



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

2 November 2018

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 5 November - Friday, 9 November 2018

- IT Safety Online Week

Wednesday, 7 November 2018

- Haringey Careers Fair at Alexandra Palace - 6th Form (14:00-19:00)

Thursday, 8 November 2018

- Academic Review Day
- Worlds by Women Project (16:30-18:30)

Friday, 9 November 2018

- Remembrance Service (10:30-11:15)

INTRODUCTION

I hope that everyone had a pleasant half-term break last week. Well done to all the pupils who attended the extra lessons offered and thank you to all the staff who volunteered to run these sessions.

Yesterday was All Saints Day. We held five masses in school throughout the day to enable all pupils to attend. Today is All Souls Day. Throughout the month of November we will remember all those who have passed on. There is a remembrance booth in the chapel where pupils can add the names of departed friends and family members. Prayers will be offered up for them at our daily Moment for Jesus and our weekly masses.

As the weather gets colder and wetter, can I please remind you that coats worn by pupils must be plain black or navy. This also applies to hats and scarves. Your support with this is much appreciated.

YOUTH CLUB

This week, the Media Department commenced BBC School Report Club, designed to give pupils the opportunity to produce their own reports, and to reach and inform a real audience about the stories and topics that matter to them. There will be exciting opportunities throughout the year, including chances to submit work and programme ideas directly to the BBC to be pitched to programme makers, taking part in large scale projects involving hundreds of schools and many other pupils, and attending local BBC events. Please speak to Miss Christodoulou to find out more about this and other Youth Club opportunities.

SPORT

Years 7 and 8 Netball

The St Thomas More netball teams have started the season off incredibly well, with two exceptional wins. The Year 7 girls won their match 12-1, and the Year 8 girls 13-1.

Boys' Basketball

Marleigh orchestrated a polished Year 11 performance to seal a 49-37 win against Alexandra Park in the Haringey League.



Girls' football

The Under 13 girls' football team (pictured above) won 13-0 against Brampton Manor, with 6 goals scored by Adaora, 3 by Megan, 2 by Saoirse, and 1 each by Asheika and Dayanna. They are now through to the next round.

Boys' Football

The Year 10 boys' football team have progressed to the next round of the Middlesex Cup. Goals from Ronaldinho, Kaquan and Quaine saw the team beat their Haringey neighbours 6-1.

The Year 8 boys' team have continued to dominate, this week securing yet another victory in the Haringey League against Park View. Jayshaun, Rennie, Romeo (3) and David scored to secure a 6-0 win.



ALL SAINTS DAY

The feast of 'All Saints' should inspire us with tremendous hope. All of the Saints once lived here on earth with lives like our own. They were baptised, marked with the sign of faith, and were faithful to Christ's teaching. The Gospel of the Beatitudes, read in our masses, while it shows their happiness, shows too the road that they followed.

On Thursday, the whole school celebrated 'All Saints' mass. We had five masses, throughout this holy day of obligation, in order to give all of our pupils a chance to celebrate mass. The choir sang beautifully, pupils read Bible passages, and all our pupils were reverent and respectful.

Prayer: Lord, as the saints in Heaven adore You for eternity, I beg for their intercession. Saints of God, please come to my aide. Pray for me and bring to me the grace I need to live a holy life in imitation of your own lives. All saints of God, pray for us. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.

VISIT FROM DAME BARBARA STOCKING

Dame Barbara Stocking, President of Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge, visited school this week to share her experiences of working as the Chief Executive of Oxfam with our Sixth Form. She told the story of her exciting career path, explaining how to gain experience in the charity sector, and then went on to meet small groups to discuss life at Cambridge. She has invited the group to spend the day with her at Murray Edwards College to experience life at Cambridge.



REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Week Beginning October 28th 2018

Gospel Reading: (Mark 10:46-52)

Master, let me see!

Today we continue to read from Mark's Gospel. In this Gospel, we find evidence of Jesus' fame in the sizeable crowd that accompanies him as he journeys to Jerusalem. Jesus' reputation as a healer has preceded him. When the blind man, Bartimaeus, hears that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by, he calls out to him, asking for his pity. When Bartimaeus calls out to Jesus, the crowd around him tries to silence him. Yet Bartimaeus persists, calling out more loudly and with greater urgency. He will not be silenced or deterred from getting Jesus' attention. We notice how quickly the crowd's reaction changes when Jesus calls for Bartimaeus. Those who sought to quiet him now encourage him.

Once his sight has been restored, Bartimaeus follows Jesus on his way to Jerusalem. In Mark's Gospel, Bartimaeus is the last disciple called by Jesus before he enters Jerusalem (<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection>)

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, today we pray for blind people everywhere and for those who help to care for them. Thank you for the gift of sight, allowing us to see the beauty of your world. Amen.

Thought for the Week

"Life is a cycle of happiness, sadness, hard times and good times. If you are going through hard times have faith that good times are on their way."

RUDOLPH WALKER DRAMA AWARDS

The winners of the Rudolph Walker Inter Schools Drama Award, Jaime Bile, Ronaldo Trim, Amiyah Cotttoy and Vanessa Sampaney, were given a tour of Elstree Studios. Jamie Bile said 'It was such an honour to be given a tour of the Eastenders set by Rudolph Walker. The whole experience was a real eye opener as I never realized how much work goes on behind the scenes just to make one episode. You would not believe how small Albert Square is in real life and to meet some of the cast was inspirational.' The winners were then treated to lunch by Rudolph himself and given the opportunity to hear more about his career.



ALL SOULS DAY

In our chapel we have a book of Remembrance, where everyone is invited to write the names of those they would like to be remembered. Our priest will pray for them at each mass.

Prayer: My Jesus, by the sorrows Thou didst suffer in Thine agony in the Garden, in Thy scourging and crowning with thorns, in the way to Calvary, in Thy crucifixion and death. Have mercy on the souls in purgatory, and especially on those that are most forsaken; do Thou deliver them from the dire torments they endure; call them and admit them to Thy most sweet embrace in paradise.

Words of the Week

Monday – Incendiary – Adjective: (Of a device or attack) designed to cause fires, fire-raising or tending to stir up conflict.

Tuesday – Ambivalent – Adjective: Having mixed feelings or contradictory ideas about something or someone.

Wednesday – Uncanny – Adjective: Strange or mysterious, especially in an unsettling way; difficult or impossible to explain.

Thursday – Doleful – Adjective: Expressing sorrow, grief or sadness.

Friday – Tactile – Adjective: Of or connected with the sense of touch; designed to be perceived by touch.