



# St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

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

Spring 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into the second half of the spring term, we would like to take a moment to reflect on what has already been a busy and joyful start to the year. Since returning in January, our pupils have embraced a wide range of opportunities. From engaging school trips that have enriched classroom learning, to inviting parents in to see sharing assemblies and read with their children. These occasions are always a wonderful way to share the children's achievements with you.

We now look ahead to the holy season of Lent, a special time in our liturgical year where we are invited to reflect, pray and grow closer to God through prayer, fasting and acts of charity. Throughout Lent, the children will be taking part in liturgies and moments of reflection to help them understand the importance of this sacred season.

## On line Safety

This week the school recognised Internet Safety day and as part of our commitment to keeping children safe on line the children have taken part in age appropriate activities and discussions focused on online safety. We know that children's online experiences extend beyond the school day. Your support at home is essential in helping them develop the skills and confidence to navigate the digital world safely. To help, the government has recently launched a new website designed specifically for parents and carers. The site offers practical guidance, conversation starters and up to date advice. We strongly encourage you to explore these resources:

[www.kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk](http://www.kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk)

## Parking Considerately

We would like to thank the many families who consistently park considerately and help ensure our drop off and pick up times run safely and smoothly. However, we have recently received concerns from our neighbours on Whinyates regarding the unsafe and inconsiderate parking during these busy times. This includes parking across driveways, on yellow lines and pulling in at the top of Shortway where our road closed sign is. This is causing restricted visibility for our families walking and drivers. Unsafe parking not only places pupils and families at risk but can also cause significant disruption to our neighbours. Please avoid blocking driveways and junctions. Where possible, we encourage families to walk or park and stride. Thank you for your understanding

Thank you as always for your continued support and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Collins

## Upcoming Dates:

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February:**  
Children return to school

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February:**  
Choir perform at Young Voices

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February:**  
Y3 Sharing assembly 9.15am

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:**  
Y6 class Mass at 10am

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March:**  
World Book Day

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Y5 Sharing Assembly 9.15am

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Parent meetings

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Year 1 Sharing assembly 9.15am

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Y5 class Mass at 10am

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March:**  
French culture day

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Y4 Orienteering trip

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Y5 trip to The Reach

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Y4 trip to The Tower of London  
Y3 Egyptian Day Parents invited

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March:**  
Y6 perform Stations of the Cross at  
9.30am

**LAST DAY OF TERM** 1.30pm finish

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April:**  
Children return to school

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April:**  
Eastertide Mass at Church 9am

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS – Attend today, achieve tomorrow!

At St Thomas More, we believe that every school day counts. Good attendance is vital for children's learning, progress and overall wellbeing. When children attend school regularly they not only develop important academic skills but also build friendships, confidence and good habits that will benefit them for life. Missing school – even just a day or two here and there can easily add up. Attending 95% of the time means missing two weeks of learning over the year and children who are regularly absent often find it harder to keep up with their classmates.

We ask that all children aim for at least 96% attendance across the year. This gives them the very best chance to reach their full potential. Thank you for your continued support in helping us make sure every child at St Thomas More has the best opportunity to succeed.

### Spring 1 Attendance Figures

Class	% Attendance
Reception	95.9%
Year 1	95.2%
Year 2	98.1%
Year 3	98.3%
Year 4	95.5%
Year 5	95.4%
Year 6	95.9%
Whole school	96.3%

### Spring Term 2 PE timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Year 2	Year 5	Year 3	Reception	Year 5	
Year 4 (swimming)		Year 1	Year 1		Year 6
Reception		Year 2	Year 3		Year 4
			Year 6		

**Please ensure your child is in the correct PE kit, no branded or logo on tracksuits please**

## Recent trips

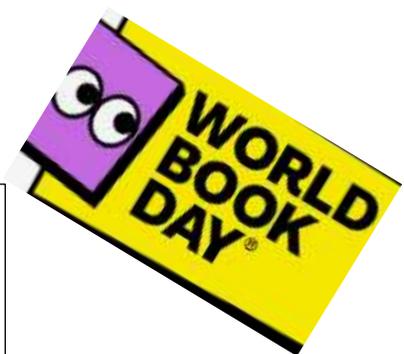
To enhance our understanding of the motives, conditions, and outcomes of World War 2, Year 6 went to the Imperial War Museum where they became documentary reporters for the day. Working in 3s, many short clips were filmed and narrated about the various displays. Most pupils rated this trip as one of their best!



Last Friday, Year 3 went to the Thames Barrier. They found out more about this amazing flood defence that prevents London from flooding. They enjoyed their workshop and even saw a model of how it works!

### World Book Day

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day and we are inviting children to dress up as their favourite characters. We look forward to seeing the children in character and more excited for you all to see the teachers in their outfits! Will you be able to guess who they are and what the connection is?!



## Term Dates 2025-2026

### Spring Term 2 2026

Term time: Monday 23 February to Friday 27 March 2026\*

Easter holiday: Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April 2026

### Summer Term 1 2026

Term time: Monday 13 April to Friday 22 May 2026

**\*\*May Day bank holiday 4 May: school closed\*\***

Half-term holiday: Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May 2026

### Summer Term 2 2026

Term time: Monday 1 June to Friday 17 July 2026\*

**\*\*\*INSET DAYS – Friday 19 June 2026 AND Monday 20 July 2026: No attendance for children\*\***

\*1.30pm end of day finish

## Term Dates 2026-2027

### Autumn Term 1 2026

**\*\*INSET DAY – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September: No attendance for children\*\***

Term time: Thursday 3 September to Friday 23 October 2026

Half-term holiday: Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2026

### Autumn Term 2 2026

Term time: Monday 2 November to Friday 18 December 2026\*

Christmas and New Year holiday: Monday 21 December to Friday 1 January 2026

\*1.30pm end of day finish

## Help support our school with Easy Fundraising!

We would like to remind you that St Thomas More is part of the Easy Fundraising community – an easy free way for you to support our school every time you shop online! We would be grateful if you could please sign up. It won't cost you a penny extra.

All you need to do is:

1. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-thomas-more-primary-school-eltham/> or scan the QR code and join for free.
2. Install the app and Donation Reminder extension.
3. Activate your donation before shopping online and the retailer will automatically donate to us for free!

These donations will make a real difference. Funds raised will help support vital resources to help ensure our children have access to everything needed to enhance and enrich what we already provide.

If every family joins and uses Easy Fundraising we could raise hundreds of pounds for the school each year – simply through the shopping you already do!

Thank you in advance and for making St Thomas More an even better place to learn and grow.



Scan me!