



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

31 January 2020

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday 3 February 2020

- Year 10 Option D Dropdown Day

### Tuesday 4 February 2020

- Sixth Form Samaritan's Assembly
- Year 11 GCSE Music Lunchtime Concert

### Wednesday 5 February 2020

- Year 11/12 Careers & Higher Education Fair

### Thursday 6 February 2020

- Year 11 Option A Dropdown Day
- Year 7 & 9 IntoUniversity Workshop

### Friday 7 February 2020

- Number Day

## INTRODUCTION

On Tuesday we held our Year 11 Parents Evening. Thank you to the large number of parents who were able to attend and discuss their child's progress with their child's teachers'. If you were unable to attend and would like to discuss your child's progress - please contact Ms Thomas (Head of Year) via [parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk](mailto:parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk)

During the last couple of weeks our Year 10 GCSE Drama groups have been working hard on their plays and monologues in preparation for their external exam next week. They have performed these as practice in front of parents, staff and pupils. We wish them success in their performances.

We currently have a school group in France which has been reported as going very well. The pupils, as well as having lessons, are also having a lot of opportunities to practice their French. They are due to return tomorrow.

A letter was issued to pupils for parents as a reminder that there is a **Teacher Training Day** on **Monday 10th February** - there will be no school for pupils. Our Year 10 pupils also start their work experience on this day.

We will be issuing letters to all pupils over the coming days requesting support for our school fund. We are very grateful to those parents that already contribute to this. As all are very aware finances within schools are always very difficult. We continue to work hard to offer all the extras such as prep, the numeracy and literacy interventions along with all extra sessions for exam classes all without cost. We would ask for your support with a financial contribution to our school fund. This can be done in numerous ways, by direct debit, through ParentPay, cheque or by bringing your contribution into school.

Thank you in advance for your support of the school.  
Mr Rowland, Head of School

## 7KL3 ARE "STEPPING OUT!"

Despite the grey weather the mood of the group was buoyant and keen. 7KL3 were going on their second geography field trip. Geography can use principles in Maths and Science to critically analyse the local area. We used timed tally counts, bi-polar environmental surveys to look, record and see what the local area was like. In Myddleton Road we had a really good chance to see how local areas are catering for local populations. The migration history is shown in the types of shops and foods on offer. Speaking of food ... the staff at "The Step", a café by day, and bar by night, serving freshly prepared home-cooked British food, kindly spoke to us and invited us in for a hot drink! Their hospitality was tasty and wonderful. Ryan said "It was a delicious hot chocolate". The students in 7KL3 were well behaved and very grown up sipping their hot chocolates and conversing around the table. Bozhidor said he enjoyed going to a local cafe and experiencing another slice of London life. The data we collected will help us analyse traffic flow in and around the school area.

## THE MEDICS SOCIETY

A group of year 12 students interested in taking Medicine at University are running seminars on related topics every Monday lunchtime in MG4. Ishita and Maica presented a really interesting seminar on the Zika virus on Monday 27th January. Klaudia and Chirra will be presenting their findings on the Corona-virus next Monday. Any interested Year 11 pupils are welcome to join.



## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON PROGRAMME

Congratulations to year 12 pupils Klaudia Mitiajew and Daniel Tewelde, and year 11 pupils - Mannab Berhanu, Fallon Bourne, Kiane Johnson and Toks Oyewole for securing a place on the Young Doctor, Entrepreneur and Engineer programme with the University College London. The programme is designed to immerse students in their chosen career paths.

## DONMAR WAREHOUSE VISIT

The GCSE and A-level Drama students visited the Donmar Warehouse this week to watch a modern adaption of Richard III. After the performance the pupils took part in a workshop that explored power struggles.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

### Third Sunday after Epiphany in Year A

#### Gospel Reading: (Matthew 4:12-23)

##### Follow Me

It is important to remember that Jesus was a very special person, an extraordinary man. Today we hear him ask some fishermen to leave their boat, nets, homes and families to follow him. The remarkable thing is, that's just what they did! Jesus was obviously a very special person. Something about him was so different, they were prepared to leave everything and follow him.

What did Jesus mean when he said that he would make them 'fishers of men and women'? They would help to spread the 'Good News', the teachings of Jesus. They would gather the people to Jesus like sheep into the flock, or all the fish into one net! These people would learn to know and love Jesus too and would follow him.

##### PRAYER

Jesus, help us to listen when you ask us to 'follow you'. Make us strong enough to walk beside you each day. Help us to share your love with others that we meet, so that we too can lead people to follow you. Amen.

##### The Year of the Word 'A God who Speaks'

Go and learn the meaning of the words: what I want is mercy, not sacrifice, and indeed I did not come to call the virtuous, but sinners. (Matthew 9:13).

##### The Sunday of the Word of God

This week is the 1st Sunday of the Word of God. Pope Francis has put aside the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time each year as a day when we focus on God's word.

##### PSHE

As part of our PSHE Programme, Year 10 watched a performance of 'Im sorry Mum, I promise I won't die'. The piece was funded by the the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation and explored making safe choices.



## U16 BASKETBALL- LONDON YOUTH GAMES

The U16 boys' basketball team played against Christ's College in the London Youth Games this week. Christ's College were this year's Barnet basketball champions and were drawn against St Thomas More in the 1st round. A fantastic performance from Jaden Leslie inspired the team to complete an 82-61 victory. St Thomas More has now progressed into round 2 and will play the champions of Brent or Enfield.



## YEAR 8 INDOOR ATHLETICS

The Year 8 boys and girls have replicated last week's Year 7 performance by winning this year's Haringey Indoor Athletics Championship. Excellent performances from Huugo and Obosa meant that St Thomas More has won the competition for the 11th year in a row. Both teams have progressed into the London Youth Games. Congratulations to all.



## Thought for the Week

It is important to get your surroundings as well as yourself into a positive state - surround yourself with positive people, not the kind who is negative and jealous of everything you do.

## Words of the Week

Monday – **Sentient** - (Adjective) - Able to perceive or feel things.

Tuesday - **Scalding** - (Adjective) - Very hot, burning; intense and painful or distressing.

Wednesday – **Misanthropist** - (Noun) - A person who dislikes humankind and avoids human society.

Thursday – **Mainstay** - (Noun) - A person or thing on which something else is based or depends.

Friday – **Inconspicuous** - (Adjective) - Not clearly visible or attracting attention.