



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

15 November 2019

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<b>Monday, 18 November 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 11 Apprenticeship Assembly</li></ul>
<b>Tuesday, 19 November 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sixth Form Media Trip</li><li>GCSE &amp; A Level Drama Trip to Donmar Warehouse</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday, 20 November 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 10 'Touching the Void' Theatre Trip</li></ul>
<b>Thursday, 21 November 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 7 Into University Workshop</li></ul>
<b>Friday, 22 November 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 7 &amp; 8 Trip to the Royal College of Music</li></ul>



## INTRODUCTION

As you are aware today (Friday) was the funeral of Mrs Cheryl Haynes, a long term member of staff. There was a large number of staff present, alongside our school choir who assisted with the hymn singing. Also present were our Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl as well as two members of the School Council who represented the pupil body. All were great ambassadors for the school.

On Monday we had our Remembrance Day Service. This was a very reverent and sombre occasion. The whole school community observed a two minute silence.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday was a great success. Along with our own Year 11 pupils we also welcomed pupils from other schools in Haringey and the adjoining boroughs. Interviews for places in the Sixth Form will begin very soon. A reminder that applications to join the Sixth Form should be submitted as soon as possible. Everyone wishing to be considered for a place must make an application.

Last night (Thursday) we held our annual Prize Giving Evening. This was a showcase of the wonderful achievement of our pupils and was a very successful evening. Dame Barbara Stocking was our guest of honour.

A plea for your help! Each year our Year 10 pupils attend a week's work experience. This year it will be Monday 10th February until Friday 14th February 2020. Mr Ruggiero, our Careers Lead, will be sending out a letter with all pupils next week, asking for assistance. If you, or your place of work are able to offer a week's work experience for one or more of our pupils, please email [careers@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk](mailto:careers@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk) for further information.

## HARINGEY'S 'OUTSTANDING FOR ALL' AWARDS

This week we welcomed a photographer from Haringey Council to meet our staff and pupils who have been nominated for an 'Outstanding for All Award'. Precious Foli Arthur, Year 12, has been nominated for overcoming adversity. A group of drama students have been nominated for their performance 'They shall not grow old' which honoured the 100 year anniversary for the end of World War 1 and Katerina Christodoulou has been nominated for Outstanding Teacher. We look forward to celebrating these fantastic achievements on 2nd December at the Awards Ceremony at Tottenham Football Stadium.



## HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE CAREERS WORKSHOP

On Wednesday Jayne Doherty from Trinity Healthcare Plus spoke to some of our Sixth Form students about careers in Health and Social Care. The students found the session and activities engaging and useful to support them in their understanding of different careers. If you are interested in finding out more about careers in the Health sector, a useful website is <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

## GIRLS NETBALL

The netball teams have had an amazing start. Year 7 netball team have been doing well with scores like 5-0 against Greig City and 8-2 against Hornsey School. Year 8 have also been doing well with amazing scores such as 23-0 against Hornsey School. The team have demonstrated their dedication to the sport throughout the season. Year 9 netball team beat Woodside High by an incredible 17-0. Players in Year 10 and Year 11 have combined this year to form the Senior Team. They beat Gladesmore 12-4. Congratulations to all the teams and good luck on your final matches!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION (Luke 20:27-6) IMAGINE HEAVEN

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Cycle C  
The story of Zacchaeus

More importantly, in this discourse Jesus shows the limits of our imagination when it comes to eternal life. The Sadducees argued against resurrection because of the limits of earthly existence. They did not imagine another possibility for existence and relationship with God. Jesus proposes that the possibilities of resurrected life are beyond our imaginations. Jesus' conclusion suggests something else as well: To spend time worrying about resurrected life is to miss the point. The point is eternal relationship with God is possible, for God is the God of the living, "For to him all are alive."

Reflect today upon this command from our Lord and allow it to also apply to you as a command to listen to the Gospel spoken by those in the Church. When their example also supports their words, rejoice in that fact. When it does not, be merciful and seek to hear our Lord speak through them anyway. Jesus has much to say through them if you will listen.

## PRAYER

Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life'. Let us pray for all those who have died that they will be raised to everlasting life and happiness. Amen.

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

Let he who is without sin cast the first stone (John 8:7). Cast your burden upon the Lord, and he will sustain thee' he will never suffer the righteous to be moved (Psalm 55: 22).

## Thought for the Week

Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and the life to come.

## BOYS SPORTS

Basketball: The U14 team scored 49-28 to Gladesmore. The U16 basketball team scored over 100 points in their first league game this year. Final score was 107-20 against Alexandra Park.

Rugby: The Year 8 boys managed to beat their opposition by 36 tries to 4. Year 9 boys won 64-12. Both teams are on course to progress to the semi-final. Well done to all on their excellent performance at all matches.

## RYAN MARTIN

Former pupil and professional basketball player Ryan Martin came in to deliver a basketball session to our BTEC Sport students. Ryan provided some great advice on developing a jump shot in, and how to maximize scoring in basketball.

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

This week is Anti Bullying Week and the pupils have been taking part in a poster competition. Congratulations to Pilar Contreras (KS3 winner) and Daniel Ellis (KS4 winner). Their posters are displayed around the school.

## HAIRSPRAY SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Excitement is building at St Thomas More, with less than two weeks until this year's school production of Hairspray on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th November at 6.00pm in the Glendale Hall. Tickets are £2.50 (concessions)/£3.50 (adults) and are on sale from Front and Pupil Reception. Tickets are selling fast, so buy soon to avoid disappointment! You Can't Stop The Beat!

## Words of the Week

Monday – Complacent - Adjective - Showing smug or uncritical satisfaction with oneself or one's achievements; pleased.

Tuesday – Vendetta – Noun - A series of actions taken to get back at or harm someone.

Wednesday – Admonish – Verb- Warn or reprimand someone firmly.

Thursday – Indefatigable - Adjective- Never showing signs of getting tired.

Friday - Cynical – Adjective- Distrustful of human sincerity or integrity.

## WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

Sunday 17th November is the World Day of the Poor. This day was introduced by Pope Francis a couple of years ago to pray & support the poor. Locally & worldwide. In previous years, we have collected dry goods from students & staff & distributed to four charities that we support. We ask Parents to please give generously.