



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

12 January 2018

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, 15 January 2018

- PTA Meeting (18:30-19:30)

### Wednesday, 17 January 2018

- Lunchtime Concert - Year 11 GCSE Music Students (13:40-14:00)
- Youth Club (15:15-17:15)

### Thursday, 18 January 2018

- CAFOD Young Leadership Training (10:00-15:10)

### Friday, 19 January 2018

- Choir Practice (15:15-16:15)

## INTRODUCTION

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term. As mentioned before the Christmas break, past pupil and brother of a current Year 9 pupil, Jamarion Christie, lost his long battle with cancer. This week, three members of staff attended his funeral which was a celebration of his life. This is an extremely difficult time for his family - please keep Jamarion and all his family in your thoughts and prayers.

We've had our second set of mock exams this week which have gone very well with outstanding behaviour and focus from the pupils. There will still be a number of external BTEC exams continuing next week.

As next week's weather is expected to get colder, we ask parent for their support in ensuring that pupils are in the correct coats, hats and scarves (plain navy or black).

## CAROL SERVICES

On Wednesday, 20 December, the school invited parents and special guests to attend our annual Parents' Carol Service. Staff and guests sang carols and reflected on how God in Christ came to us to be one with us, to share our good times and difficult times, and most of all, to show us love, which is the very nature of God. The service was well attended, with mulled wine and mince pies being served afterwards.

On the last day of term, 21 December, we held the whole school Christmas Carol Service. Pupils from the drama department put on a wonderful Christmas performance, followed by the Carol Service. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils and was a lovely way to begin the Christmas festivities.



Photos from the Christmas Carol Service,  
21 December 2017



## REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT Week Beginning 7th January 2018 Year B

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord:

Gospel Reading Matthew Chapter 2:1-12

### Reflection

The Epiphany is a great Feast, and the joy of the birth of our Jesus must be renewed on the Epiphany. The Feast shows us our Incarnate God in a new light. It leaves us all the sweetness of the dear Babe of Bethlehem, who has appeared to us already in love; but adds a grand manifestation of the divinity of our Jesus. At Christmas it was a few shepherds that were invited by the Angels to go and recognise that "the word was made flesh" but now, at the Epiphany, the voice of God himself calls the whole world to adore Jesus, and hear him.

The Epiphany therefore, restores the celebration of our Lord's birth and in return, we are united in the three manifestations of Jesus' glory: the mystery of the Magi coming from the East, under the guidance of a star, and adoring the Infant of Bethlehem as the divine King; the mystery of the Baptism of Christ, who, whilst standing in the waters of the Jordan, was proclaimed by the Eternal Father as Son of God; and thirdly, the mystery of the divine power of this same Jesus, when he changed the water into wine at the marriage feast of Cana.

### Prayer

O Lord, bring light to the darkness as we search for you,  
Let your light shine upon us.

As the star guided the Magi,

May we be guided by your light and grace.

May we, like the Magi, offer you our gifts each day,

As we discover you in the midst of our lives.

Amen

## Thought for the Week

"In order to carry a positive action I must develop a positive vision. Every day brings new choices. I will keep smiling, be positive and never give up! I will give 100 percent each and every day. These are always my goals and my attitude".

## SPORT

The Year 8 boys' handball team has dominated its local competition and will go on to represent Haringey in the London Youth Games. St Thomas More started their campaign with a strong win against Fortismere school. Raymond Poku scored many goals for the team to cement the final score, which was 10-3. The next game was against Alexandra Park School but St Thomas More's tenacity was evident after clinching the 8-5 victory. Tobias Okot was the main individual scoring 3 goals for the team. St Thomas More have been given a home tie against Holy Family in the London Youth Games. The game will be played in our school's sports hall next week.

Ten schools in Haringey travelled to Highgate Wood School this week to compete in the Indoor Haringey Athletics Championships. St Thomas More are currently leading the table with 116 points after winning the most races on the day. Ryan Frederick Johnson and Kashieve Jevaughn were the two individuals that stood out, winning their races by a comfortable margin. All the schools in Haringey will be coming to St Thomas More in two weeks to decide who will be the grand winners. The winning athletics team will go on to represent Haringey in the London Youth Games; St Thomas More are in pole position.



## Words of the Week

Monday: **Serendipity** (Noun) – The occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy and beneficial way.

Tuesday: **Trepidation** (Noun) – A feeling of fear or anxiety about something that may happen.

Wednesday: **Pundit** (Noun) – An expert in a particular subject or field who is frequently called upon to give their opinions to the public.

Thursday: **Guile** (Noun) – Sly or cunning intelligence.

Friday: **Clandestine** (Adjective) – Kept secret or done secretly, often in order to conceal an illicit or improper purpose.