



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

10 January 2020

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday 13 January 2020

- Sixth Form Parents Evening

### Tuesday 14 January 2020

- Year 12 'Goldsmiths' Talk on student finance
- Careers Guidance Interviews

### Wednesday 15 January 2020

- Year 12 Mark Evison Foundation Workshop

### Thursday 16 January 2020

- Year 9 & 12 Introductory Sussex FGSS Workshop

### Friday 17 January 2020

- Rugby Trip
- Year 12 Financial Times Personal Finances Workshop

## INTRODUCTION

Happy New Year to all.

The pupils have settled back into hard work quickly. We have a number of external BTEC exams over the coming weeks. Our year 11 parents evening is Tuesday 28th January, 16.30pm – 18.30pm. This will be a very important opportunity for parents to meet the teachers to discuss progress and current performance. It will also be an opportunity to discuss how to support your child in preparation for their exams.

Interviews are underway for our Sixth Form for September 2020. We would encourage our year 11 to apply. Many have already. However, we have a limited number of places in the Sixth Form and it would be disappointing not to be able to offer a place to our current year 11 due to late application. Please ensure applications are made by the end of January. In addition, we have a large number of external applications already and are not interviewing until a little later, after dealing with our own students.

Advance notice that there will be a Teacher Training Day on Monday 10th February. School will be closed to pupils.

Mr Rowland, Head of School

## APPRENTICESHIP ASSEMBLY

This week our sixth form pupils received an informative talk on apprenticeships. The talk covered what an apprenticeship is, the different types of apprenticeships, and the application process. All parents and students can access further information on apprenticeships by visiting the careers section on our website.

## EPRAISE CHRISTMAS DRAW

Many congratulations to all those who won prizes for entering the Epraise Christmas draw at the end of last term. The winners are listed below:

Bozhidar Metodiev, Francesco Pagliuso, Adyson Pacheco Soria (Year 7), Daniel Otuechere, Gideon Osei, Priscilla Smith-Mensah Armah (Year 8), Tionne Senga, Daniel Nwachukwu, Byrone Appiah (Year 9), Abena Ashalley -Sasaraku, Kristina Botezatu, Anabela Henrique Santos (Year 10), Iliyan Iliev, Piotr Birecki, Orestis Bali (Year 11), Klaudia Mitajew, Maica Caidic, Ishita Deb (Year 12/13),



## LLOYDS PERSONAL FINANCE WORKSHOP

At the end of last term a group of pupils in Year 7 and 11 participated in a workshop on personal finances delivered by Lloyds Banking Group, in partnership with Young Money. Titled, 'Life, work, money ... how do I stay in control?', pupils completed a series of activities and discussed online banking and budgeting and found it very informative.



## GIRLS NETBALL

Yasmin Young-Clarke's (9MC2) Netball team played against Australia on Tuesday 7th January. Yasmin played as goal keeper and her team won 18-14. Well done to Yasmin and her team.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

### Second Sunday of Epiphany in Year A

#### Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Gospel Reading: (Matthew 2:1-12)

#### Three Kings Visit

The three wise men were not Jews. They came from lands far to the East and were astrologers who used the stars to guide them on their journeys. They also knew of the prophecies of an infant king to be born, a saviour through them, his arrival was announced to the world. Jesus the saving Lord has come not just for the Jews but for all people.

#### PRAYER

Like the three wise men, we are here today to worship you, Jesus. We have no gold, but we give you our love. We have no frankincense, we give you our prayers. We have no myrrh, so we give you ourselves. Amen.

#### 'THE GOD WHO SPEAKS - YEAR OF THE WORD'

(Isaiah 60:1-3) The glory of God is shining on you! All other people will live in the shadows, but you will always have God's light to chase away the darkness. Other people will look at you and see the light of God's love shining out.

#### RUGBY NATIONAL CUP

The Year 8, 9 and 10 rugby teams travelled to Cobham this week to compete in the Champions Cup semi-final. After successive victories in the group stage and previous rounds, unfortunately STM drew against last year's champions. However, the Year 10 rugby team will be starting a training programme this week with the professional team London Skolars.



## Thought for the Week

A positive attitude causes a chain reaction of positive thoughts, events and outcomes. It is a catalyst and it sparks extraordinary results. Positive thinking will let you do everything better than negative thinking will.

## YEAR 7 INDOOR ATHLETICS

The Year 7 boys and girls are on their way to becoming Haringey Indoor champions. Both boys and girls displayed superlative performances to finish 1st in round 1. Memorable performances were from Darrele Kamulongo and Lily Dos Santos. We wish them luck in their performance in two weeks' time to hopefully become Haringey champions and represent Haringey in the London Youth Games.

## SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Community Spirit is something that we at St Thomas More pride ourselves in. The Senior Citizens Christmas Party took place on Thursday 12th December and was a shining example of the connection between our school and the wider community. Senior citizens from the local community and from all the local catholic churches joined us for an afternoon of festive entertainment. The school choir performed a selection of Christmas carols and Ms Greer also sang solo. Finally, all joined in for a Christmas sing-a-long with the students. A big thank you to Ms Henry and her department for arranging everything.

## PARENTPAY ACCOUNTS

There has been a number of pupils with insufficient funds on their accounts. We ask that pupils wishing to use the school canteen have sufficient money to pay for their meals. As of Monday 13th January any pupils without credit will be offered a sandwich only, until their account is in credit. If there are any families experiencing financial difficulties, please contact the school. Thanking you in advance for your support.

## CHRISTMAS ANNUAL ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

On 18th December our year 11 and Sixth form students had their Christmas Carol Service followed by our annual Christmas and Advent Carol Service on the 19th December. This was supported by the Parents Teachers Association. The service was well attended by governors, parents and students, particularly those from year 7. Raffle tickets were on sale and all donations raised went towards the charities that the school supports. The RE Department would like to thank the school choir and the music & drama Department for all their hard work.

## Words of the Week

Monday - Misnomer- Noun- A wrong or inaccurate name or designation.

Tuesday - Dogmatic- Adjective- To strongly state unsupported opinions or beliefs as if they were absolute facts.

Wednesday - Adjudicate- Verb- To make a formal judgement on a disputed matter.

Thursday - Cluster- Noun- A group of similar things or people positioned or occurring closely together.

Friday - Renege- Verb- Go back on a promise, undertaking, or contract.