



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

7 December 2018

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 10 December 2018
• Mock Exams
Tuesday, 11 December 2018
• Mock Exams
• Year 10 Highly Able Trip to Royal Institute of Science (15:00-21:15)
Wednesday, 12 December 2018
• Mock Exams
• Science Speaker (08:30-09:00)
• Lunchtime Concert (13:30-14:10)
Thursday, 13 December 2018
• Mock Exams
• Senior Citizens' Christmas Party (14:30-16:30)
Friday, 14 December 2018
• Mock Exams
• Christmas Jumper Day

INTRODUCTION

Over the last two days, we saw our school production of Mary Poppins come to life. Those who got tickets before they sold out were treated to an amazingly professional show. Weeks of rehearsals and late nights culminated in an outstanding performance. Well done to the cast, crew, and teachers for all the hard work put in. Special mention goes to the choir of St John Vianney Primary School, who joined us to support the singing for each show.

Next week, exams begin for Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form. Please encourage your child to revise for this very important first set of mock examinations. An early reminder that our Sixth Form Parents' Evening is Monday, 17 December, from 4.30 to 6.30pm. It would be great to see as many parents' of Sixth Formers as possible.

This week I also met Mrs Quilliec, Chloe's mum, who was very grateful for everything the school community did to support the family during their very difficult time. Clearly they will still need our thoughts and prayers in the months ahead. Please see the message below from the family.

THANK YOU FROM FAMILY QUILLIEC
Dear Mr Rowland, Staff, Parents and Pupils of St Thomas More School,

We would love to thank you for all your contributions, lovely cards and gifts, warm messages, supporting us during the most difficult last months... especially the day during Chloe's funeral.

Words cannot express our deep gratitude for all your love and support.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Lots of love, xxx
Family Quilliec

CONGRATULATIONS TO NATHAN BROWN

Congratulations to Nathan Brown in Year 11, who has been offered a two year scholarship contract at Cambridge United Football Club, starting on 30 June 2019. This is fantastic news for all of Nathan's Family, St Thomas More Catholic School Community and of course Nathan himself! He has worked tirelessly, committing many hours towards his development, with the best result possible. We wish him well in his pursuit of becoming a Professional Footballer.



IOANNIS KANATAS

Congratulations to Ioannis Kanatas, who won the Under 16 Water Polo Inter County Championship with the Middlesex Team on Sunday. He is pictured here with the Middlesex coach, and the team's well-deserved trophy!

FOOTBALL

The Year 7 boys' football team have progressed to the third round of the London

Cup after beating Norwood school 2-1. Kwabena Osei and Ibuchie Johnson scored the goals of the match.

Sixth Form boys' football: Jeremiah, Eddy, Aaron, Quinton and Dylan all scored on Wednesday afternoon to secure a 7-2 victory against John Lyon in the Middlesex Cup. St Thomas More have now progressed to the semi-final of the Middlesex Cup and will play against Harefield Academy.

The Under 13 girls' football team played another Middlesex Cup game on Thursday, beating Gladesmore school 11-0. Goal scorers on the night were Megan (with 5), Trea (with 3), Adaora (with 2) and Saoirsa.



MARY POPPINS

On Wednesday and Thursday, St Thomas More pupils performed a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious rendition of Mary Poppins. The stellar cast, accompanied by the delightful choir of St John Vianney Primary School, did a magnificent job and blessed us with a very impressive five performances over two days. Look out for more exciting photos and pupil reviews in this term's 'Glendalian'!



YEAR 7 BOYS' BASKETBALL: JUNIOR NBA LEAGUE

The Year 7 boys' basketball team played their first two matches in this year's Junior NBA League. After some prolific lay ups, they were able to beat Greig City 22-14, up from a 10-4 deficit! Maria Fidelis were up next and the team continued their exceptional play to win 25-6.

REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Week Beginning December 2nd 2018

Gospel Reading: (Luke 21:25-28)

Jesus Will Return

On Sunday, we began our preparation to celebrate the birthday of our saviour, Jesus Christ. During Advent we think about the past, our lives today, and what will be in the future.

The first Sunday of Advent is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

Do we know when Jesus will return? Only God the Father knows, so Jesus tells us that we must 'be ready' to welcome him at any time!

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

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help us prepare to greet you at Christmas and at the end of time.

Amen.

Thought for the Week

"It's up to you whether to walk away or keep going. Sometimes quitting is okay. If you're unhappy and feeling stuck, free yourself and start anew."

YEAR 7 LEADERSHIP SPORTS TRIP

20 talented Year 7 boys were granted the opportunity to have a workshop with last year's National Champions in Basketball, the Haringey Hawks. The head coach delivered a number of skill-related activities for the boys, while the Under 18 team demonstrated a number of leadership drills our Year 7 pupils could make use of in their own sessions. Our pupils received several prizes for their creativity and work ethic.



PEER MENTORING

Congratulations to the new Sixth form mentors who have been selected and will begin their mentoring after Christmas! Please speak to Miss Christodoulou to find out more about our mentoring programmes.



SCHOOL CLUB: WRITING CLUB

The Writing Club was introduced to provide students with a sound understanding of the expectations of writing at GCSE level. Attended regularly by a number of our Year 11 pupils, the writing club provides individualised one-to-one support and an extensive review of the English Language paper framework. The extra literacy work has significantly improved written responses and clarity of expression. Please speak to Mr De Groot if you have any questions!

Words of the Week

Monday – Recursive – Adjective: Characterised by recurrence or repetition.

Tuesday – Overt – Adjective: Done or shown publicly or in an obvious way and not secret.

Wednesday – Expunge – Verb: Obliterate or remove completely (something unwanted or unpleasant).

Thursday – Expedient – Verb: (1) Adjective: Providing an easy and quick way to solve a problem or do something. (2) Noun: An easy and quick way to solve a problem or do something.

Friday – Inveigle – (1) Noun: An agreement or settlement of a dispute that is reached by each side making concessions. (2) Verb: To settle a dispute by mutual concession.