

ST. THOMAS MORE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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21st July 2015

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 21

Dear Parents,

Well another year over and a summer holiday to look forward to. Thank you to all those parents who joined us for this morning End of Year Awards Assembly. In case you were not able to join us, I want to say how genuinely proud I am of our children, our staff and our community. It has been a privilege to lead our school and to witness the amazing successes brought about this year.

As we move to the summer holiday, I want to wish you all a very happy, enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

Thank you again for the overwhelming response to the parent questionnaire. The responses (see below) were extremely positive which you can see from the attached summary. It has highlighted that we need to provide more extra-curricular activities for Key Stage 1 and add more variety to the range of activity. We must also consider how to make the school website more versatile and it has been suggested that we provide an opportunity every 3-4 weeks for parents to view the children's books.

From September, the changes to the curriculum and assessment will be introduced. We plan to organise a meeting to brief parents on how the new assessment system works on the evening of the 10th September at 6:30.

Please remember there will be an additional INSET day on Wednesday 2nd September so the **children will be returning to school on Thursday 3rd September.**

PTA News

We very much hope you all enjoyed the summer fair this year. What a day we had! We were blessed with the weather and the community spirit was incredible. Thank you so much to all those who gave their time to making the event so special; teachers, parents, grandparents and every member of our community who came and supported our fair.

On the day, we collected just over £5,000! What an incredible amount of money. We have invested some of this money in new marquees for future events and had spent money on new games for the children to play at the fair, once the general fair expenses were also deducted; we ended up with an amazing profit of £3365.90. Thank you so much to you all. This money will be put towards our new project in KS1.

The AGM will be held in September; we have yet to set a date, so please do look out for the newsletter upon our return.

Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant required from September

Term time only, 3.75 hours per week 11:50 – 13:05 Monday, Wednesday & Friday – suitable for job share
Pay Grade A, hourly rate £7.06

Job/Person Summary

We are looking to appoint someone who enjoys working as part of a team within a school environment. You must be reliable, caring, friendly and able to communicate well with both adults and children.

The appointed person will have: -

- Excellent communication skills
- A good rapport with children and staff
- A willingness to be flexible

Duties will include:

- Supervision of children eating a packed lunch or school meal
- Supervision of children in playground or classroom
- Developing lunchtime play
- Ensuring safety, welfare and conduct of pupils
- Administration of basic first aid

Application Procedure

Please contact the school office for an application pack

Foundation Stage

Foundation stage are looking for donations of dressing up costumes; superheroes and princesses. They are also looking for sturdy toy buggies or prams. Many thanks in advance for your help.

Building Fund

Thank you so much to all those who responded to my recent letter about the building fund. In the last year, contributions have dwindled and so we are desperately asking you to contribute something towards this. We are only asking for £2.50 a month to maintain a learning environment that children, staff, parents and the wider community can be proud of. We are incredibly grateful to those who have contributed in the past and those who continue to do so. We are very proud of our school, but, part of being a Catholic school means we have to pay for our buildings. A small contribution from everyone can help us to guarantee a steady income to meet the Diocesan Levy.

Facebook

In recent weeks we have had several community and curriculum events take place and have found it very easy to post photos of the events on our school Facebook page. We have had lots of positive comments about the postings and so we want to make sure that everyone is aware that to become a friend of St Thomas More's on Facebook, you must do 2 things:

1. Fill out a paper request form, (available at the office), and return it with your Facebook name.
2. Then make a request to be our friend on Facebook.

You can understand that we want to be very careful about who we accept and so, we need the paper request so that we can verify the Facebook request.

If you have any comments to make about the page or have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to let me, Mr Sendall, Mr Barber or the office staff know about it.

Results for Parents' Questionnaire June 2015

Numbers vary where parents did not respond to particular questions

(1=Low, 5=High)

	Whole School	1	2	3	4	5	Total	
1	How happy is your child at school?			4%	27%	69%	74	
2	How confident is your child in school?		3%	11%	23%	63%	74	
3	How would you rate the quality of teaching your child receives?		1%	1%	19%	79%	74	
4	How would you rate the level of support your child receives with specific difficulties?		1%	6%	29%	54%	72	
5	How would you rate the level of challenge given to you children?		4%	8%	35%	53%	74	
6	How would you rate the communication between you and your class teacher?		1%	11%	26%	62%	74	
7	How would you rate the range of extra-curricular activities provided in KS2?		1%	21%	21%	57%	58	
8	How would you rate the range of extra-curricular activities provided in KS1?		9%	16%	22%	53%	58	
9	How safe does your child feel at school?			3%	16%	81%	74	
10	How confident do you feel your child is in sharing any concern they have with a member of staff?	1%		12%	28%	58%	74	
11	How well cared for is your child?			1%	19%	80%	73	
12	How would you rate the quality of our website?		1%	12%	41%	46%	74	
13	How would you rate the quality of information shared with parents about your child's learning?		1%	8%	42%	49%	74	
15	How would you rate the quality of sporting opportunity provided to children?		3%	18%	31%	47%	74	
16	How confident are you that bullying is addressed at school?			10%	41%	49%	70	
17	How would you rate the behaviour of children at St Thomas More's?			5%	37%	58%	73	
18	To what extent does the school community reach out to those in need?			16%	33%	51%	70	
19	How would you rate the extent to which worship has a high profile within the school		1%	5%	24%	69%	74	
20	How would you rate the extent to which the school listens to and acts upon concerns expressed by parents?			8%	35%	56%	71	
21	How would you rate the extent to which the school provides the children with clear guidance on health?		1%	3%	39%	57%	74	
22	How would you rate the extent to which the school provides good moral guidance for pupils?			3%	24%	73%	74	
23	Overall, how would you rate the quality of the education provided by St Thomas More's School?			1%	14%	85%	74	
24	I would recommend this school to another family Yes/No	Yes 100%						74

Yours sincerely,



Colin Flanagan.

ITEMS FOR YOUR DIARY		
Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 21st July	15:15	End of term
Wednesday 22nd July	08:45	INSET DAY
Tuesday 1st September	08:45	INSET DAY
Wednesday 2nd September	08:45	INSET DAY
Thursday 3rd September	08:45	Start of Autumn Term
Thursday 10 th September	18:00	Curriculum and Assessment parent meeting
Wednesday 16 th September	18:00	St Edmund's Catholic School Open Evening
Thursday 22 nd October	17:30	Bonfire Night
Friday 23rd October	08:45	INSET day
Wednesday 20th July 2016	08:45	INSET day