



ST. THOMAS MORE NEWSLETTER

'Do all that you do with Love'

5th June 2026

A MESSAGE FROM MRS EXLEY

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the final term of this year.

Classrooms have been buzzing with enthusiasm as children have begun new topics and enjoyed getting stuck into new class texts, history units, science experiments, PE athletics and practical maths activities.

We have many things to look forward to this term, so do keep an eye on Parent Hub for dates of trips, prayer services, visitors and sports events.

This term we are focussing on Rights and Responsibilities and what this looks like in school. Our school values play an important part in reminding everyone of our responsibilities and we take our inspiration from Saint Thomas More, whose feast day we will be celebrating in school Mass later this month.

Our School Values

- *Determination: we always try our best, for with God nothing is impossible
- *Humility: we put others first
- *Fairness: we share and treat everyone equally
- *Respect: we are polite to everyone and treat everyone with dignity
- *Unity: we work together and everyone has an important part to play

This Sunday pupils will be making their First Holy Communion at St Thomas More Church.

Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey in faith.

Have a lovely weekend



Prayer of St Thomas More

O Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable,
patient and charitable,
and a taste of your Holy Spirit
in all our thoughts, words and deeds.

Amen



Pentecost and Prayers to the Holy Spirit

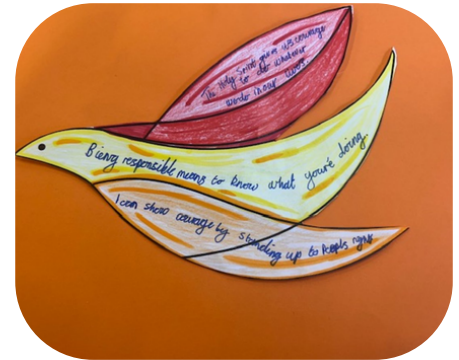


This week, the whole school took part in a special prayer service, linking our current RE learning with our new virtue focus of Attentive and Discerning.

Together, we listened to the Gospel account of the first Pentecost and reflected on how the Holy Spirit gave the disciples courage, wisdom and guidance. We then joined in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help us listen carefully, make good choices and follow God's call in our daily lives.

The children wrote their own prayers to the Holy Spirit, considering how they can show courage and faith by being attentive and discerning in their words, actions and relationships with others.

As part of this reflection, every child created a dove or flame symbol to represent the Holy Spirit. These beautiful creations will come together to form a whole-school Pentecost display in the hall, celebrating our shared faith and commitment to living out our virtues each day.



Year 3 Prayer Service

Year 3 recently led a beautiful prayer service for our school community. The children spoke confidently and shared thoughtful prayers, readings, and reflections. They demonstrated kindness, respect, and reverence throughout the service, helping everyone to take a moment to reflect and pray together.

We are very proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by all the children. Thank you to the families and staff who joined us and helped make the prayer service such a special occasion.

Well done, Year 3! 🌟

TIME TO CELEBRATE



WINNING HOUSE



**ATTENDANCE AWARD
SEE NEXT WEEK**

**This Sunday is a very special day
as our pupils celebrate their First
Holy Communion at St Thomas
More Church!**

**Let us keep them in our prayers as
they joyfully take this important
step on their journey of faith.**

CERTIFICATES

RECEPTION

YEAR 3

YEAR 1

YEAR 4

YEAR 2

YEAR 5

YEAR 6

**DOUBLE
CELEBRATION
NEXT WEEK**

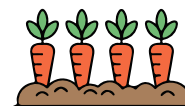
PARENT HUB: OUR KEY COMMUNICATION TOOL

Effective communication between home and school is essential in supporting your child's learning, wellbeing, and overall success. We kindly ask all parents and carers to maintain regular communication with the school and to inform us promptly of any concerns, changes, or important information that may affect their child.

Please ensure that you regularly check Parent Hub, as this is our primary method of communication. Important updates, notices, reminders, and school information are shared through Parent Hub, and it is important that these messages are read in a timely manner. By working together and keeping communication open, we can provide the best possible support for every child.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

ST. THOMAS MORE IN ACTION!



Nursery

In Nursery, we enjoyed planting carrot 🥕 and pea 🌱 seeds in our garden. The children carefully filled the pots with soil, planted the seeds, and gave them a drink of water. We talked about what plants need to grow, including sunshine and water, and care. The children were excited to get their hands dirty and are looking forward to watching their seeds grow into vegetables over the next few weeks. 🌱 😊



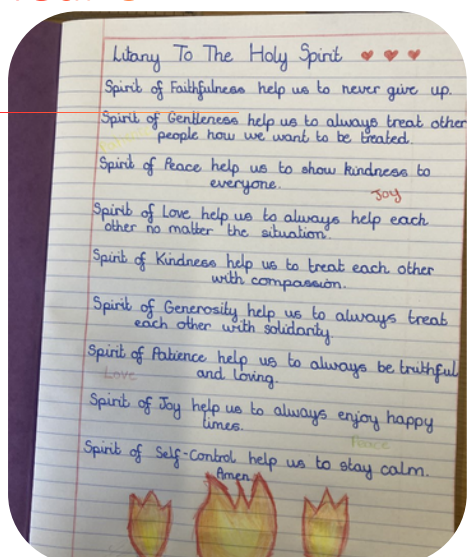
Year 2

🕒 Time-Telling Fun in Year 2! 🕒

Year 2 have been busy learning all about time. The children explored how many hours there are in a day and how many minutes there are in an hour. They have also been practising telling the time using "minutes past" and "minutes to", as well as recognising o'clock and half past times. We are very proud of how confidently they are developing their time-telling skills! 🕒 ✨



Year 6



In RE, Year 6 learned about Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. We reflected on how the Holy Spirit guides us in our daily lives and helps us to make good choices. The children wrote thoughtful litanies to the Holy Spirit, asking for wisdom, courage, kindness and faith. They carefully considered how they can use these gifts as they prepare for the next stage of their journey, creating beautiful prayers inspired by the message of Pentecost and reflecting on how they can live out their faith through their words and actions.



Creative Fun in The Ark

The children have been busy stamp painting in The Ark, using a variety of shapes and colours to create beautiful patterns and pictures. This exciting activity helped to develop their fine motor skills, creativity and hand-eye coordination while encouraging them to explore different ways of making marks. We loved seeing the children's imagination and confidence shine through their wonderful artwork! 🎨 ✨



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.



2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.



3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.



4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.



5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.



6 SUPERVISION IS KEY



For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR



When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED



For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999



If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

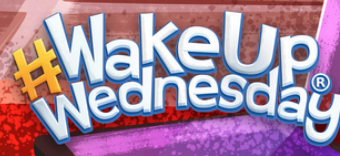
10 TEACH WATER SAFETY



Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.



The National College



DATES FOR SUMMER TERM

Monday 8th June	Year 1 Phonics Check week
Wednesday 10th June	Year 6 Prayer Service
Monday 15th June	Refugee Week
Tuesday 16th June	Year 1 class trip
Thursday 18th June	Farm Visit Early Years
Sunday 21st June	Year 6 Confirmation
Wednesday 24th June	Year 4 Prayer Service
Wednesday 24th June	Year 3 Class trip
Wednesday 24th June	Gosford Hill Transfer day
Wednesday 24th June	DT Week in school
Tuesday 30th June	Year 5 to Gosford Hill production of Matilda
Friday 3rd July	EYFS Sports Day 09:15
Friday 3rd July	Rocksteady concert
Friday 10th July	Sports Day (Year 1 – Y6)
Wednesday 15th July	Year 6 Leavers' Party
Thursday 16th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass 9:30am
Friday 17th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9:15am
Friday 17th July	School finishes 1:00pm (no after school club)
Monday 20th July	INSET day



Summertime

HOLIDAY