



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

17 November 2017

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, 20 November 2017

- Year 11 N Flame Workshop (14:10-15:10)

### Wednesday, 22 November 2017

- Sixth Form CAFOD Talk (08:50-09:10)
- Year 10 CAFOD Talk (09:10-09:30)
- Year 8 Jacksons Lane Drama Trip (15:15-17:15)
- Youth Club (15:15-17:15)

### Thursday, 23 November 2017

- IntoUniversity Workshops for Years 7 and 8 (09:30-13:30)
- Year 9 Talk on Vocation (14:10-16:10)

### Friday, 24 November 2017

- PTA Quiz Night

## INTRODUCTION

On Tuesday, we held our Sixth Form Open Evening. As always, our current sixth formers were wonderful ambassadors for the school, guiding external prospective students and discussing courses - well done to them.

Thank you to the large number of parents who were able to attend Target Setting Day on Wednesday. Once all targets have been set and entered on our system, they will be sent home. If any parent was unable to attend and would like an appointment, please email [parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk](mailto:parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk), addressed to the Head of Year.

A reminder that our PTA Quiz is being held on Friday, 24th November. If any parents are still interested in entering a table or coming as an individual, please contact the Finance Office. Tickets cost £8.50 which includes a 'fish and chips' supper.

Tickets for our school production of Joseph are now available and are selling fast! Pupils can buy tickets at lunchtime outside the Music department.

## CULTURAL EXCHANGE TO CHINATOWN

This week, twenty Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to immerse themselves in Chinese culture, as a very special reward for all of their fantastic work across the Food Tech and Art department.

The pupils visited Chinatown for the day and received demonstrations from some Chinese artisans. Highlights included a master craftsmen teaching the children how to make traditional Chinese paper lanterns and Hong Kong's milk tea making champion teaching her craft to a thoroughly absorbed group, despite her doing it in fluent Cantonese!

It was a thoroughly enjoyable cultural experience and has inspired pupils to continue exploring new cultures.



## VISIT FROM EUROPEAN ADVISOR

On Tuesday Sixth Form students had the privilege to receive a presentation from Blazej Thomas, a European Advisor to the UK Research Office. Mr Thomas discussed his role as a European advisor, the exciting opportunities that come from living, working and travelling in Europe, and offered his advice to students. Mr Thomas' enthusiastic and passionate presentation hopefully inspired students, and the school is looking forward to welcoming him back at our Careers' Event in January.

## SPORT

The Year 7 basketball team displayed a fantastic performance in the Haringey Basketball Cup this week. St Thomas More, Heartlands, Greig City, Gladesmore and Park View were all competing in the tournament to be crowned Haringey champions. St Thomas More started their campaign with an annihilation against neighbouring rivals Greig City, winning 18-2, setting the pace of the tournament. Park View had a slightly more challenging cohort but were still no match for our Year 7 boys, beating their opponents 10-2. Gladesmore were shown no remorse as our squad comfortably beat them 12-0. St Thomas More and Heartlands both won all their fixtures and were left to battle-out in the final game. Unfortunately, Heartlands scored a point in the final seconds of the game, which meant St Thomas More finished second in the competition. Both St Thomas More School and Heartlands High, have been invited by the Enfield Games Organiser, to compete in the Enfield and Haringey Basketball Tournament. The tournament will commence in January. Well done to the Year 7 team for their brilliant play in the competition.

The Year 11 basketball team showed their quality with a comfortable win over Heartlands. The score finished 48-27 with Joseph Bautista scoring the most points on the day. The squad will now compete in the Haringey Basketball Tournament on Monday 20th January.



## 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".

## REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

### Matthew 25:1-13

#### Reflection

'Stay awake'. 'Be ready' – we will be hearing these words a lot in the next few weeks, as we move into the Season of Advent. It is the urgent plea that Jesus taught his disciples, often through parables, to be ready for his Second Coming. In the weekend when we are praying for those who lost their lives at war and in the month when we are praying for all the faithful departed, we are reminded to be ready for the day when the Lord calls us from this world. We can do so with the sentiments of this week's psalm response: 'For you my soul is thirsting, O God my God', and it is also about what we do next. We cannot change the past but we can change what we do in the future.

#### Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen

## SCHOOL PRODUCTION OF JOSEPH

Tickets for the school production of Joseph are now on sale. Tickets for the concert cost £2.50 for students and children and £3.50 for adults and can be purchased from outside the music department and reception at lunchtime. Please note that students participating in the production do not need a ticket.

We hope many parents will be able to attend what will be a very enjoyable event.

## Words of the Week

Monday: Demeanour (Noun) – Outward behaviour; conduct.

Tuesday: Astute (Adjective) – Having or showing an ability to accurately assess situations or people and turn this to one's advantage.

Wednesday: Outstrips (Verb) – Exceed; move faster than and overtake (someone else).

Thursday: Blasé (Adjective) – Unimpressed with or indifferent to something because one has experienced or seen it so often before.

Friday: Unfettered (Adjective) – Not confined or restricted.