



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

11 May 2018

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, 14 May 2018

- Early Closure for Pupils (13:30)
- Year 7 Mentor Meeting at Woodside School (14:15-15:15)

### Tuesday, 15 May 2018

- Year 10 GCSE Music Trip to St John's Smith Square (14:00-16:00)

### Wednesday, 16 May 2018

- Year 9 Music Trip to see Wicked (12:30-18:30)
- Youth Club (15:15-17:15)

### Thursday, 17 May 2018

- GCSE Year 10 Art Exam
- Year 10 GCSE Drama Exam (16:15-17:15)

### Friday, 18 May 2018

- GCSE Year 10 Art Exam
- Choir Practice (15:15-16:15)

## INTRODUCTION

Yesterday, Thursday 10 May 2018, was The Ascension of the Lord, a holy day of obligation in the Catholic Church. Thanks go to Mrs Henry who arranged for three priests to visit the school throughout the day and to each celebrate mass with different year groups. As always, the priests spoke very highly of the pupils' behaviour and how reverent they were during mass.

On Monday, the external exams start in earnest. Timetables have been given to all examination students and are available on the school website. Please support us and your child in ensuring they attend school every day. All lessons will continue when pupils do not have exams.

Parents should have received a letter about the early closure on Monday. Pupils will be dismissed after period 4 at 1.30pm. Year 10 and 11 pupils who have their GCSE RE examination will stay in school. There will also be provision for some Sixth Form revision sessions.

## LIBRARY OPEN ON SATURDAYS

During the examination season, the school will be opening the Library on Saturdays for Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form students wishing to study. Starting this Saturday, 5 May 2018, students will be able to access the Library from 9.30am to 2pm. As well as Saturdays, the school will be opening the Library during the May half-term.

## SPORT

### Year 10 Outdoor Athletics

The Year 10 boys' and girls' athletics teams both finished second in the Haringey Championship. Despite having several main athletes unavailable both teams marginally missed out on the gold medal. The boys' 4x100m relay performance proved to be the most compelling victory as they coasted to the finish line in 1st position.



### U17 Middlesex Cup Final

The U17 football team received the silver medal after losing to Drayton Manor 1-0 in extra-time. The squad had a number of Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 pupils representing the team. The boys fought very hard and could have easily won the game before the full-time whistle was blown. The Middlesex FA organiser commended their respected performance considering many members of the team were playing against pupils two years older than them.

### Victor Ostapenko- Table Tennis

Victor in Year 10 has replicated his teammate's success (Richard Xuhao, Year 10) by winning a number of table tennis accolades for his local club. Victor came second in the Junior Singles U15 North Middlesex Table Tennis Championship. He went one step further in the U15 Cadet Singles Ellengborough Club Championships and The Junior Open Doubles Ellengborough Club Championships taking the gold medals - well done, Victor!



## REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Week Beginning 13 May 2018

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Year B

Gospel Reading: Mark 16:15-20 (John 17: 11-19)

Most scholars believe this section of the bible reading was added to Mark's gospel in order to make it more compatible with the other gospel endings. Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, he commissioned the remaining eleven disciples to go into all the world and tell everyone they possibly could about the Good News. The disciples then saw Jesus lifted up bodily into heaven where he would sit at the Father's right hand.

### Prayer

We thank you Father for your many miracles of healing, and we pray for all who work with the sick and infirm. We name in our hearts those we love who are in need of your healing touch. We pray that your blessing be upon them and those who love and care for them and we pray that they may find encouragement and peace, that their sorrows and concerns be transformed into comfort, and their loneliness into fellowship with you.

Amen

## SCHOOL BAGS

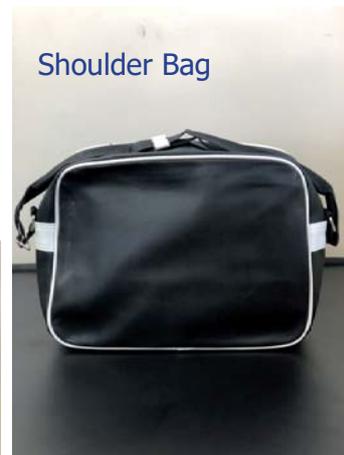
Pupils can now purchase from a choice of three school bags: rucksack, shoulder bag, and the new sport/holdall bag.

All three bags are priced at £18.00 and be purchased either via ParentPay and collected from Reception or directly from Reception. Please note that Reception can only take cash payments as there are no card facilities.

Rucksack



Shoulder Bag



Sport/Holdall Bag



### PARENTPAY

The school uses the ParentPay system for parents to pay for a wide range of items at the school, including school dinner accounts, trips, revision guides, uniform, music lessons and the school fund.

Benefits of using ParentPay include:

- Less cash being carried by pupils, reducing the possibility of loss or theft.
- All pupils are part of the same system so pupils receiving Free School Meals are anonymous.
- Parents and carers know that the money is spent in school and not at the local sweet shop etc.
- Detailed information on what is being bought can be provided to parents and carers if requested.

We would like to encourage parents to add funds to their children's dinner account via ParentPay rather than asking pupils to bring money into school as not only does this reduce the risk of pupils losing money, but it also ensures pupils are using the money for lunch in school and not in local shops.

For more information about ParentPay, please email [parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk](mailto:parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk)

## Thought for the Week

"When negative thoughts come, and they will, they come to all of us. You've got to replace them with positive thoughts. Life is about being positive and hopeful, choosing to be joyful, choosing to be encouraging, choosing to be empowering".

## Words of the Week

Monday – Diminutive (Adjective): Extremely or unusually small.

Tuesday – Placid (Adjective): Not easily upset or excited.

Wednesday – Discerning (Verb): Having or showing good judgement.

Thursday – Peevish (Adjective): Having or showing an irritable disposition.

Friday – Parsimonious (Noun): An extreme unwillingness to spend money or use resources.