



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

15 February 2019

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, 25 February 2019

- Donmar Warehouse Writing Wrongs with Year 10 (15:15-17:15)

### Tuesday, 26 February 2019

- GCSE Drama Public Performance Year 10 (16:15-17:15)

### Wednesday, 27 February 2019

- Art Trip to Tate Modern for Years 10, 12 and 13
- GCSE Drama Public Performance Year 11 (16:15-17:15)

### Friday, 1 March 2019

- GCSE Drama Practical Performance
- Geography A Level Trip to Norfolk
- Year 8 Trip to London Zoo

## INTRODUCTION

Next week is Half-Term. There is a full programme of extra sessions on for the week. Timetables have been issued and are available on the school website. We ask you to encourage your child to attend all of the sessions available to them as there are now only about seven school weeks left before exams start.

Year 10 pupils have been on Work Experience this week. Teachers have been visiting the pupils and have received excellent reports.

School reopens at 08:50 on Monday, 25 February 2019. We look forward to welcoming all the pupils back safe and well.

## SPORT: YEAR 7 BASKETBALL

The Year 7 boys' basketball team have stretched their winning streak to a whopping 12 wins out of 12, and were crowned Haringey basketball champions this week. St Thomas More went in with much confidence, after having sailed through their group stage.

The Haringey journey started with a convincing 40-14 win against Heartlands High. Gladesmore showed more promise as an opposition, but St Thomas More were too strong and won that fixture too, 33-9. The final group fixture against Park View proved to be the best: St Thomas More vanquished their opponents 72-0.



Greig City's victories against Highgate Wood, Fortismere and Alexandra Park meant they would meet St Thomas More in the final this week. The match finished 45-22 to St Thomas More, making them this year's Haringey Champions. A great achievement for Ibuchi, Jahzye, Emmanuel, Darren, Cristiano, Wisdom, Jakub, Kwesi, Jesse, Daniel, Henry and Ananiah.



## GUIDED READING

This term we introduced guided reading, where Sixth Formers ran one-on-one sessions with pupils from Years 7 and 8. This initiative is not only a fantastic way for the younger pupils to engage with literacy, but is also a unique opportunity for the Sixth Formers to give to the school community. To celebrate the success of this initiative, the canteen staff put together a lovely breakfast spread to thank the Sixth Formers for all their hard work. We look forward to continuing this scheme after the half-term break!

## REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT Week Beginning February 10th 2019 Gospel Reading: (Luke 5:1-11)

### The Marvellous Catch

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches from Simon's boat. Jesus turns to Simon and instructs him about where to lower the fishing nets. Simon and others have been fishing throughout the night and have not caught anything. Simon protests, claiming that such an effort would be futile, but he ultimately obeys Jesus and lowers his nets into the deeper water as directed. Notice here that Peter calls Jesus by the title "master." He already recognizes Jesus as a person of authority.

They catch so many fish that the nets begin to tear; Jesus' presence has created abundance out of scarcity, just as it did at the wedding feast at Cana, which we heard at Mass just a few weeks ago.

Simon Peter becomes a follower of Jesus immediately. He calls Jesus "Lord" — the title given to Jesus after his Resurrection — and protests his worthiness to be in Jesus' presence. Today's Gospel, therefore, marks a turning point in the relationship between Jesus and Peter.

We continue to speak of Peter's leadership and influence in the Church today when we call the pope the "successor of Peter." We participate in the mission of the Church when we bring people to Christ through the example and positive influence of our lives.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection>

### Prayer:

For the grace to pray privately and to pray together,  
For the grace to serve the poor with dedication and faithfulness,  
For the grace to support and care for each other.  
Help us to have the grace to spread the Good News of Jesus.  
Amen

## Thought for the Week

"Don't fear failure. Fear being in the exact same place next year as you are today."



## Words of the Week

**Monday – Swathe** – (1) Noun: A broad strip or area of something; a row or line of grass or other crop as it falls or lies when mown or reaped. (2) Verb: Wrap (an object) in several layers of fabric. (3) Noun: A piece or strip of material in which something is wrapped.

**Tuesday – Usurp** – Verb: Take (a position of power or importance) illegally or by force; take the place of someone (in a position of power) illegally.

**Wednesday – Complement** – (1) Noun: A thing that contributes extra features to something else in such a way as to improve or emphasise its quality. A number or quantity of something, especially that required to make a group complete. (2) Verb: Contribute extra features in such a way as to improve/emphasise their qualities.

**Thursday – Condiment** – Noun: A substance such as salt, mustard or ketchup that is used to add flavour to food.

**Friday – Arid** – Adjective: (1) (of land or climate) Having little or no rain. (2) too dry or barren to support vegetation. (3) Lacking in interest, excitement, or meaning.