



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

6th November 2020

INTRODUCTION

I would like to welcome you all back as we start our second half-term and enter the month of 'All Souls' where we remember our departed loved ones. "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen"

This is going to be a very busy half-term for both pupils and staff at St Thomas More; with the lead up to Christmas, assessment one and mock exams all on the horizon. We are constantly reminding pupils of the high standards we expect at St Thomas More; outstanding class work, homework completion and attendance to all the extra interventions that we are providing before and after school.

As the country enters its second "lockdown" I urge you to remind your children to remain "COVID" safe; social distancing, hand sanitising and wearing a mask. It has been our policy since before half-term that all pupils and staff must wear a mask when inside the buildings. We have been constantly reminding pupils of these instructions and as of Monday we will now issue a sanction if pupils do not comply. We will be insisting that all pupils should bring and wear their own masks. We will no longer be providing free masks at school, however, we will have masks for sale.

A reminder that the school is holding its Sixth Form Open Evening for Year 11s on Tuesday 10th November. Parents will not be able to attend in person, but will be able to attend a virtual event at 5.30pm on Zoom. Details will be emailed to you. God bless,
Mr Rosen, Acting Head of School

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

This week's winners of the Headteacher's Award in Science are: Paulo (Fernandes) Rodriguez (11MC1), Chiamaka Okafor (11BK2) and Sofia Serna-Bonilla (11KL1).



SPORTS LEADERSHIP SCHEME

We have now started our Sports Leadership Scheme. Pupils were invited to enter by writing an application to Mr Omojudi about the qualities that they believe a sports leader should have and why they deserved the role. Four pupils were selected from Years 10-13. These pupils will be gaining coaching qualifications and leading sports clubs in school and hopefully soon in Haringey.

We will be publishing our Sports Leaders each week. Well done to Tierney Gumisiriza (12MC1), Olamide Adeosun (11KL1) and Prince Michael Osuji (10MC2), for being our first three Sports Leaders.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 9th November

GCSE Resit Exams continue

Year 7 School Council Meeting (09:10-10:10)

Year 8 School Council Meeting (10:10-11:10)

Year 9 School Council Meeting (12:30-13:30)

Year 10 School Council Meeting (14:10-15:10)

Tuesday 10th November

Sixth Form Open Evening (STM Year 11s 16:00-17:00 at school, parents/carers (please see letter sent home) and external pupils via Zoom 17:30-18:15)

Wednesday 11th November

Remembrance Day Service (11:00-11:30)

YEAR 7 DRAMA CLUB

Before half-term Year 12 students Tara McCarry, Lian-Li Amartey-Hunter and Sandra Domingos Coimbra started up a Year 7 Drama club, on Tuesdays, at lunchtime. Pupils have the opportunity to make new friends within the year group, build up their confidence and develop the skills they have learnt in class. We would like to thank the girls for giving up their lunchtime to offer younger pupils this opportunity and look forward to welcoming more Year 7s next week! Any Year 7 pupils interested in joining, please speak to a member of the Drama Department.



LOST PROPERTY

We currently have a large amount of lost property. Please check that your child has all of their personal belongings and items of clothing. If not, please get them to have a look in the lost property at Pupil Reception or email parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk. Any remaining items will be donated to charity on the last day of term.

FREE PARENTS' ENGLISH LESSONS

Parents and carers are invited to our free English lessons on Tuesdays, from 18:00-19:30. The classes are currently being held online. Please contact 07960 953 728 if you are interested.

RE
Week Beginning 8th November 2020
Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year
Gospel Reflection: Be Ready

The first reading is taken from the Book of Wisdom 6:12-16 and cites watchfulness as the key to a faithful religion and understanding of wisdom.

The second reading is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18, where he addresses a practical and doctrinal problem faced by the community. Paul had preached to them and left them with the impression that the second coming of Christ was imminent. Some died before the Parousia and their concern is what has happened to them. Paul states firmly and categorically that what matters is that they interpret these events because of their faith and hope in the Lord.

The Gospel is from St. Matthew 25:1-13. Although commentators and writers have found difficulty in explaining many of the details in this parable, the general lesson is clear enough. Our Lord described an incident that happened, or could have happened, at a wedding festival in order to bring home to his listeners the need for being ever vigilant and ready in his service if they wish to avoid the calamity of being excluded from the heavenly and eternal nuptials on the last day. In the other parable, in which our Lord uses a wedding feast to describe his kingdom, the lesson concerns those who refused the invitation and will not come to the wedding. Here it concerns those who gladly accepted the invitation.

Jesus uses parables to give us a message. Jesus uses this story to tell us that we must always be ready. Like the bridesmaids, we know that Jesus will come again, but we do not know the exact day or time. The wise bridesmaids kept themselves ready so that they were not taken by surprise when the bridegroom finally arrived.

How can we keep ourselves ready for when Jesus returns? If we can live each day as well as possible, and make each day our best, then we will always be ready to greet Jesus when he comes. By trying to be good and to live as Jesus taught us, ready to say sorry when we get things wrong and to forgive others, then we will be like the wise bridesmaids who kept their lamps burning, and be ready for Jesus when he comes.

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. We know that one day you will return and we will be with you in heaven. Help us to make each day our best, so that we will always be ready to greet you. 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.

Thought for the Week

Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending. So every morning you have the options, continue to sleep with your dreams or wake up and chase them. The choice is yours.

Prayer for the Month of November 'All Souls':

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

PEER MENTORS

Congratulations to St Thomas More's new Sixth Form Peer Mentors! All Peer Mentors have now received their training and will begin their sessions from next week.



SAM LEARNING STUDENT LEADER BOARD

Many of our pupils have been demonstrating some extremely impressive independent learning recently, by using SAM learning.

Congratulations and well done to all our top performers for the month of October 2020 and below is the most recent update of which pupils are working the hardest!

Year 7 Top Students			
Name	Form Group	Points	Position
Osaretin Neru	7MC1	28564	1st
Ziyi Qi	7DX1	27511	2nd
David Ugochukwu	7MC2	24323	3rd
Lucca Chrysostomou	7KL1	23925	4th
Oreoluwa Oluwa	7MC1	21227	5th

Year 8 Top Students			
Name	Form Group	Points	Position
Shabaka Nembaware	8BK2	12273	1st
Hannah Bucchan	8BK1	8919	2nd
Wisdom Okereafor	8MC2	8021	3rd
Delia Sanz Borbely	8BK1	6616	4th
Elijah Omolade	8BK1	6418	5th

Access Details

Pupils are able to use the service at anytime and anywhere they have internet access. All they need to do is visit the website www.samlearning.com and enter their unique login details. The Centre ID is always N22ST

Your login AND password are your date of birth followed by two initials; first name then last name (DDMMYYII).

Words of the Week

Monday - Defer - (Verb): Put off (an action or event) to a later time; postpone.

Tuesday - Incisive - (Adjective): (Of a person or mental process) intelligently analytical and clear-thinking; (of an action) quick and direct.

Wednesday - Jutting - (Adjective): Extend out, over or beyond the main body or line of something.

Thursday - Segregate - (Verb): Set apart from the rest or from each other; isolate or divide.

Friday - Prowess - (Noun): Skill or expertise in a particular activity or field.