



# ST. THOMAS MORE NEWSLETTER

'Do all that you do with Love'

3rd July 2026

## A MESSAGE FROM MRS EXLEY

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been very grateful that the temperatures have been a little lower this week, making it much more comfortable for everyone in school. The cooler weather has certainly helped the children to remain focused and enjoy their learning.

As we near the end of term, it was lovely to watch the performance from the children who attend our Dance and Drama After-School Club. They demonstrated great confidence, creativity and enthusiasm, and we are incredibly proud of them. We certainly have a very talented group of children at our school.

I would also like to remind parents and carers to check ParentHub daily, as this remains our main form of communication. The school newsletter is also an important source of information, and we want to ensure that all parents and carers are kept fully up to date with school news and events. Unfortunately, we do not have the capacity to telephone or email every parent or carer individually, so please make it a habit to check ParentHub and read the newsletter regularly.

This weekend, as a school and parish community, we will celebrate the children who have recently received the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. We will gather for Mass at 11:00am, followed by a small reception in school afterwards. Everyone is warmly welcome to join us as we celebrate this special milestone in the children's faith journey.

Thank you for your continued support, and I wish you all a lovely weekend

Every Blessing

Julieann



A Prayer for the World Cup

Loving God,

We thank You for the joy of sport and for the opportunity to celebrate the World Cup together.

Whatever team we support, help us to remember that we are all part of one human family, united in friendship, respect and goodwill.

Bless the players, coaches, officials and supporters. Help them to play fairly, show kindness in victory, grace in defeat, and respect for one another at all times.

Teach us the importance of teamwork, reminding us that great things can be achieved when people work together.

As we enjoy the excitement of the competition, help us to celebrate the talents of every nation and give thanks for the diversity of Your world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## Following in Jesus' Footsteps



Year 4 Prayer Service was beautifully led by our pupils. As part of our preparation, we reflected on the current season of the Church's calendar and considered how we can be more like Jesus in our daily lives.

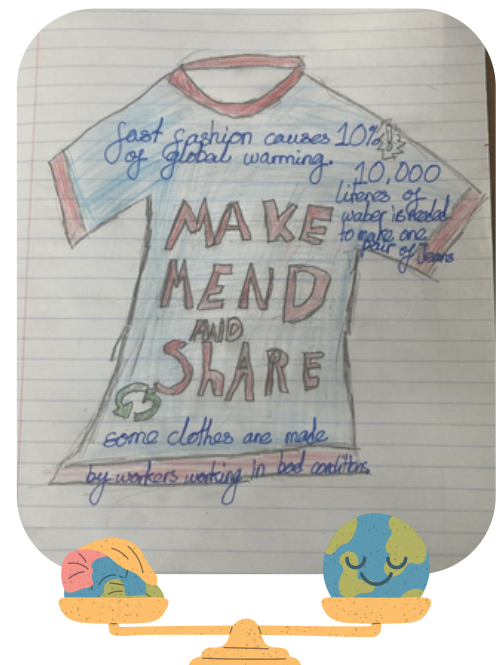
We listened to the Gospel of Mark, where Jesus calls His first disciples. Inspired by this reading, the children created footprints containing prayers, asking Jesus to help them follow in His footsteps and become His disciples.

Our mission this week is to follow Jesus through our thoughts, words and actions. We are also encouraging one another to be more present with those around us by spending quality time with family and friends, showing kindness, care and love in all that we do.

## Fashion with a Future

In Geography, Year 6 continued our learning about Globalisation by exploring the impact of fast fashion on people and the environment. We learned that clothing production contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and that many clothes are thrown away after being worn only a few times.

The children designed T-shirts to raise awareness of these issues and linked their learning to the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, thinking about how we can care for our world and make responsible choices.



# TIME TO CELEBRATE



**WINNING HOUSE**



**ATTENDANCE AWARD  
YEAR 3**

We love celebrating our pupils' achievements both in and out of school. If your child has recently received any sports awards, medals, trophies, or certificates, please send us the details and we will be delighted to share and celebrate their success with the children.



## CERTIFICATES

RECEPTION ESMOND AND CATALEYA

YEAR 1 JOSH AND JIANNA

YEAR 2 VIOLA AND CAMERON

YEAR 3 MADHAV AND ANA

YEAR 4 BORYS AND LANG

YEAR 5 DAVID & DAVI

YEAR 6 SHAUNA AND JONNI

**HELP!**

**Friends of St Thomas More  
Class Representatives Needed!**

**HELP!**

We are looking to recruit Class Representatives to help support and strengthen our Friends of St Thomas More (PTFA).

Class Representatives play an important role in helping to organise events, share information with other parents, and support fundraising activities that benefit all of our children. Whether you can offer a little time or a lot, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Joining the PTFA is a fantastic way to meet other families, contribute to school life, and help create memorable experiences for our children.

If you are interested in becoming a Class Representative or would like to find out more, please contact Mrs Exley or Miss Houghton.

We would love to hear from you!

Thank you for your continued support.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## What is Cherwell Collective?



### Our Mission

Creating change through community connection.

We bring together local people and resources to create happy, healthy, thriving communities.

### Our Aims

At the heart of our work are four pillars:

- ★ Reduce waste
- ★ Connect people and nature
- ★ Empower communities
- ★ Share provisions, tools and skills

### Our Activities

We're a community for everyone. So whether you want to meet new people, save money, learn new skills or reduce your carbon footprint, we've got you covered.

#### Access fresh, healthy affordable food

We provide access to free and low-cost fresh food and provisions via Cherwell Larder. Everything we offer is surplus and it works on a pay-what-you-can basis. Absolutely everyone is welcome.

#### Gather at our community café

Join us for a pay-what-you-can meal at Climatarian Kitchen, or find out about our cooking courses, meal kits and ready meals, all made from surplus food.

#### Learn to grow your own food

Harvest @ Home shows you how to grow your own delicious produce so you can save money, and feel happier and healthier.

#### Repair and repurpose your household items

Our Waste Innovation Station HQ (WISH) can help you repurpose, reuse and repair common household items through tutorials, and workshops, so you don't have to spend time and money buying more new things.

#### Borrow party supplies from our Library of Things

Having a party or organising an event? Don't waste money on buying new, our Library of Things will lend you everything you need, completely free of charge.

#### Improve your wellbeing

Getting involved with the community can significantly help your physical and mental health. We're always looking for volunteers to distribute supplies, grow food, make quilts, repair toasters, man stands – you name it, there's a place for everyone! If you would like to be part of our volunteer community, get in touch.

Find out more here: [www.cherwellcollective.com](http://www.cherwellcollective.com)

### end of year SCHOOL UNIFORM Clothing Swap



Bring in your child's outgrown uniform, and swap it for a pre-loved one for the upcoming year.

**27TH - 29TH JULY** **10am to 5pm**  
 WISH, 4 The Parade, Kidlington, OX5 1EE  
 Café serving food and drinks  
[cherwellcollective.com](http://cherwellcollective.com)  
 @cherwellcollective



### SUMMER HOLIDAYS ACTIVITY

Cherwell Collective have partnered up with Oxford Botanic Gardens and Oxford University to offer free entrance for families to our Family Day event.

- Tour of the collections
- Self-guided trails
- Plant handling
- Craft activities with Cherwell Collective
- Activities from our partners Wild Oxfordshire and TVERC
- Teddy Bear's Picnic (bring your own teddy + picnic!)



**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.**  
Scan the QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/familybotanicday](http://tinyurl.com/familybotanicday)



For questions email [program.manager.wish@gmail.com](mailto:program.manager.wish@gmail.com)

**FRI 24TH JULY**

**12 PM - 4 PM**



### SUMMER Holidays Kids Activity

#### JOIN US AT WISH FOR NATURAL PAINTING

Create your very own natural painting. Learn how to make your own paint from things you can find in your garden.

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July**  
**12 PM - 2 PM**  
 @ WISH  
 4 The Parade OX5 1EE  
 (No booking required just turn up!)

[creativedirector.wish@gmail.com](mailto:creativedirector.wish@gmail.com)

★ **Did you know? Cherwell Collective was founded by Tommy and Augie's mom, whose vision and dedication inspired the creation of a welcoming community built around connection, creativity, and support** ★

# Celebrating Our Sports Stars

We are delighted to share that Borys recently won the Woodstock Hendmann Tennis Tournament, held on 27th May. Congratulations on this fantastic achievement!



Congratulations to Joshua on an outstanding badminton tournament! 🏸

Joshua won:

🏆 U11 Open Singles Gold 🏆 U11 Mixed Doubles Gold 🏆 U11 Open Doubles Bronze  
Having played for just three years, Joshua is now ranked 21st in the UK U11 rankings and 2nd in Oxfordshire. A fantastic achievement—well done, Joshua!

## Amazing

⚽ Football Success – Congratulations Cyrus 🏆

⚽ Well done to Cyrus who was runner-up with his football team, Garden City Football Club! What an amazing achievement. Your hard work, dedication and teamwork have paid off, and we are all incredibly proud of you. Congratulations,



A huge congratulations to Xavier and his teammates at Greater Leys Football Club for winning their pre-season tournament! 🏆 ⚽

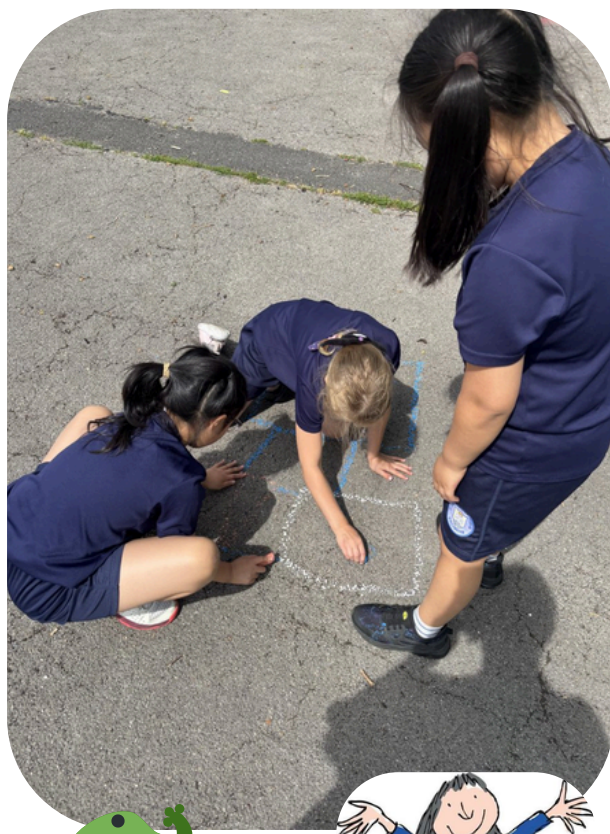
Xavier played a fantastic role in an outstanding team performance, showing great skill, determination, and teamwork throughout the competition. Winning a tournament is a brilliant achievement and a reward for all the hard work put in during training. What a fantastic way to start the season! We are incredibly proud of you, Xavier – keep up the amazing work and good luck for the season ahead!

# ST. THOMAS MORE IN ACTION!

## Year 3

### Fun with Parallel and Perpendicular Lines!

In maths, we explored parallel and perpendicular lines. We learned that parallel lines never meet, while perpendicular lines meet at a right angle. We went outside to spot examples around the school before using chalk to draw our own! 🖍️ 📏



## Year 5



### A Magical Matilda Experience

Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic trip to see Matilda the Musical at Gosford Hill School. The children were a credit to the school, showing excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the performance.

We were all impressed by the talented cast, fantastic singing, dancing and acting, and it was wonderful for the children to see familiar faces on stage. The experience gave them a glimpse of the exciting opportunities that await them in secondary school.

★★ A huge thank you to Henry's dad and Sosuke's mum for volunteering and helping to make this trip possible ★★

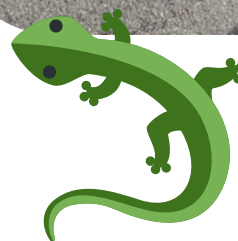
## Reception

### Story Mapping Our Class Text

Reception worked together as a class to create a story map for our focus text, Emma Jane's Aeroplane. The children then began creating their own story maps independently in small groups. We will use these maps to help us retell the story with a partner, building confidence and becoming even more familiar with the sequence of events.



Fantastic



# Help Us Build a New School Library

We are delighted to launch our fundraising campaign to create a new and improved library for the pupils of St Thomas More School. Our current library contains many books that are outdated and well-worn, and we want to provide our children with a fresh collection of exciting, engaging, and inspiring reading materials.

A library is much more than a room full of books – it is a place where children develop their imagination, build knowledge, strengthen their literacy skills, and discover a lifelong love of reading. By updating our library, we can create a welcoming space that supports learning across the curriculum and encourages every child to enjoy reading.

## Our Goal

**We are aiming to raise £1,000 to:**

Purchase a wide range of new, age-appropriate books, Replace outdated and worn resources Create an inviting and inspiring library environment, Support reading across the curriculum and foster a love of reading in every pupil

## How You Can Help

Every donation, no matter the size, will make a real difference. All funds raised will go directly towards purchasing new books and transforming our school library.

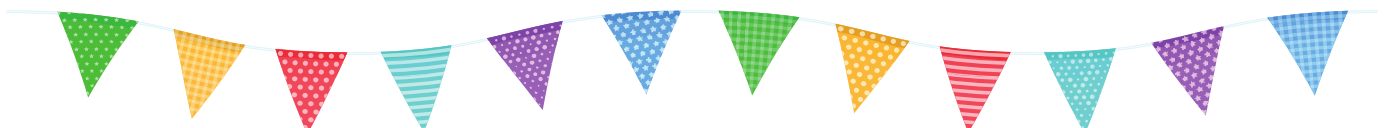
If you are unable to donate, sharing our fundraising page with family and friends would be greatly appreciated.

## Donate here:



[https://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/librarystthomas?  
utm\\_medium=FA&utm\\_source=CL](https://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/librarystthomas?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL)

**Thank you for supporting our school community and helping us create a library where every child can discover the joy of reading.**



# ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

# DISCO

★ THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> 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



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

**Have a wonderful Summer!**  
**We return to school on**  
**Thursday 3rd September 2026**

## Dates for Autumn term

Thursday 3rd September	Meet the teacher-It's very important all parents attend this meeting
Tuesday 15th September	Flu Vaccinations Reception-Year 6
Wednesday 16th September	Nursery Open Morning for Prospective Parents
Monday 28th September	Wonderdome visit
Wednesday 30th September	The Lion King Theatre Trip
Tuesday 6th October	Reception Open Morning for Prospective Parents