



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

7th May 2020

INTRODUCTION

This week staff have continued to work hard in setting work for pupils and sending home a number of workbooks to help pupils continue their studies.

It is important that all Year 11 pupils start to complete the 6th Form work that is being set to help them prepare for their progression next year. The work being set is targeted at the subjects that they chose during their interview for 6th Form. Year 12 online lessons have been well-attended and are helping the students keep up and prepare for their A level exams next year. A reminder that if there are any issues, problems or questions please email parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk

Currently there has been no change or decision on the reopening of schools across the country only lots of differing speculation. As you are aware the Prime Minister is due to make a statement on Sunday about the government's plan to ease the lockdown, which should include a plan of when, and how, they intend to reopen schools. As soon as there is any information we will let parents know.

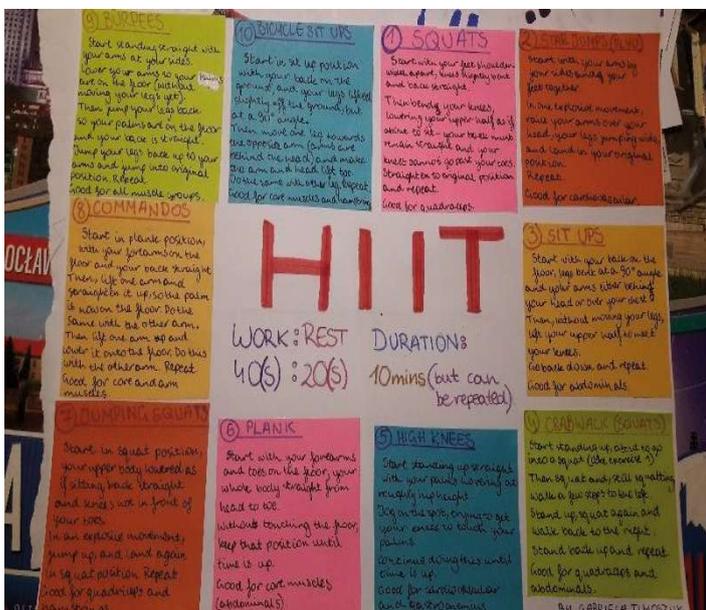
We are being made aware that a number of families in our school community have had bereavements recently. Please keep all in your thoughts and prayers.

As we are now in the month of May it is a time when we look to our mother Mary for help and support. During our daily prayers let us not forget to pray, especially to Mary, to help us in our very different way of life at the moment.

Mark Rowland
Head of School

HIIT WORKOUT

Some of the Year 9 classes have been developing their own HIIT workouts at home. **Gabriela Timoszuk** (9BK1) created this fantastic 10-exercise programme. Who needs Joe Wicks?



AMAZON VOUCHER WINNERS

The winners of £10 Amazon vouchers for this week are:

Year 7: Thandie Akaeke; Benjamin Cifuentes; Eduardo Hartley; Ashley Tshitenga

Year 8: Niamh Abante; Nanayaa Akoto; Stephen Asamoah

Year 9: Andrew Knight; Jonathan Nduakaba-Ibekwe; Osato Neru

Year 10: Fiona Arthur; Mercy Boateng; Sofia Petruzzelli; Kyla Stewart

Year 12: Tianah Buchanan

Well done to all the nominees. Congratulations winners!

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Congratulations to **Dylan Gallagher** (Year 9) who has produced this fantastic work for his Design and Technology project!



CAREER TALKS ONLINE

Founders4Schools are hosting a series of online Career Masterclasses, suitable for students aged 13 through to 18. Speakers cover a wide range of industries, from accounting and financial services to sales, from IT and data analysis to investing and running companies.

These Masterclasses cover career lessons, life tips and motivational talks, similar to TED Talks and will have an interactive element where children can ask questions LIVE! You can watch the recordings of any webinars you may have missed on the Founders4Schools YouTube channel.

Link: <https://www.founders4schools.org.uk/covid19/digital-webinars-calendar/>

YEAR 8 CREATIVE WRITING - PART 1

Humanity's greatest mystery still remains unknown: where do socks truly go? This is something we all have to face in our times, and definitely not once, but hundreds of times! Some speculate that they are merely consumed by the laundry machine, ripped slowly from their strings and fabrics. Their remains however, have never been found. It is also widely thought that they simply travel to different dimensions. When they are thrown into the machine, due to its rapid turns, portals open and they are banished to the other side of the universe.

By **Jakub Kolanko 8BK1**

RE

Week Beginning 11th May 2020

Gospel Reflection

John 14: 1-14

I am the Way

Few of us would set off on a journey to a place we had not been to before, without a map or some guide to take with us. In the reflection today Jesus tells his disciples that they already know the way to the place he is going, even though they have never been there before. Jesus explained he is 'the Way'. Jesus is 'the Way' because he shows us what we must do so that we can find Heaven.

When we are born we begin our journey through life. Our signposts guiding us are God's commandments and all the things Jesus taught us. If we follow these signposts and do what pleases God then we will find the right path which leads us to everlasting happiness.

Prayer:

Teach me your ways Lord, make them known to me. Teach me to walk in your truth, for you are my Saviour and I can always place my trust in you. The Lord is just and good. He shows the humble way and teaches them his will. With loyalty and love, he leads all those who obey his commandments. Amen.

'Year of the Word' The God Who Speaks:

"We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life." (John 1:1)

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

MAY: THE MONTH OF MARY

It has been a long-standing Catholic tradition to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in May. In most Catholic churches (and even in many Catholic homes), a "May Altar" is erected with a statue or picture of Mary, flowers, and perhaps candles. The altar stands from 1st to 31st May as a reminder of Mary's importance in the life of the Church and in our own lives as well.



Thought for the Week

It is not enough to **not** dwell on negative thoughts. You must **choose** positives. Life is about being positive and hopeful: choosing to be joyful, choosing to be encouraging, choosing to be empowering.

YEAR 8 CREATIVE WRITING - PART 2

Where Do Socks go when they disappear?

"Ouch! That is a hard floor! Hmm, where am I? Did my owner prefer my twin over me?"

"Mum, have you seen where my socks are? It is the white one with paint marks all over it."

"No honey, sorry to say but I haven't. I couldn't find the other pair so I threw the one sock away."

"Thanks Mum."

"Nooooooo! My sister is in hell! What did she ever do to deserve such hatred and trash? And me, I am just lying here waiting for my owner to find me and put me on so I can finally reach...Heaven."

The painted sock lay patiently behind the bed but Maricela the owner wouldn't think of looking behind there for an old sock, would she? The betrayed sock lay paralysed on the ground, weeping and crying. The weeping soon calmed down until it was some sniffs and nose blows. But then, a noise arose from a friendly neighbour;

"Howdy paint sock, it is your neighbour Marley. What have you been up to huh?" Sniff, sniff "Maricela dropped me, behind here and cannot find me anymore."

"That's a shame, she dumped me here a year ago and never bothered looking for me. Don't worry it is not that she doesn't care about you it is just that umm...she hasn't got the brain to go look behind the bed. She is too lazy to find the lost socks herself."

"But she loved wearing me and washed me and my twin regularly."

"That doesn't matter girl. People do not think, they seem to know that the socks disappear – regularly - but apparently don't know where they go. Well guess what Maricela, they hide in the corners of the house waiting for a saviour...or perhaps a nasty revenge. MWAHAHAHAHAHAHA."

A humorous view by **Maja Grzybek 8BK1'**



Words of the Week

Monday- Stoic - (Noun) - A person who can endure pain or hardship without showing their feelings or complaining.

Tuesday- Surreal - (Adjective) – Appearing as a dream; bizarre; unreal.

Wednesday- Ken - (Noun) - One's range of knowledge or understanding.

Thursday- Hector - (Verb) – Talk to (someone) in a bullying way.

Friday- Esoteric - (Adjective) - Intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest.