



St Thomas More RC Primary School

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

Upcoming dates

Monday 3rd June

Children return to school

Tuesday 4th June

Yr 2 trip to Lesnes Abbey

Thursday 6th June

Yr 4 trip to the Golden Hinde

Monday 10th – 14th June

Celebrating other faiths week

Tuesday 11th – 13th June

Yr 6 Enterprise week

Wednesday 12th June

Yr 6 Rugby Festival

Friday 14th June

Yr 4 Sharing Assembly
10.10am

Monday 17th June-21st June

Yr 6 School journey week

Friday 21st June

Whole school Mass 9am at church

Friday 28th June

INSET day – no attendance for children

Wednesday 3rd July

Sports Day – Sutcliffe Park
9am

Friday 5th July

Yr 1 trip to the London Aquarium
Yr 2 Sharing Assembly
10.10am

Friday 12th July

Annual PTA Summer BBQ

Head teacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday, led by Father Richard and the Lighthouse team we had a wonderful Crowning of Mary service where Mary was crowned to signify her as Queen of Heaven and the Mother of God. Thank you to everyone for the abundance of flowers we received to honour Our Lady. The display looked and smelt fantastic! During the service, members of the Art Club unveiled an outstanding piece of artwork they had been working on over the last few weeks. It is of Mary our Mother and the picture below does not do it justice, we cannot wait to display it so it can be enjoyed by everyone, so please do look out for it next time you are in the building.



Please read on to be aware of attendance reminders, the summer 2 PE timetable and the term dates for 24/25, **paying particular attention to the dates relating to the end and start of terms.**

On behalf of all of the staff at St Thomas More, we wish you a restful half term break and look forward to welcoming the children back for the final term of the school year! See you all on Monday 3rd June.

Mrs Collins

Summer Term Attendance Figures

Class	% Attendance
Reception	97%
Year 1	87.9%
Year 2	96.6%
Year 3	94.6%
Year 4	93.5%
Year 5	89.2%
Year 6	96.8%
Whole school	93.5%

At St Thomas More we have a continuing responsibility to proactively manage and improve attendance across the school community and we believe outstanding attendance and punctuality to school is vital for your child to learn and achieve their best.

In order to monitor and analyse weekly attendance, we use a platform called Studybugs. If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school.



<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

This efficient and secure system allows us to send automatic alerts directly to parents/carers when a child's attendance falls below the recommended threshold.

As you might already be aware, the acceptable level of attendance is over 95% and any child with less than 90% attendance is regarded by the Government as a 'Persistent Absentee'.

We of course understand that reasons such as illness and medical appointments, might not be within anyone's control. However, we do ask that medical appointment be scheduled outside school hours, and if this is not possible, please do provide medical proof in order for your child's absence to be authorised. It is important to note that even though your child's absence is authorised, their attendance will still be affected.

We would like to ask that you continue to support and encourage your child's good attendance and punctuality to school and not take your child away during term time as it will not be authorised, if this does occur your case will be referred to our attendance officer.

Upcoming Assessments – ATTENDANCE IS KEY!

Year 6 have successfully completed their end of year assessments but please be aware there are other statutory tests coming up in other year groups, please see below:

03/06 – 07/06: Yr 2 end of key stage assessments **AND** Yr 4 Multiplication Check

10/06 – 14/06: Phonics Screening check Yr1 plus Yr 2 resits

Year groups 3-5 will also be having informal end of year assessments in June.

Summer Uniform and PE Kit

It has been lovely to see the children coming to school smartly dressed and in correct uniform. We will once again be conducting a uniform check when we return to school so please ensure you are aware of correct summer uniform AND your child's PE days.

When the children return they wear their summer uniform. This remains primarily the same but with the option of **red checked dresses for the girls** and **grey shorts for the boys**:

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

For your child's PE day, they should be in a white polo short and red shorts with a plain, non-branded navy tracksuit over the top if necessary.

Lost Property

Please ensure each item of your child's uniform is named clearly.

At this time of year, children tend to take their jumpers and cardigans off in the playground and unless there are names on them, we do not know who to return them to. Our lost property basket is full of new, hardly worn items that are not labelled. We are finding it difficult to house the amount that is going unclaimed so we will now be emptying this bi weekly and donating the uniform to the local charity shop.

Hot Weather

As we move further into the summer term and the weather –hopefully- begins to warm up, please ensure you apply sun cream to your child in the morning and they have a sun hat to wear at break times. Please no sunglasses.

PE Timetable – Summer Term 2

Reception	Monday and Friday
Year 1	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 2	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 3	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 4	Monday and Thursday
Year 5	Monday and Friday
Year 6	Tuesday and Thursday

Term Dates 23-24

Summer Term 2

Monday 3rd June to Tuesday 23rd July 2024

****INSET DAY – Friday 28th June: No attendance for children****

****INSET DAY – Wednesday 24th July: No attendance for children****

Term Dates 2024-25

Autumn Term 1 2024

****INSET DAYS – Monday 2 & Tuesday 3 September: No attendance for children****

Term time: Wednesday 4 September to Thursday 24 October 2024

****INSET DAY – Friday 25 October: No attendance for children****

Half-term holiday: Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024

Autumn Term 2 2024

Term time: Monday 4 November to Friday 20 December 2024 **(1.30pm finish)**

Christmas and New Year holiday: Monday 23 December to Friday 3 January 2025

Spring Term 1 2025

Term time: Monday 6 January to Friday 14 February 2025

Half-term holiday: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025

Spring Term 2 2025

Term time: Monday 24 February to Friday 4 April 2025 **(1.30pm finish)**

Easter holiday: Monday 7 April to Monday 21 April 2025

Summer Term 1 2025

Term time: Tuesday 22 April to Friday 23 May 2025

****May Day bank holiday 5 May: school closed****

Half-term holiday: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025

Summer Term 2 2025

Term time: Monday 2 June to Friday 18 July 2025 **(1.30pm finish)**

*****INSET DAYS – Monday 21 & Tuesday 22 July: No attendance for children****



School Bagel Bar

We are pleased to announce that the school is receiving some funding to provide a breakfast snack for all children as they arrive at school. This is part of the National School Breakfast Programme funded by the Department of Education. Evidence shows that children that have eaten breakfast transition better into learning and are alert and ready to start the day.

From the 10th June, there will be a ‘Bagel Bar’ set up on the school playground as the children enter the school gates. They will have an opportunity to take a slice, sit, and eat this with their friends before heading up to class at 9am, so arriving promptly at 8.50am will give them the opportunity to take part in this.

If you would like more information on this, please see the link below.

[Breakfast at home - Family Action \(family-action.org.uk\)](http://family-action.org.uk)

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	Friday
Taekwondo Yrs Rec – Yr 3	Dodgeball Yrs 3-6	Art Club Yrs 2-6	Prokickers Yrs 3-6	Gymnastics Rec-Yr 2
	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.****

PTA INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone who purchased school disco tickets we raised a total of £320.30.

We would also like to thank Tom & Karla Hitchins for volunteering to DJ & help out at the disco to give our children a wonderful time with there classmates, We would also like to thank parents / carers who volunteered to help.

The money raised from the school disco will be going towards 30 Amazon fire tablets to help support our fluency programme.

The money raised by the PTA this year went towards 2 interactive whiteboards for Y2 and Y4, a new performance stage, Y6 Leavers hoodies and Chinese dance workshop to celebrate the Chinese New year.

The PTA would like to thank all parents / carers who continue to support the PTA events, this really helps to raise funds for the school which helps towards our children's education & lets the children have fun in the process.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 12th July - Summer School BBQ
Details to follow.

We are looking for volunteers to help out on the day, if you are available to help out please contact the school office.

Curriculum Enrichment

A visit to the Tower!

Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Tower of London. We visited The Monument, which is where the fire originally started. We walked along Pudding Lane and tried to find where the bakery might have been that caused the fire, but all we could see when we looked along the lane was a Gregg's bakery!

At the Tower of London, we saw the Crown Jewels and they were full of beautiful, sparkling diamonds. We saw the ravens, the Yeomen guards and even met and spoke with one of the King's Body Guards. We were blessed with beautiful, sunny weather for our trip and enjoyed our walk back to the train station along the pathway by the River Thames.



Walk to School Week

Thank you to all of those who made an effort to walk to school this week and a special well done to all of those who turned up for the walking bus, especially for braving it in the rain!