



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

9 March 2018

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, 12 March 2018

- Science Week - Urban Farm for Year 7 Pupils
- Year 9 Globe Theatre Trip

### Tuesday, 13 March 2018

- A2 English Study Day at Westminster Uni (Half Day)
- AS English Study Day at Westminster Uni
- Science Week Talks to Years 7 and 8 (09:10-11:10)
- Youth Club (15:15-17:15)

### Wednesday 14 March 2018

- Year 10 GCSE Music Recital in Glendale Hall (13:40-14:10)
- Science Week - Science Fair (17:00-19:00)

### Thursday, 15 March 2018

- Science Week - Big Bang Trip for Year 7 Pupils
- Year 10 Art Trip to The Tate Modern
- AS Drama Performance Exam (16:15-17:15)

### Friday, 16 March 2018

- Years 11 and 12 Art Trip to The Tate Modern
- Mary's Meals Assembly for Year 7 (08:50-09:10)
- Science Week Speaker for Year 9 (09:10-10:10)
- Year 12 Safe Drive Stay Alive, Bernie Grant Arts Centre (13:00-15:10)

## INTRODUCTION

Thankfully, school has returned to normal this week after last week's unseasonably late snow that caused disruptions. Our thanks go to parents for their understanding during the disruptions. The pupils have settled back to work very quickly; clearly they were bored not being in school and missed it!

Our pupils sitting examinations now realise there are only around 7 school weeks left before the exam season starts. We ask parents to continue their support by ensuring their children have a place to work at home and encourage them to attend all arranged extra sessions.

A reminder to parents that "Prep" is open to all pupils and sixth form students. "Prep" provides supervised study rooms where pupils can complete homework, carry out extra study and receive support with their work from staff. Mondays to Thursdays, "Prep" runs from 3.10 to 7.00pm with a free light supper served at 5.15pm, and on Fridays runs from 3.10 to 4.10pm.

We held our World Book Day today and it was a packed day of events for pupils. Well done to all involved and we will feature pictures and an article about the day in next week's newsletter.

## SPORT

The Under 15s boys' volleyball team competed in the London Youth Games this week, after finishing 1st in the Haringey Cup. The boys travelled to the University of East London to play against the top school in each London borough. St Thomas More displayed an exceptional performance in the group stage and finished above every team. Their first game was against Barnet, which saw our team win 25-16.

The next victory was quite a considerable margin against Enfield; the team won 25-10. Camden proved to be a closer contest but our boys were too strong as they won 25-20. The last two games in the group stage saw St Thomas More win 25-10 against Hammersmith and Fulham and 25-16 against Barking and Dagenham. The 2nd round was a harder game against Croydon, which saw St Thomas More edge their opposition 25-23. In the next stage Waltham Forest marginally beat St Thomas More 25-24. The loss meant St Thomas More finished 9th in London. Well done to the boys for putting in a proud performance.

The Year 7 and 8 boys' and girls' athletics' teams were declared London champions at the London Youth Games! All four teams progressed to the London Youth Games after beating twelve schools in the Haringey competition.

The top school in each borough across the capital competed to be crowned the best team in London at the games. St Thomas More's teams finished above every school after winning the most events on the day and topped our partnered school St George's on three occasions.

Memorable performances came from Tobi Adeyamo (Year 8) and David Mpunga (Year 7) who finished first in their events. This is a fantastic achievement by the boys and girls who have now progressed to the Regional championship - well done!



Year 7 Athletics Team



Year 8 Athletics Teams

## REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

### Gospel Reading: (John 2:13-25)

#### Gospel Reading Reflection

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area saying, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, "Zeal for your house will consume me." At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up..." He was speaking of the temple of his body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The simple call of the gospel is to see the signs of God in our midst. This story gives us a glimpse of the human struggle of often failing to see and believe the signs of God. Jesus showed us the signs so clearly; he was crucified and then raised up.

Like Jesus, the zeal that ought to consume us, too, is a single mindedness about suffering and dying ourselves so that we, too, can live. Just as God raised Jesus from the dead, so will we be raised up.

## Thought for the Week

"Your destiny is to fulfil those things upon which you focus most intently. So choose to keep your focus on that which is truly magnificent, beautiful, uplifting and joyful. Your life is always moving toward something".

## Prayer

When we look into the wondering eyes of a child,  
-Help us to set their hearts ablaze.  
When we reach out to the homeless,  
-Help us to set their hearts ablaze.  
When we walk with those caught in poverty,  
-Help us to set their hearts ablaze.  
When we listen to the fading voice of the aged,  
-Help us to set their hearts ablaze.

Amen

## DRAMA DEPARTMENT

The AS Drama students will be performing extracts from *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and *The Visit* at 4.15pm on Thursday, 15 March in NF2. Tickets are available from the Drama Department.

Pupils from Year 8 will be performing the Heritage Horror Show 'Two In One' on Saturday, 24 March at Alexandra Palace. The performance is a culmination of pupils' research on Victorian Theatre. Tickets are available from The Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/heritage-horror-show-two-in-one-tickets-43744165978>

## Words of the Week

**Monday: Osmosis** (Noun) – 1. A process by which water molecules pass from an area of high water concentration to an area of low water concentration through a partially permeable membrane. 2. The process of gradual or unconscious assimilation of ideas, knowledge, etc.

**Tuesday: Inertia** (Noun) – 1. A tendency to do nothing or to remain unchanged. 2. A property of matter by which it continues in its existing state of rest or uniform motion in a straight line unless that state is changed by an external force.

**Wednesday: Evidence** (Noun) – The available body of facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid.  
(Verb) – Be or show evidence of.

**Thursday: Impartial** (Adjective) – Not biased: treating all rivals or disputants equally.

**Friday: Spectrum** (Noun) – A band of colours, as seen in a rainbow, produced by separation of the components of light by their different degrees of refraction according to wavelength; used to classify something in terms of its position on a scale between two extreme points.