 17th April – INSET day

School closed to children

Tuesday 18th April

Children return to school

Head teacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As our first half term of the calendar year ends, our thoughts and prayers are with all those effected by the awful earthquakes that have hit Turkey and Syria. Both yesterday and today's assemblies allowed us to come together in prayer for them at this terrible time. Thank you for helping make a difference and donating. Even during our own cost of living crisis, we are thankful for your continued support when we do raise money for much needed causes. Below is the link to Save the Children, please do pass this on to family and friends to make a donation if they can.

[DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal | Donate | Save the Children UK](#)

When we return on Monday 20th February, the season of Lent will be upon us. As we embark on our Lenten journey, let us be cheerful and reflective. Let us thank God for this time of grace and for the opportunity to grow spiritually ourselves, while being conscious of others who may need our help.

On behalf of all the staff at St Thomas More we wish you a relaxing half term.

Mrs Collins



**please don't forget to read on so you are up to date with all the things going on at St Thomas More. Including a new school cook and some changes to PE days!

Weekly Attendance Figures

Well done to both year 3 and year 4 this week for excellent attendance!

Class	% Attendance
Reception	89.1%
Year 1	93.5%
Year 2	91.8%
Year 3	94.6%
Year 4	94.6%
Year 5	92.3%
Year 6	92.5%
Whole school	92.7%

Welcoming our new school chef

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to our school chef, Guiseppe. Guiseppe has been with the school for 5 years but is now off to cook at a school local to his home in Essex. I am sure you join us in wishing him good luck in his new role.

We are also happy to announce we have a new school chef starting after half term, Toni is an experienced school cook and brings a wealth of experience and new skills. She will be implementing some small changes that we are sure the children will enjoy! Starting with pancakes for Shrove Tuesday after half term.

Winter PE Uniform

Can you please make sure that for PE your child is wearing their winter PE kit on their days (see timetable below). A **navy, plain** tracksuit, white polo shirt and trainers is required.

PE Timetable

Reception Class:	Monday and Wednesday (dance)
Year 1:	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 2:	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 3:	Wednesday (double session inc dance)
Year 4:	Monday (swimming only) and Tuesday
Year 5:	Monday and Wednesday (dance)
Year 6:	Wednesday (dance) and Friday

Teacher strike action

We were able to stay open on the most recent strike day but please be aware the next date for action is Thursday 2nd March. We will keep you updated nearer the time as to whether there will be any disruptions.

PTA news

The PTA will be running a whole host of activities for Easter, please watch out for announcements nearer the time. They will also be looking for volunteers and helpers, if you are interested in joining the PTA or helping out with any events please email: stmprimarypta@gmail.com

Breakfast club bookings

We want to take this opportunity to remind parents they need to book their places in advance for breakfast club, via School Money. We have noticed a higher uptake in breakfast club places over the past few weeks and we want to ensure parents are not turned away on any mornings due to all the places already being allocated. Ideally we would like parents to book all their slots for the whole week, in advance, to avoid disappointment. If you do not have your log in details or are having issues with the app, please contact the school office.

Extra-Curricular Clubs this term

In addition to the letters sent out this week, please see below a list of our clubs for this half term. If you would like to request a place for your child, please contact the school office.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Multi Sports for Yrs Reception, 1- 3	Dodgeball Yrs 4-6	Art Club Yrs 2-6	Prokickers Yrs 3-6
	Choir Yrs 3-6 children are selected by Miss McGill		Musical Theatre Yr 3-6

****If your child attends a club that doesn't fall on their PE day can they please bring their kit in a bag and wear school uniform as normal.****

Nut allergies and Birthday Treats

Following serious concerns from parents can we please remind you that no varieties of nuts and sesame seeds are allowed in school i.e. in packed lunches or in birthday treats/gifts. This is due to some of our children having very severe allergies. If you are bringing food/treats in to give to any child, other than your own, please bring in via the School Office and not directly to the children. We would recommend that if you are wishing to bring in birthday treats that it is not chocolate based.

Please do not give treats to children, other than your own, after school in case of unknown allergies.

Winter Uniform and PE Kit

When the children return in they should still be in their winter uniform. This consists of:
Children are expected to wear and be proud to wear our school uniform.

Boys	Girls
Grey Trousers	Navy Skirt or Pinafore
White Shirt	White Blouse
Navy Jumper	Navy Cardigan or Jumper
Red Tie	Red Tie
Grey or Black Socks	White or Navy Blue Socks / Navy Blue Tights
Black Shoes - no Boots or Trainers	Black Shoes - No Boots or Trainers
Dark Blue / Navy Blue Overcoat	Dark Blue / Navy blue Overcoat

*****Please remember to label ALL items of clothing so they can easily be returned*****

Term Dates

Spring Term 2

Monday 20th February to Friday 31st March

-Easter Break: Monday 3rd April to Friday 14th April-

Summer Term 1

****INSET DAY – Monday 17th April: No attendance for children****

Tuesday 18th April to Friday 26th May

(Bank Holidays: 1st May and 8th May – for the Coronation of King Charles)

-Summer half term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June-

Summer Term 2

Monday 5th June to Thursday 20th July

****INSET DAY – Friday 21st July: No attendance for children****