



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

15 March 2019

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 18 March to Friday, 22 March 2019

- Mock Exams

Monday, 18 March 2019

- History Lecture Day (Sixth Form)
- PruGoals Bike Fitting and Nutrition Workshop (09:00-13:00)
- Donmar Warehouse Writing Wrongs with Year 10 (15:15-17:15)

Wednesday, 20 March 2019

- Year 8 Geography Trip to Central London
- PruGoals Bikeability Training at Greig City Academy (08:30-13:45)
- IntoUni Year 7 Approaches to Homework (09:10-11:10)
- Primary Schools Singing Afternoon (13:30-15:00)
- Parents' Forum (Year 9) (17:00-18:00)

Friday, 22 March 2019

- Romeo and Juliet at The Globe Theatre (Year 9) (11:30-16:15)
- PTA Quiz Night (19:00-22:00)

INTRODUCTION

Our past week has been one of the busiest so far this year. We had a raft of activities during the week for Science Week, with our Science Fair on Tuesday evening. This was a wonderful showcase and culmination of many experiments and investigations worked on by pupils from Years 7 to 10. The hard work and commitment shown by the pupils was exceptional; their individual science areas were amazing. Those parents who were able to attend, I am sure, were extremely impressed, as were we, at how knowledgeable the pupils were on their chosen subjects. Congratulations to the winners and to all who entered projects.

Wednesday Evening was our Year 10 Parents' Evening. Thank you to all those parents who were able to attend. If you have a child in Year 10 and did not receive your child's report, please contact Ms Thomas (Head of Year) at parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk.

All pupils who have external exams this year have been completing their final mock exams this week along with some intensive study days. These will continue next week. Please encourage the pupils to work extremely hard for these exams as the real exams start in approximately 25 school days.

Tomorrow (Saturday), we will be welcoming Year 6 pupils from our local Catholic Primary Schools. These pupils will be involved in some booster literacy and numeracy sessions for the next three Saturday mornings.

PTA QUIZ NIGHT

The PTA Quiz will take place on Friday, 22 March. All parents are welcome to attend. The price is £8.50 and includes a fish and chips supper. Booking forms are attached to this email and can be found on the website.

SPORT

Volleyball: London Youth Games

After becoming Haringey Volleyball Champions, the Under 15 boys' team were put through to the London Youth Games. The team of predominantly Year 10 pupils competed against various schools across the capital. The boys finished 8th out of the 33 teams. A good achievement for Ronaldinho, Jose, Halvin, Prince and Nahome.



Year 8 Football

The Year 8 boys' team extended their lead at the top of the Haringey table after beating Gladesmore 6-1. Rennie, Lamarhio, Brook and David all scored on the day to confirm the victory. St Thomas More are now 3 points ahead of Fortismere in the Haringey league.

WORLD BOOK DAY

This year saw another successful World Book Day at St Thomas More - a celebration of all things reading and writing! To mark the celebration, staff dressed up as literary characters from their department's assigned genre and we welcomed local author Alexandra Sheppard to run workshops with pupils. We also ran a Bookmark competition, won by Rous in Year 10, and a writing competition, won by Miriam in Year 10. Congratulations to both. Don't miss this term's issue of the Glendalian to see the winning entries and more exciting photos from World Book Day!



READING CLUBS

We are continuing to run reading clubs for Years 7 to 9. As always, everyone is welcome to attend – do come along if you are interested, especially if you are looking to pick up a new and exciting book with the help of a teacher! Refreshments are provided each week and it is a great opportunity to improve your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. We look forward to seeing you there!

Timetable for this term's clubs:

Year 7 and 8: Feeding the Ghosts (Fred D'Aguiar) with Mr O'Connor - Thursday, Period 6, GM1.

Year 9: Jane Eyre (Charlotte Bronte) with Ms De Souza - Thursday, Period 6, GM1.



REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Week Beginning March 10th 2019

Gospel Reading: (Luke 4:1-13)

Temptation of Jesus in the Desert

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfilment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Jesus went out into the desert to be alone. He is on the brink of inaugurating his public ministry. Something new and important is about to happen. He does the natural thing: goes off alone to think things through and confront the demons that would dissuade him from his mission. Then he goes to Galilee to proclaim the gospel of God. This defines in a nutshell what Lent is all about.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection>

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, you never gave up even when you found it most difficult.

During the six weeks of Lent, help us to be strong and to keep our promises as a sign of our love for you. Amen.

Thought for the Week

"You're allowed to scream. You're allowed to cry. Just don't give up – keep trying, keep reaching, and keep dreaming."

UPDATE FROM THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

45 pupils from Year 8 visited the Lyric Theatre to see 'The Children and Animals take to the Streets'. After the performance we had the privilege of meeting the performers, and our pupils asked some insightful questions. Olivier Cieciorowski asked, 'What do you think the moral of the play is?'



This week, the AS Drama and Theatre students performed 'Attempts on her Life' by Martin Crimp and 'Monsters' by Niklas Radstrom as part of their AS exam. Each play was performed in a Brechtian style, conveying a contemporary political message to the audience. Having successfully completed this first part of the component, students are now preparing for the second part of the exam in which they each have to perform a monologue.

HANDWRITING CLUB

Handwriting Club runs three days a week, from 08:50 to 09:10 in NG8. The club offers pupils the opportunity to practice and improve their handwriting skills, acknowledging the importance of written expression and its presentation.

Byrone, Year 8: 'Handwriting Club is awesome!'

Wiktorija, Year 7: 'Practice makes perfect!'



Words of the Week

Monday – Ruminant – Verb: (1) think deeply about something. (2) (Of a ruminant, e.g. a cow) regurgitate previously consumed feed and digest it a second time; chew the cud.

Tuesday – Prevaricate – Verb: speak or write evasively; behave in an indecisive manner; delay or procrastinate.

Wednesday – Expedite – Verb: make (an action or process) happen sooner or be accomplished more quickly.

Thursday – Pariah – Noun: an outcast; someone whom other people dislike so much that they refuse to associate with them.

Friday – Obscure – Adjective: not discovered or known about, uncertain. If something or someone is obscure, they are unknown or are known by only a few people.