

STMS newsletter 25

28th April 2017

Dear Parent / Carer,

I want to wish you a warm welcome back after your Easter break; shame the weather hasn't been equally as warm since our return. As the Easter season runs for 50 days after Easter, I guess I still have time to wish you all a Happy Easter!

I'd like to begin by thanking the many, many parents who extended such gratitude and warm Easter wishes; they were very much appreciated by all the staff and made us feel very proud and privileged to do the work we do.

Thank you also to all the parents who attended the Lenten Liturgies at the end of term. All were extremely well received and I do hope the incredibly moving nature of those at the end of the week helped to set the tone of the Liturgical season but didn't upset anyone too much.

On Friday the 12th of May, we will be remembering the official blessing and opening of this school on this site in 1957. We are unable to mark the occasion on the exact date, but on the 12th, we will be carrying out a pilgrim's walk from the old site of St Thomas More's School at St Joseph's Church Hall, to the current site. We hope to hold our Friday Assembly at the old school, led by members of staff and pupils; past and present. All parents, past pupils, past members of staff and members of the community are encouraged to join us. More details are being distributed today in a separate letter which your child will have received.

Also in relation to our 60th anniversary, please keep the date of Saturday 17th June free in your diaries for what we are calling TomFest, a family music festival being organised by the PTA as a community celebration of music and talent and the chance to have a picnic and soak up the festival atmosphere. We have lots of great acts lined up to entertain and we seriously encourage all families to join us for the afternoon to celebrate and give thanks for our wonderful school. If you know of any singing or dancing acts that would perform for us at Tomfest, please email k.fry@st-thomasmores.hants.sch.uk asap. This is a free event for the community to enjoy together.

TomFest will not replace the annual Summer Fair which will be held on Saturday 8th July from 1.00pm to 3.30pm. As always this is looking to be a large fair therefore we will need as many donations and offers of help as possible.

Thank you to all those who have gone out of their way to ensure that summer uniform policy is adhered to. I know it has been difficult to get a navy gingham summer dress as opposed to a blue one. It is important that they are uniform and therefore navy. I have spoken with one or two parents about the blue dresses and they are making the effort to change them for navy ones which I appreciate greatly.



Parent E-safety tips



At St Thomas More's we understand the responsibility we have to educate our pupils on e-safety issues; teaching them appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom. In each of our newsletters, we will be sharing an e-safety tip that you can share and discuss with your child. To get us started we have included the 5 SMART rules for staying safe online.

Safe: Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when you're chatting or posting online. Personal information includes your email address, phone number and password.

Meet: Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present. Remember online friends are still strangers even if you have been talking to them for a long time.

Accepting: Accepting emails, messages, or opening files, images or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!

Reliable: Someone online might lie about who they are and information on the internet may not be true. Always check information by looking at other websites, in books, or with someone who knows. If you like chatting online it's best to only chat to your real world friends and family.

Tell: Tell a parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone, or something, makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

Sign up to the Childnet newsletter at <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

Get further advice at <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

A request from Year R...

We are currently asking for the following items...

Dressing Up Outfits

Rucksacks

Wicker baskets

Costume jewellery

Garden Tools (suitable for children)

Tents or large pieces of material to make tents

Small Figures; Sea creatures, Superheroes,
princesses, trolls etc.

Buckets and Spades, Jugs (plastic or metal)

Easels, wooden building blocks

Artificial flowers

If you are able to donate any of these items,
please bring them into the school office.

Thank you.

Tomfest

This will be held on Saturday 17th June.
Please do come along and join us for a family afternoon of music, dancing and games. Please bring your own picnic and drinks. If you have any outdoor games e.g. swingball, please bring them along to add to the fun!

This will be a free event for all our community to enjoy.

If you know anyone who would be prepared to sing or dance, please let the office, Michelle Dennis or Julia Corps know as soon as possible.

ITEMS FOR YOUR DIARY		
Date	Time	Event
Monday 2 nd May		Bank Holiday
Monday 8 th May		KS2 SATS week
Thursday 11 th May	15.15 – 16.30	School Disco for Year R & KS1
Thursday 11 th May	16.45 – 18.15	School Disco for KS2
Friday 12 th May		Liturgical Walk from St. Joseph's Church to School
Friday 26 th May	15:15	Last day before Summer Half Term
Monday 5 th June	08:45	Back to School after Summer Half Term
Sunday 11 th June	10:00	First Holy Communion at St. Michael's and All Angels Church, Leigh Park (Group 1)
Saturday 17 th June		'Tomfest' family event
Sunday 18 th June	10.00	First Holy Communion at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Leigh Park (Group 2)
Thursday 22 nd June	10:00	St. Thomas More's Feast Day
Thursday 29 th June	14:00	Ss. Peter & Paul Feast Day (Holy Day of Obligation)
Monday 3 rd July	10:00	Phoenix Class Mass
Tuesday 4 th July	10:00	Delphinus Class Mass
Wednesday 5 th July	10:00	Columba Class Mass
Saturday 8 th July	13.00 – 15.30	Summer Fair
Thursday 20 th July	14:00	Leavers Mass for Year 6
Tuesday 25 th July	15:15	Last day of Summer Term

CHURCH NEWS

St. Joseph's Church, Havant

St. Joseph's Hall Committee is looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming more integrated in the community then why not join the hall committee. Duties and activities are varied and really gets you out there and involved within the church and local area.

Our next meeting is in the St. Josephs Hall on the 24th May at 7.30pm, feel free to pop along or alternatively contact John Banville on 07775680946 for more information.

First Holy Communion Programme at St. Michael and All Angels Church continues as follows:-

- 13th May – "Do this in Memory of Me" (Parent meeting)
- 10th June – Rehearsal at 10.00am
- **Sunday 11th June – First Holy Communion (Group 1)**
- **Sunday 18th June – First Holy Communion (Group 2)**
- 1st July – "To Love and to Serve" (*No parent meeting*)