



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

24 November 2017

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 27 November 2017

- Year 7 Retreats
- Careers Talk (13:45-14:10)

Tuesday, 28 November 2017

- Year 10 STEM Day for 60 Pupils

Wednesday, 29 November 2017

- Sixth Form Assembly Talk about Lourdes (08:50-09:10)
- Year 13 Business BTEC Workshop at Vue, Westfields (10:30-15:15)
- Youth Club (15:15-17:15)

Thursday, 30 November 2017

- Year 7 Retreat
- Sixth Form White Ribbon Project (18:30-19:30)

Friday, 1 December 2017

- Year 7 Science Workshop (08:50-11:10)
- Year 12 Geography Study Trip to Dominion Theatre (10:50-15:30)

INTRODUCTION

Tonight, the school is holding the annual PTA Quiz Night which is always a very enjoyable evening - good luck to all the teams taking part!

Congratulations must go to our sporting teams, including rugby, football, netball, basketball and volleyball, that have been competing in tournaments over the last few weeks and coming out on top! We wish them the best of luck in their future games and hope to see them bring home the trophies for our school.

Rehearsals for our school production of Joseph are well underway. This year, our pupils will be joined by St John Vianney Primary School Choir. Tickets are still on sale and are available from the music department and Reception at lunchtimes. Adult tickets are priced at £3.50, children £2.50.

Following our Remembrance Day Service, we have received a note of thanks from the Royal British Legion, thanking the school for collecting over £250. Thank you to staff and pupils who bought a poppy.

Next Monday and Thursday, pupils in Year 7 will be attending their retreat at St Paul's Catholic Church in Wood Green. Next Thursday, staff will be involved in after school training which means there will be no PREP or other after school sessions.

ANTI-BULLYING POSTER COMPETITION

Congratulations to Tochi Amazson, 7KL1; Scarlett Sharp 7MC1; and Maja Tuchalska, 7MC1 who are the winners of last week's Anti-Bullying Poster competition. The competition was part of National Anti-Bullying Week. Their wonderful poster will feature in this term's Glendalian.

SPORT

This week, the Years 7 and 8 rugby teams competed in the London Skolar Rugby Tournament, playing against several schools from North and East London. Both teams did exceptionally well to finish 1st, with Romeo Rojas being named player of the tournament!

Several boys impressed the senior coaches who were looking to recruit players for the London Skolar Academy team and the following have now started attending sessions with the club: Ikenna Johnson (Year 8); James Kola (Year 8); Dainan Witter (Year 8); Patrick Lohan (Year 8); Simeon Andrew (Year 8); Promise Udaigwe (Year 8); Jalil Wray (Year 7); Jamaine Maxwell (Year 7); Raymond Osei (Year 8); Chris Menyah (Year 7); Romeo Emenike (Year 7); and Romeo Rojas (Year 7).

The Year 11 basketball team continued their success this week as they finished 2nd in the Haringey Basketball Cup. The first game was an astounding 26-6 win against Fortismere School. St Thomas More were then up against Highgate Wood, followed by Park View with a close 10-8 win. St Thomas More were up against Greig City in the final and narrowly lost 20-14. The Year 11 basketball team will now go on to represent Haringey in the London Youth Games.

The Under 15 volleyball team displayed a fantastic performance in the Haringey Volleyball Cup. The boys commenced their campaign with a solid 21-10 win against Gladesmore School. The second game saw St Thomas More beat Park view 21-14. The final game was against Alexandra Park School, which St Thomas More won 21-14. Well done to Marleigh Nejas (Year 10), Luc-Quartz Lupumba (Year 10), Nahome Tewelde (Year 9), Halvin Hammond (Year 9) and Joseph Aseke for winning the competition. The boys will now represent Haringey in the London Youth Games.



Romeo Rojas, Player of the Tournament

GCSE DRAMA

On Friday, 17 November, Year 9 GCSE drama pupils performed on stage at the Donmar Warehouse as part of the 'Take the Stage' Schools Programme. As part of the eight week programme, pupils watched Elinor Cook's new adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's 'The Lady from the Sea', currently showing at the Donmar Warehouse. Following this, the pupils participated in a series of workshops with facilitator Anne Langford to create a performance in response to the production. Wanting to explore some of the characters' untold stories in more depth, the pupils took some of the main themes of the play such as love, loss and freedom, and created a series of short scenes telling the unseen back story of the main characters.

On the day of their performance at the Donmar, the pupils were thrilled to see two of the stars of the production Johnny Holden and Helena Wilson, sitting amongst the audience waiting to watch their work. After the performance Holden commended the time and effort the pupils had put into creating their piece, commenting "You did more work than we did! You made us realise things about our characters that we hadn't even considered before." As one of only four schools in the country to be chosen for the project and the youngest participants in the programme, the pupils involved should feel extremely proud of their hard work and achievement!

ASHURST LAW PLACEMENT

Kristian Mikeli (Year 12) has been accepted onto a prestigious work experience placement at Ashurst, an international law firm. Founded in 1822, it is part of the elite Silver Circle, and is the eleventh largest law firm in the country. In week one, Kristian will spend time in one of Ashurst's legal departments. In week 2, he will visit five well-known organisations including Harlequins Rugby Club, BT, Amazon, Nomura and ITV to understand the role of an 'in-house' lawyer.

Kristian said, "St Thomas More has given me the support I need to access the programme. I'm looking forward to learning more about the different routes into law."

Congratulations Kristian and we wish you the best of luck in your placement!

Thought for the Week

"I truly believe that everything that we do and everyone that we meet is put in our path for a purpose. There are no accidents; we're all teachers if we're willing to pay attention to the lessons we learn, trust our positive instincts and not be afraid to take risks or wait for some miracle to come knocking at our door".

REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Matthew 25:14-30

Reflection

In Matthew, we hear another parable describing the Kingdom of heaven. We hear about the faithful servant who increased his master's money. We compared the money left in the servant's care to the talents and gifts that God gave each of us. We talked about our responsibility to use those gifts to make the world a better place.

Jesus is telling us that it is important to use the gifts that God has given us. We are all good at different things. We all have different skills and talents. What is your talent? Some of us are good at singing, some at sport, others at dancing and some at drawing. Some of us are good at speaking out when we see wrongdoings and others at helping others. Whatever your talent is, Jesus explains it is important not to hide our talents from others and never let them grow. Instead, it is by going out into the world, by sharing our talents and using our skills to help others that we serve God.

Prayer

We pray together for God's help to use our talents wisely. We pray for world leaders, that they may use their talents for the good of all people, making the world a fairer place for everyone to live.

We pray for all children around the world, that they may all have the chance to learn new skills and to use their talents to make the world a better place.

We pray for our parish, family and friends, that we may not hide our talents away, but instead use them to help others, especially people who are poor. You gave us talents. Help us to share and multiply them for the good of all your people.

Amen.

Words of the Week

Monday: Sacrosanct (Adjective) – regarded as too important or valuable to be interfered with; sacred; hallowed; untouchable.

Tuesday: Impertinent (Adjective) – not showing proper respect; rude.

Wednesday: Pummel (Verb) – strike repeatedly with the fists; thrash.

Thursday: Feral (Adjective) – (especially of an animal) in a wild state, especially after escape from captivity or domestication; behaving in a wildly undisciplined and antisocial way.

Friday: Expedite (Verb) – to accelerate the process or progress of; speed up.