



ST. THOMAS MORE NEWSLETTER

'Do all that you do with Love'

25th June 2026

A MESSAGE FROM MRS EXLEY

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has certainly been one to remember. I am incredibly proud of all the children for the way they coped during the extreme heat weather warning. As a staff team, we have never experienced teaching in such high temperatures, but I am deeply grateful to every member of staff for persevering and ensuring the children remained safe, comfortable, and as cool as possible. I would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the parents who kindly donated fans and to those who sent such thoughtful messages of support throughout the week. Your kindness has been truly appreciated.

On Wednesday, I had the privilege of joining Year 3 on their trip to the Ashmolean Museum. The children were impeccably behaved, and the workshop facilitator commented on how knowledgeable they were. She even said they were the best group she had worked with and was particularly impressed by how quickly they responded to Mr Young's instructions in French. I have already told Mr Young that the class certainly deserves a treat, even the bus driver remarked on how lovely they all were.

I hope you all manage to stay cool over the weekend and, like us, are looking forward to the return of more comfortable temperatures next week.

Every Blessing
Julieann



Loving God,

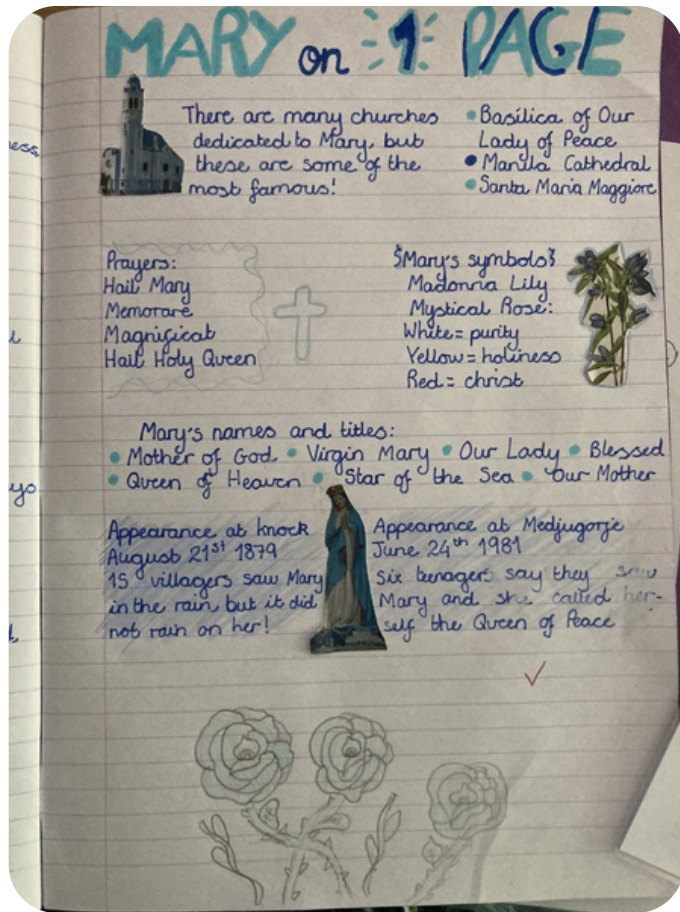
We ask for Your gentle protection over our school community during this time of intense heat.

Watch over our children, families, and staff, keeping them safe, healthy, and refreshed. Grant us the wisdom to care for one another and the strength to endure the challenges of the weather.

May Your calming presence bring comfort and coolness to all who need it today.

We place our trust in You, now and always.

Amen.



Learning About Mary

We have been learning all about Mary and used Chromebooks to research churches dedicated to her around the world. As part of our learning, we discovered some of the many titles given to Mary, including Star of the Sea, The Immaculate Conception, Queen of Heaven, Our Lady, Ocean Star, and Queen of Peace. We also explored places where Mary is believed to have appeared to people across the world. In addition, we studied prayers dedicated to Mary, including The Memorare and Hail Holy Queen, and discussed their meaning and importance in the Catholic faith.

Confirmation

Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit continue to guide and inspire them.



Our Star Prayers

During RE this week In Reception we spent time learning more about prayer and how it is a special way to talk to God.

First, we carefully cut out star shapes. Next, we coloured them and either wrote our own thoughtful prayers or had an adult help by scribing our words. We then folded the points of the stars inward and gently placed our star prayers into the water tray.

Something magical happened as we watched the stars slowly unfolded all by themselves!

The children were amazed and enjoyed seeing their prayers open up. Leo said, "Our prayers are opening up to the Lord."

This special activity helped us reflect on prayer and reminded us that our thoughts and prayers can always be shared with God.



'We should say Lord hear our prayers as they open' suggested Margot, so we did.

Alleluia said Beatrice and all the children began singing Alleluia too.

Otto put his prayer hands together and the other children copied and did the same.

It was both respectful and prayerful and mostly child - led.



TIME TO CELEBRATE



WINNING HOUSE



ATTENDANCE AWARD

YEAR 4

Reminder: Achievement Photos

We love celebrating our pupils' successes! If your child has achieved something special outside of school, please send us a photo so we can share their achievement with the school community.

CERTIFICATES

RECEPTION

YEAR 3

YEAR 1

YEAR 4

YEAR 2

YEAR 5

YEAR 6

ASSEMBLY CANCELLED DUE TO HEAT WAVE

Ear Piercing During the Summer Holidays

If you are planning to have your child's ears pierced during the summer holidays, please be aware that newly pierced ears can take up to 6 weeks to heal properly.

During this healing period, children may be unable to participate fully in PE, swimming, and some physical activities due to health and safety requirements.

Please also ensure that, once their ears have healed, your child is able to remove and replace their own earrings independently for PE lessons, as staff are unable to assist with this.

Please take this into consideration when arranging ear piercings and ensure that there is sufficient healing time before your child returns to school.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS



Float to Live: Essential Water Safety



Skills



Always follow the **WATER SAFETY CODE**

Whenever you are in, on and around water:



We were very lucky to have a visit from Denman from Kidlington & Gosford Leisure Centre, who will be talking to us about the importance of water safety.

As we approach the summer holidays, many of us will be spending time near water whether at the beach, swimming pools, rivers, lakes, or on holiday. It is important that we all know how to stay safe and recognise the dangers that water can present.

Denman shared important water safety messages, including the Water Safety Code:

- ♥ Stop and Think
- ♥ Stay Together
- ♥ Call 999 in an emergency
- ♥ Float if you get into difficulty

We look forward to learning how to keep ourselves and others safe around water this summer. 🌊☀️🏊

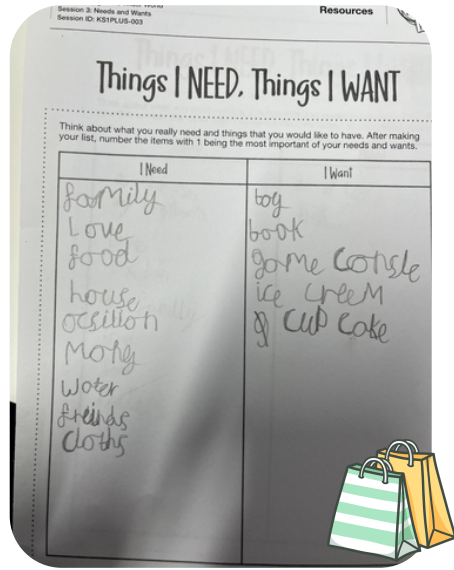


Please make sure you speak to your child about staying safe around water, especially in local rivers during the hot weather.

While rivers and open water may look inviting on warm days, they can be extremely dangerous due to strong currents, hidden hazards, and unexpectedly cold water. Taking a few moments to discuss water safety with your child could help prevent a serious accident. Thank you for your support in helping to keep our children safe. ☀️💧

ST. THOMAS MORE IN ACTION!

Year 2



Wants, Needs & Our Classroom Café Adventure!

In Year 2, we explored the important difference between wants and needs. The children were each given a budget of £5 and visited our classroom café, where they had to decide how they wanted to spend their money. Through this fun activity, we discussed how some things are items we would like to have (wants), while others are things we need in our daily lives (needs). We also talked about the value of different items and how making choices helps us understand the importance of budgeting and spending wisely.

Nursery

Forces in Action!

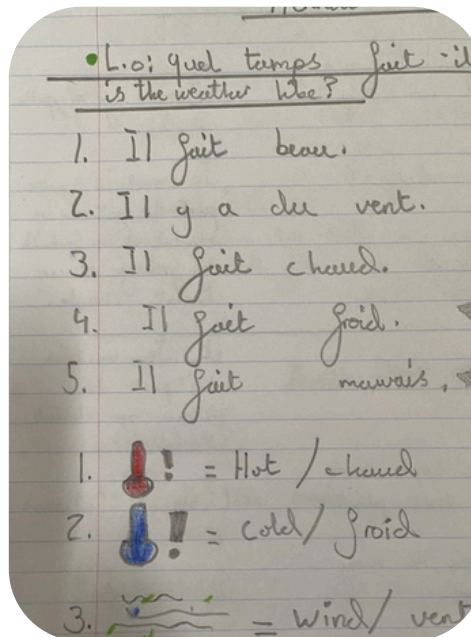
In Nursery Science this term, we are exploring forces. This week, we have been learning about pushes and pulls, investigating how objects move when a force is applied. The children enjoyed taking part in practical activities and discovering examples of pushes and pulls in their everyday world.

Bonjour Sunshine! Year 4 French Weather Fun

This afternoon, we began our new French unit, Quel temps fait-il? (What is the weather like?). We learned five new weather words: chaud (hot), froid (cold), beau (good/fine), mauvais (bad) and il y a du vent (windy). Next week, we will continue building our weather vocabulary and practising how to describe different types of weather in French.

Today's weather was: Il fait chaud! (It's hot!) ☀️

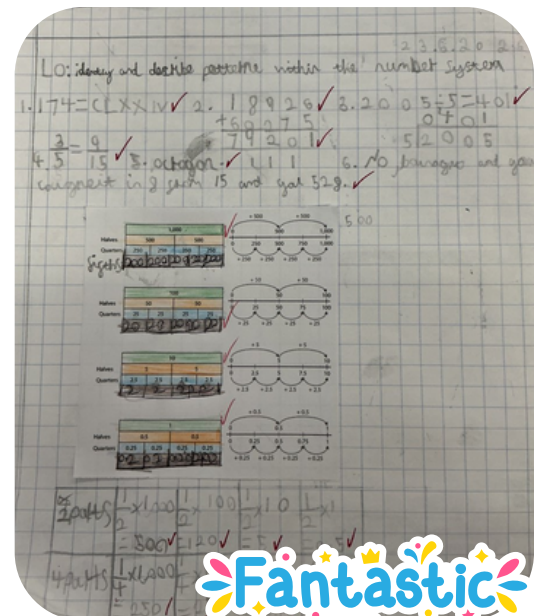
Year 4



Year 5

Exploring Number Patterns, Fractions and Decimals

In Year 5 maths, we explored patterns within the number system, continuing to make links between fractions and decimals. I was particularly impressed by the focus and determination demonstrated throughout the lesson, which resulted in some excellent work being produced.



What a busy week with the heatwave! The children have been outstanding and have coped incredibly well with these extreme conditions.



LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

A Farm-tastic Adventure at Farmer Gow's! 🐑

Year 1 had a fantastic day at Farmer Gow's on Monday! The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting the animals, feeding the goats, sheep, cows, and pigs, and carefully holding some chicks. They showed great kindness and responsibility throughout the visit.

We also took part in an exciting treasure hunt and had lots of fun exploring the fantastic adventure playground.

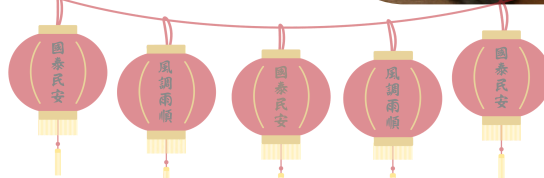
A huge thank you to all the adults who helped make the trip such a success, especially our wonderful parent volunteers. Your support was invaluable, and we couldn't have done it without you! 🐷🐑🐣



Time Travellers: Year 3 Explore the Shang Dynasty!

Year 3 had a wonderful visit to the Ashmolean Museum as part of their learning about the Shang Dynasty. The children explored ancient Chinese artefacts, including bronze vessels and oracle bones, and discovered how historians learn about the past.

The visit brought our classroom learning to life and helped the children develop a deeper understanding of Ancient China. We were very proud of their enthusiasm, curiosity, and excellent behaviour throughout the day.



ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

DISCO

★ THURSDAY 9TH JULY ★

RECEPTION AND KS1

4:30PM – 5:30PM



KS2

18:00PM – 19:30PM



ENTRANCE FEE:

£3.00

Please send £3.00 in an envelope clearly labelled with your child's **NAME** and **CLASS**.



★ SWEET TREATS AVAILABLE!

Children may bring up to **£5.00** to spend on sweet treats and refreshments.



★ WE LOOK FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC EVENING OF MUSIC, DANCING AND FUN! ★



DATES FOR SUMMER TERM



Tuesday 30th June	Year 5 to Gosford Hill production of Matilda
Friday 3rd July	EYFS Sports Day 09:15
Friday 3rd July	Rocksteady concert
Thursday 9th July	School Disco Please see poster
Friday 10th July	Sports Day (Year 1 – Y6)
Friday 10th July	Move up afternoon-children will meet their new teachers
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

Have a wonderful Summer!

We return to school on

Thursday 3rd September 2026