



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

03 November 2017

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 06 November 2017

- Year 11 N Flame Workshop (14:10-16:10)

Tuesday, 07 November 2017

- Year 9 GCSE Drama workshop in NF1 (15:10-17:10)

Wednesday, 08 November 2017

- Midweek Music Lunchtime Concert
- Youth Club (15:10-17:10)
- Haringey Post-16 Event at Alexandra Palace (15:30-17:10)

Thursday, 09 November 2017

- Pathways Day at Gladesmore for Sixth Form (09:30-13:00)
- Mountview Workshop with Year 9 GCSE Drama (10:10-11:10)
- Year 11 N Flame Workshop (12:30-13:30)
- A Level Drama Visit to see Heisenberg (12:30-15:10)

Friday, 10 November 2017

- Remembrance Day Service (11:00-11:10)
- Year 11 N Flame Workshop (12:30-13:30)
- Year 9 Drama Workshop in NF1 (14:10-16:10)

INTRODUCTION

This week, Years 10 and 11 pupils and Sixth Form students sat their first mock exams of the year. Well done to all of them for their exemplary behaviour during these exams. Results will be sent home to parents when all the marking is completed.

Also this week, we welcomed back pupils who visited China the week before the half-term break and those who visited the out-door education experience, Pendarren House, during the half-term break. Pupils on both trips were reported to have conducted themselves excellently. Thank you to staff who supported the trips for giving up their time to accompany the pupils.

On Wednesday we celebrated All Saints Day with four masses during the day to enable all pupils to attend.

Pupils have been issued with information and reply forms about Target Setting Day on Wednesday, 15 November. We ask that parents ensure they return the form by Monday, 6 November. Any parent who did not receive a form from their child should email parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk and we will ensure you receive one.

Pupils have also been issued with information about the forthcoming annual PTA Quiz Night which is on Friday, 24 November. It would be great to see as many parents as possible supporting this very enjoyable evening.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH COMPETITION

Yesterday, Victoria Skubik in 8DX1 as well as three other Year 8 pupils, Anabela, Laura and Sofia, visited Park View School for the Oliver Tambo Black History Month Competition. Pupils from many Haringey schools were present, and Victoria received a commendation award for the fantastic piece of art work she submitted for the competition. She has also won a tour of the houses of parliament.

Labour MP for Tottenham, David Lammy, alongside MP Lord Peter Heine, spoke about the anti apartheid movements and the work they had done which was inspiring to hear. The girls behaved fantastically and we are very proud of them.

PENDARREN HOUSE

Over half-term break, a number of Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils journeyed to Pendarren House in the Brecon Beacons for a week of outdoor adventure. The pupils were lucky to be treated to some superb Welsh weather as they challenged themselves in a range of different activities. It was a fun week which saw the pupils build on their abilities to work as a team, as they pushed themselves to overcome some of their fears.

"What I liked about Pendarren was going in the woods to have a campfire with marshmallows!" – Tietie Ngina, Year 7

"I liked Pendarren because all the activities were so fun and amazing! I especially liked caving and canoeing, even though I went overboard!" – Megan Peters-Weise, Year 7

Thank you to all of the parents and staff who supported this worthwhile trip.



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

On Thursday, 19 October, Year 9 GCSE Drama pupils spent the afternoon at the Donmar Warehouse in Covent Garden, participating in a variety of workshops run by industry professionals. The workshops were part of the 'Take The Stage' Programme that St Thomas More has been selected to participate in, which will culminate in pupils performing their own work on stage at the Donmar in a few weeks time.

Following the workshop, pupils watched the production of 'The Lady from the Sea', and even had the opportunity to meet the writer of the play Elinor Cook (pictured) and take part in a Q&A session with the cast. Overall it was a fantastic day and gave the pupils lots of inspiration for their own drama pieces!



K+ PROGRAMME

Anahy Mercado and Dawid Hendrych in Year 12 have successfully made it onto the highly selective K+ Programme offered by King's College London. As part of the scheme, they will complete their own independent academic project with the guidance of a PhD tutor, as well as participate in a series of events, activities and workshops.

Upon completion of the programme, they will be eligible for an offer to study at King's worth up to two A-level grades lower than the standard offer. King's College London is one of the top 25 universities in the world (2016-17 QS international world ranking) and the fourth oldest university in England.

Thought for the Week

"Adopting the right attitude can convert a negative experience into a positive one. Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results".

REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Matthew 22:34-30

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

Reflection

The Pharisees put another question to Jesus in today's Gospel. What is the greatest commandment of the Law? Jesus replies that the first is that you must love the Lord your God and the second is that you must love your neighbour as yourself. Love indeed is a gift from God because God is love. This means that we should be imitators of Jesus Christ, who loves us so much even to the extent of dying for us.

On Wednesday school celebrated All Saints Day with four masses, presided over by Father Chris Connor, Father Khris, Canon Egan and Father Christian. It was a very solemn time for us to ask God to help us to look at the example of the saints who have gone before us. We may reflect on their faith and be inspired by their courage and determination.

Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Words of the Week

Monday - Credence (Noun): Belief in or acceptance of something as true; a small side table, shelf, or niche in a church for holding the elements of the Eucharist before they are consecrated.

Tuesday - Malign (Verb): To speak about someone in a spitefully critical manner.
(Adjective): Evil in nature or effect.

Wednesday - Facetious (Adjective): Treating serious issues with deliberately inappropriate humour; flippant.

Thursday - Temerity (Noun): Excessive confidence or boldness; audacity.

Friday - Superficial (Adjective): Existing or occurring at or on the surface: lacking depth of intellect or knowledge; concerned only with what is obvious; not thorough, deep or complete.