



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

With Christ we Achieve, Believe and Create.



Newsletter 03/11/23

Opening Prayer



Dear Father,

*You have given the saints in heaven eternal happiness
and they now live in the fullness of your glory.*

*Because of their holy love for you, they also care about
me and my family, my friends, my church,
and my neighbours.*

*Thank you for the gift of their friendship and the
witness of their holy lives.*

Amen



Heads News

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy term we have ahead with lots of trips, nativity, advent services, Christmas fair and much more! Please keep checking Parent Hub for updates.

We had a huge number of children with 100% attendance last half term a big improvement on figures compared to this time last year. This is a great achievement and those children will receive a movie experience treat in school next Friday afternoon, 10th November. It is so important that children attend school every day, one missed day is five lessons lost. We will continue to monitor punctuality and absence closely.

On Wednesday we had the privilege of celebrating All Saints Day with a whole school Mass. As ever, Fr. Prem explained the significance of this special day to the children. It never ceases to amaze us how respectful and well behaved our children are. As a staff team they make us proud every single day.

One of our main fundraisers is coming up, The Craft Fair, on Saturday the 18th of November. Year 6 will help to man a stall selling good quality second hand toys. If you have any pre loved toys that your children no longer play with please consider donating them to help raise much needed funds. We will collect the toys in school the week beginning the 13th of November. I will put a reminder on Parent Hub closer to the time. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank The Friends of St Thomas More for their continued support and hard work.

Finally, thank you for the generous Harvest food donations. The Kidlington Food Bank will collect the donations on Monday.

Have a lovely weekend,

Every blessing,

Julieann



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Notices and Information

Place2Be

Place2Be provide mental health support in our school through one-to-one and group counselling using tried and tested methods backed by research. In addition, they also offer expert training and professional qualifications.



Birthdays: If it is your child's birthday, they can come to school in non-school uniform.

If their birthday falls on a weekend or in the holidays, they can come to school in non-school uniform the following school day.



SEN SQUIRRELS

Drop-in group for children with additional needs, aged 0-5 years and their families (with or without a diagnosis)

**CRAFTS QUIET ROOM BOOK CORNER
OUTDOOR PLAY SENSORY TOYS SNACKS
TEA & COFFEE SINGING-TIME FRIENDS!**

Fridays
10am-11.30am

£2

St John's
Church
Hall

email: kidlington.communityhub@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/kidlinksuk 
www.kidlinks.org.uk



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Notices and Information

FREE ENTRY & PARKING

JOIN FRIENDS OF ST THOMAS MORE AT...

AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR

SAT. 18 NOVEMBER

10am - 4pm

Exeter Hall, Kidlington

CRAFT STALLS

GIFTS

RAFFLE & MORE

craftfair@stthomas-more.org.uk

This Anti-Bullying Week, let's make a noise about bullying.

MAKE A NOISE ABOUT BULLYING

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2023
from Monday 13th to Friday 17th November

ODD SOCKS DAY 2023
Monday 13th November

#OddSocksDay #MakeANoise

This year we are taking part in Anti-Bullying Week from the 13th - 17th November. The children will be focussing on this during assembly and in their RHE lessons in class.

We are also going to take part in Odd Socks Day. Please can your child come into school on **Monday 13th November** in Odd Socks. We will be thinking about how we can empower children to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. We'll focus on the activities we can take to encourage young people to consider what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful and what we can do to stop bullying.



Attendance

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

6 days or less
absence per year
97% or above
VERY GOOD
THIS IS YOUR
TARGET

Between
7 and 19 days
absence per year
90% - 96%
BELOW
EXPECTATIONS

More
than 19 days
absence per year
Under 90%
POOR
ATTENDANCE



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfex>.

Gates open at 8:40am ready for lessons to start at 8:45am



Internet Safety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

LIVE STREAMING

Live streaming involves broadcasting and watching videos online in real time, often on social media or via platforms like YouTube and Twitch. Viewers can interact through comments, chats and reactions during the broadcast: such instant engagement makes this an exciting way to share experiences, learn from others and build digital communities. Despite the many positives, live streaming also creates a potential platform for unsuitable content and poses some risks to children: it's essential to keep privacy and safety in mind and comply with each site or app's age restrictions.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Despite their age restrictions, some platforms don't require proof of age at sign up – meaning that anyone can register for an account (and potentially pretend to be older or younger than they actually are). In many cases, this means that young live streamers can never be totally certain exactly who they are broadcasting to and who is engaging with their live stream.

DISCLOSING PERSONAL INFO

A characteristic of live streaming is the ability for videos to be instantly shared worldwide. Without the correct privacy settings enabled, a child could inadvertently reveal personal information or their location, making them vulnerable to online predators or identity theft. It's wise to regularly check the privacy settings (and what data is being shared) on any apps your child has signed up for.

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN

As the video streams are live, children might encounter (or inadvertently share) inappropriate content. Most live-streaming apps have rules to prevent this and monitor their services, also providing report buttons where content can be flagged for review. It may not be dealt with instantly, however, meaning that your child could be further exposed to harmful content during a live stream.



UNAUTHORISED RECORDINGS

Each live streaming platform stores completed videos for different periods (Twitch saves broadcasts for 60 days, for example, while Facebook and YouTube remove them only at the creator's request). Deleting a video, though, doesn't always stop it from being shared: in some cases, streams have been illegally recorded (or screenshots taken) by certain viewers and redistributed on other sites.

ROGUE CONTENT CREATORS

Children can also watch other people's live streams, which could potentially contain anything at any time (such as nudity, drug use or profanity). Most apps claim to monitor live streams and will stop any that don't adhere to their guidelines – but with millions of streams per day, it's complicated to regulate them all, so children could be exposed to inappropriate content without parents knowing.

DANGER OF GROOMING

There are increasing reports of children being coerced into performing "suggestive acts" by strangers on some live-streaming apps. Due to the lack of verification required for certain apps, almost anyone can sign up to these services (including anonymously or under a fake identity). It's vital, therefore, to ensure the correct safety measures are in place before your child begins live streaming.

Advice for Parents & Carers

PUT PRIVACY FIRST

Through the streaming app's settings, switch your child's account to 'private', so only their friends and followers can see their broadcasts. You could also turn off the live chat, shielding your child from any upsetting comments – although viewers' feedback is often seen as an integral part of the fun. Identify any nearby items (such as school uniforms or visible landmarks) that could give away your child's location.

TALK ABOUT LIVE STREAMING

Try to start with positives before discussing potential risks. You could ask which live streaming apps your child likes and how they use them. Do they just watch streams or create their own? Explain why it's unwise to reveal personal information while streaming (even to friends). If you feel your child's too young for live streams, explain your reasoning to them and perhaps agree to review this decision in the future.

MANAGE MULTISTREAMING

Some apps and sites let users stream their content through multiple social media platforms at once. A broadcast on SteamYard, for example, can be shared on YouTube, Twitch, X and Facebook if the accounts are linked. The privacy settings can differ on each of these, so we'd suggest only streaming via one platform at a time to maintain greater control over who's watching your child's videos.

GET INVOLVED YOURSELF

Research suggests a significant number of streams show a child on their own, often in a supposed safe space like their bedroom. If your child wants to live stream, ask if you could be present because you're interested in how it works. You could even set up your own account to gain a more detailed knowledge of what your child talks about in their live streams – and who they're broadcasting to.

Meet Our Expert

David Smith is Head of Digital Learning at Thomas's Kensington, London. Recognised in the EdTech 50 UK Awards Yearbook 2022/23 for his efforts in the digital transformation at Cuscut Town Primary School and Tower Hamlets, he is also a Google for Education Certified Trainer and guest lecturer at University College London on the integration of technology across the curriculum.



CONSIDER THEIR ONLINE REPUTATION

As the broadcasts are live, it often causes the misconception among young people that whatever happens in their video simply 'vanishes' once the stream ends. However, videos can stay online indefinitely or be recorded by other users. It's important that your child understands what they do and say in a live stream could potentially damage their online reputation and, quite possibly, be seen by prospective future employers, colleges or universities.



Source: <https://www.itv.com/media/2391602/distribution-of-captures-of-live-streamed-child-sexual-abuse-fmd.pdf>



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Values Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to all of these children who showed one of our school values this week. We are very proud of you all!

RECEPTION - Paddington Family

Alex for showing our values of Unity & Determination

Arvi for showing our values of Fairness & Determination

Emily for showing our value of Humility

Dhavid for showing our value of Determination

YEAR 1 - Matilda Family

Nancy for showing our values of Determination & Humility

Evelyn for showing our values of Determination and Humility

YEAR 2 - Muggle-Wump Family

Enzo for showing our value of Determination

Olivia for showing our value of Determination

Maryam for showing our value of Determination

Augie for showing our value of Determination



YEAR 3 – Mr Fox Family

Joshua for showing our value of Determination

Marcos for showing the value of Determination

Annika for showing our value of Determination

Frankie for showing our value of Unity

YEAR 4 – Malala Family

Johnson for showing our value of Determination

Sebastian for showing our value of Determination

Xavier for showing our value of Determination

Ken for showing our value of Determination

YEAR 5 – Gates Family

Luca B for showing our values of Determination & Humility

Rachel for showing the value of Determination

Karim for showing our values of Respect & Unity

Jovan for showing our values of Humility and Respect

YEAR 6 – Potter Family

Carla for showing our values of Respect & Determination

Nadia for showing our value of Determination