



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

29 June 2018

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 2 July 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none">PTA Meeting (18:30-19:30)
Tuesday, 3 July 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Annual School Choir Tour to GermanySpelling and Punctuation Show for Year 7 in Glendale Hall (14:10-15:10)
Wednesday, 4 July 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Annual School Choir Tour to GermanyYear 7 Parents' Evening (17:00-19:00)
Thursday, 5 July 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Annual School Choir Tour to GermanyGood Samaritan MassYear 10 London Zoo Trip
Friday, 6 July 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Annual School Choir Tour to GermanyAnnual Reward Trip to Thorpe ParkYear 12 PSHE DayYear 9 Spelling Bee (09:10-10:10)Year 8 Spelling Bee (12:30-13:30)Year 7 Spelling Bee (14:10-15:10)A Midsummer Night's Dream Performance to Years 9/10 Drama Pupils (14:10-15:10)
Saturday, 7 July and Sunday, 8 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff Three Peaks Challenge!

INTRODUCTION

Last night we held our pre-tour choir concert. Alongside our choir was our violin assemblé who were accompanied by our pianists and all were truly exceptional. We wish them well on their tour to Germany which starts next Tuesday.

On Wednesday, we said goodbye to our Year 13 students with a lovely leavers' mass followed by refreshments and a viewing of their 'leavers' video'. We wish them well and look forward to seeing them on results day. This mass was followed by our end of examinations' mass and prom for Year 11 pupils. All of our Year 11 pupils looked extremely smart and elegant in their prom outfits! It was great to see so many parents joining their children for the mass. We look forward to seeing the vast majority of them return as Sixth Formers in September.

Throughout this week we have hosted Year 5 taster mornings for our primary partner schools. Today, which is our staff training day, we have also hosted our Year 5 boys and girls primary school football competition with about 30 primary schools participating.

Finally, this evening we have our annual Sixth Form Dinner and Dance.

As you can see, this is an extremely busy time at school. All after school and Saturday extra sessions have now finished until September, as has Youth Club. PREP will continue until Tuesday, 10 July when it too will finish for this academic year.

A reminder that next Wednesday is our Year 7 Parents' Evening, 5pm to 7pm.

THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE

On Saturday, 7 July, 30 members of staff from St Thomas More School will be attempting to climb three of the largest mountains in England (Scafell Pike), Scotland (Ben Nevis) and Wales (Snowdon) in 24 hours. The "Three Peaks Challenge" is being completed in order to raise money for a new school mini-bus. Staff will set off early on Saturday morning and arrive home on Sunday evening.

Parents can support the challenge by donating money to the PTA minibus fund via Parent Pay. A 'PTA Minibus Fund' option has been added to all Parent Pay accounts.

PRE-TOUR CHOIR CONCERT

Yesterday the St Thomas More Choir and STM Violin Ensemble joined forces to present their Pre-Tour Concert to a very hot but very appreciative audience in the Glendale Hall. The choir and violin ensemble performed a stirring concert and received a standing ovation at the end! The pupils were exemplary in every way. It was excellent preparation for their tour to Germany next week. We wish them all well!



REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Week Beginning July 1st 2018

Gospel Reading: Mark 5:21-43

Mark tells two stories at the same time in this Gospel. First of all in the crowd, a woman who had been suffering with an illness for many years, touched Jesus' robe and was immediately healed. At the same time, walking with Jesus in the crowd is Jairus, a prominent official of the synagogue. Jairus had searched out Jesus to ask for his help in healing his daughter. When the woman touched Jesus' robe, he felt the healing energy flow through him and searched out the person who had touched him. When the woman came forward, Jesus told her that she was healed by her own faith. At that very moment, people from the official's house came to him telling him that his daughter was dead, that he should not bother with the teacher anymore but come home. Jesus went with the man and healed his daughter.

Prayer

Bless us, we pray, and let your blessing spread from us to others, to the glory of your name. Grant that the good may be strengthened in us, the good you have let us hear about for so many years. May everything that belongs to your word come alive in us and in the world. May your blessing be on our actions, for we want to remain under your blessing, to the glory of your righteousness and truth.

Amen

A 'thank you' from CAFOD

This week, Sarah Burrows, the Coordinator of CAFOD's Young Leadership Programme, contacted the school to thank those pupils who have been involved in the programme this year: "I am getting in touch to say a big thank you for your school's participation in the Young Leadership programme this year. We have been really blessed to work with some of your students and journey with them since September. They've been an inspiration to us and a real credit to your school, and we hope they continue their volunteering journey with us in the future."

They also wanted to thank Mrs Henry, our Head of RE, for supporting and encouraging our pupils on the programme.

Well done to all those pupils who took part in this year's Leadership Programme!

Thought for the Week

To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom, one must observe. Respect the cultures/ beliefs of others. Believe that you are special. Treat everyone equally. Understand what is right from wrong. Try to help others. Listen and respect others' opinions. Understand the consequence of our actions. Respect the roles of people who help us.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Our excellent relationship with Jacksons Lane Arts Centre continues to grow, as we have just embarked on an exciting new collaboration, 'World by Women', with them. This project will involve our Year 11 and Sixth Form students working with industry professionals alongside two other schools to create an immersive performance exploring women's rights in 1918, 2018 and 2118. The first taster workshop was met with great enthusiasm from our students, who thoroughly impressed workshop leaders; they remarked on the excellent behaviour, energy and ideas of our students. The project will run from September and culminate in a performance here at St Thomas More School in December.



HEAD GIRL AND BOY

This week, all of our prefects were put forward for Head Girl and Boy. After a very closely run contest we are proud to announce the following appointments:



Klara Patseva – Head Girl
Dany Brebenel – Head Boy
Vanese Hernandez Tique – Deputy Head Girl
Kristian Mikeli – Deputy Head Boy

Words of the Week

Monday – Emaciated – Adjective: Abnormally thin or weak, especially because of illness or a lack of food.

Tuesday – Nonplussed – Adjective: So surprised and confused that one is unsure how to react.

Wednesday – Omniscient – Adjective: Having total knowledge, all-knowing.

Thursday – Rectitude – Noun: Morally correct behaviour or thinking; righteousness.

Friday – Surmount – Verb: 1. Overcome a difficulty or obstacle. 2. Stand or be placed on top of.