



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

30 November 2018

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, 5 December 2018

- School Production of Mary Poppins (18:00-19:30)

Thursday, 6 December 2018

- School Production of Mary Poppins (18:00-19:30)

INTRODUCTION

With only a week to go before our first set of mock exams for Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form, pupils are working very hard. The timetable has been issued and is available on our website.

A reminder to all parents: 'Prep' is available from Monday to Thursday, 3.10pm until 7pm, with a free light supper available at 4.50pm. On Friday, it is available between 3.10pm and 4.10pm. Prep enables pupils to complete homework and carry out extra study. It is open to all pupils from Years 7 to 13.

Last night, nine girls from Year 11 and Sixth Form performed an outstanding drama, 'Worlds by Women'. This follows a lot of hard work by the girls, who volunteered their own time for a number of months. We were also joined by Catherine West MP, Diana Mackay (CEO Fund Radar), Mary Otumahana (Music Entrepreneur), Maria Petnga-Wallace (Diversity & Inclusion specialist) and Madeleine Whelan (Barrister) who formed a women's panel for a question and answer session. Well done to the girls for all their hard work - the evening was a great success.

As we approach the season of Advent, our thoughts turn to Christmas, and to those who have very little. 'Mary's Meals' has given talks to the pupils in assemblies, and we are also collecting 'dry goods', tinned foods, packets, etc., to be distributed at Christmas. Please send your donations in to the RE department.

Don't miss out: final tickets are available in school for the Wednesday and Thursday performances of Mary Poppins.



SPORT: GIRLS' FOOTBALL

The U13 girls' football team played another Middlesex Cup game on Monday, beating Chace Community School 4-2. All four goals were scored by Megan in Year 8. Well done girls!

SPORT

Year 8 boys' football: Middlesex Cup

The Year 8 boys' football team are the second St Thomas More team to make it the Middlesex Cup quarter-finals this year, after winning this week's match 4-3. It was a very close game, with goals scored by Jayshaun, David, and Rennie, who scored twice in the final few minutes to seal the victory. The Year 9 boys' football team has also progressed to this year's Middlesex Cup quarter-final.

Year 9 boys' rugby: National Cup

The Year 9 boys' rugby team has made it to the semi-final of the National Cup after beating Robert Clack from Essex. Several tries from Raymond, Ronnie, Samuel, Jalil and Ikenna ensured St Thomas More won the game 36-28. This is a fantastic achievement for the team! Their next game (to score a place in the final!) will be against Howard of Effingham school in Surrey.



YOUTH CLUB: LAMBDA CLUB

Lambda Club (every Wednesday from 3.10-5pm in EG3) is a drama group where students pick a poem, extract from a book or a scene from a play, to then learn and perform to each other each week. This will hopefully culminate in an end of year performance!



Board Games
in EG2
EAST BLOCK
GROUND FLOOR
ROOM 2

INTO UNIVERSITY WORKSHOPS

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils took part in two IntoUniversity workshops this week. Year 7 pupils learned about 'Choosing Success' and explored key skills of communication, confidence and leadership; in this photo pupils are working together to solve a problem.



Year 8 pupils gained key memory and study skills in their 'Learning Techniques' workshop - see them practicing their new memory techniques below.



REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Week Beginning November 25th 2018

Gospel Reading: (John 18:33-37)

Jesus before Pontius Pilate

The Jewish leaders were afraid that Jesus would lead the people to rise up against them, so they plotted to have him arrested and sentenced to death.

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year. On this Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Each year we set aside this Sunday to reflect upon this title that we have given to Jesus. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read a portion of the passion from the Gospel of John, which is also part of the Gospel reading proclaimed each year on Good Friday.

In John's Gospel, Pilate is shown in a more favourable light than in the other Gospels. In today's reading, we hear one of two dialogues between Jesus and Pilate that are reported in John's Gospel. Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime, one that would require a punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and he seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair.

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

Prayer:

God our Father we thank you for sending your only Son to be our saviour. Help us to know and love your truth and to listen to you always.

Amen.

Thought for the Week

"Starting today, you need to forget what's gone, appreciate what still remains and look forward to what's coming next."

WORLDS BY WOMEN PROJECT

In collaboration with Jackson's Lane Art Centre, this week we celebrated the 100 year anniversary of women being awarded the right to vote with a performance entitled 'Worlds by Women', an immersive piece of theatre which was performed in the Teaching School to two sell out audiences. Pupils from Years 11-13 worked with director Katie Posner to devise a response to the Suffragette Movement. Their performance explored women's rights of the past, present and future and the powerful piece was followed by a debate led by Catherine West MP. Head Girl Klara Pastvea who took part in the 10 week project said "Participating in this fantastic project has really developed my awareness of the issues surrounding women's rights, and from now on I will continue to take keen interest in the issues that will have an impact of myself, growing up as a young woman in 2018. I have met so many inspirational women through the project and am so grateful to all the staff at Jackson's Lane that have made this opportunity possible."



RED WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday we held a non-uniform day for Red Wednesday. All students and staff were asked to wear something red in to show solidarity for all Christians and people of other minority religions throughout the world who are persecuted for their faith to this day, and to make a donation for the cause. We are proud to have raised over £1200, which will go to the charities that the school supports and also to the main charity 'Aids to the Church in Need'. Let us all remember them in our prayers.

Words of the Week

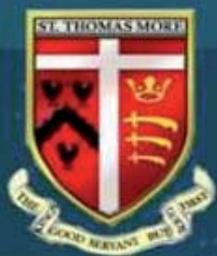
Monday – Fraternal – Adjective: (1) Of or like a brother or brothers. (2) (Of twins) Developed from separate ova and therefore genetically distinct and not necessarily of the same sex.

Tuesday – Diligent – Adjective: Having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties.

Wednesday – Epitomise – Verb: Be a perfect example of.

Thursday – Decant – Verb: (1) Pour (a liquid, such as wine) from one vessel into another. (2) Temporarily transfer (people) to another place.

Friday – Inveigle – Verb: (1) Persuade (someone) by means of deception or flattery. (2) Gain entrance to (a place), by using deception or flattery.



St Thomas More Catholic School Presents:

Mary Poppins



Wednesday 5th &
Thursday 6th
December 2018
at 6:00pm

TICKETS:

Concessions £2/Adults £3

Available to buy from

Front Reception/Pupil Reception

Featuring the choir of St John Vianney Catholic Primary School