



ST. THOMAS MORE NEWSLETTER

'Do all that you do with Love'

Friday 25th September 2026

A MESSAGE FROM MRS EXLEY

To our school community,

We have had another busy and very enjoyable week at St Thomas More! It is hard to believe that we are only four weeks into the new school year. Already, I have seen children across the school producing some amazing work, and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, effort and pride in what they are achieving.

A huge well done to our Year 3 and Year 4 footballers, who represented the school on Thursday. We received some lovely comments about their sportsmanship, teamwork and excellent behaviour. This is something we should all be very proud of. Well done to everyone involved, Mr Young was very proud of you!

We have also received some wonderful Harvest donations for our local foodbank. Thank you so much to everyone who has already contributed. Your generosity will make a real difference to local families. If you would still like to donate, it is not too late. Donations can be given to your child's class teacher, brought to the school office, or handed to an adult on the school gate.

It was also lovely to receive such positive feedback about our Year 3 Prayer Service. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers joining us and sharing this special moment with the children.

These occasions really help us to celebrate and strengthen our Catholic school community.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has purchased items from our Amazon Wishlist. Every item donated is greatly appreciated and makes a real difference to the children and the resources available to them, particularly at a time when school budgets are increasingly tight.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

I hope you all have a lovely and restful weekend. I look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning as we begin another busy week together.

God bless,

Julieann Exley



A Prayer for Harvest

Dear God,

Thank you for the wonderful gifts of your creation.

Thank you for the sunshine, rain, soil and seeds that help our food to grow.

We thank you for the farmers and everyone who works hard to provide food for our tables. Help us to remember how blessed we are and never to take these gifts for granted.

Lord, we pray for those in our local community and around the world who do not have enough food

to eat. May our Harvest donations bring comfort, hope and practical help to those who need it. Teach us to be generous, kind and thankful, and to share what we have with others, just as Jesus taught us.

Lord, bless our Harvest and bless all those who will receive our gifts.

Amen

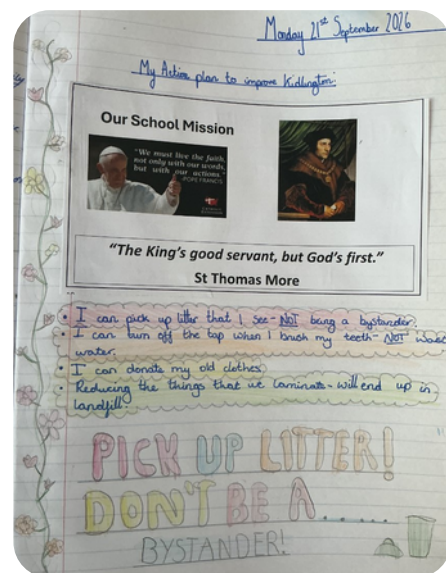
Living Our Faith: Caring for Our Community



In RE, Year 6 explored how they can make a positive difference in their community. The children created simple action plans, considering the choices and actions they can take to help others and care for the world around them.

As part of their learning, they looked at the work of the Cherwell Collective in Kidlington and discussed how acts of service and kindness reflect God's call to love and care for one another. The children made thoughtful links to the Catholic Virtues and considered how they can respond to God's call to be good Stewards of Creation.

To find out more about the Cherwell Collective or opportunities to volunteer, please visit: cherwellcollective.com/volunteer.



Catholic Ambassadors

We are delighted to introduce our New Year 6 Catholic Ambassadors:

Frankie, Nicole, Hannah, Chibuike, Saira, Franek, Gabriel M, Gabriel S, Jonathan and Jaime.

The Catholic Ambassadors held their first meeting this week, where they discussed their new roles and responsibilities. They are all very excited to get involved in developing and celebrating the Catholic Life of our school and putting our faith into action.

One of their first projects will be organising a mini-fundraiser for CAFOD. Last week, we joined the CAFOD National Assembly and learnt about how climate-driven and unpredictable weather is affecting communities in Zimbabwe, including through crop failure, water shortages and disease.

Our Catholic Ambassadors have set themselves a target of raising £35 to provide a family with clean water. Look out for more information in the coming weeks about how you can get involved and support our global neighbours.

We are very proud of our Catholic Ambassadors and look forward to seeing the difference they make through their leadership, compassion and service to others.

**CAFOD's
WORLD
GIFTS**

ST. THOMAS MORE IN ACTION!

St. Oscar Romero

Year 4 had a fantastic afternoon, developing their hockey skills in PE. The children showed great teamwork, enthusiasm and determination as they practised their passing, dribbling and control. Well done, Year 4! 🏒👏



The Trinity

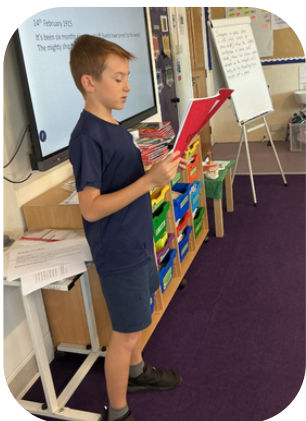
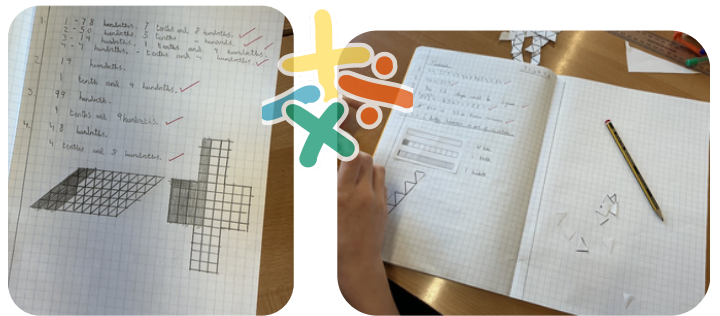
Colourful Printing Fun

At the maths table today, our focus was colours. The children explored printing techniques using cotton buds and brightly coloured paint. They enjoyed creating colourful patterns and pictures while talking about the different colours they were using. It was a fantastic hands-on activity that encouraged creativity, language development and fine motor skills. 🎨🌈



St. Carlo Acutis

Identifying Hundredths as Part of a Whole
In Maths, we explored hundredths using practical resources. Children identified wholes, tenths and hundredths before recreating their learning in their books. Many challenged themselves further by shading 25 hundredths of a shape. Great teamwork and mathematical thinking throughout the lesson.



St. Maximilian Kolbe

Shackleton Diary Writing

Year 6 have been writing diary entries in role as explorers on Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic expedition. The children have used ambitious vocabulary, figurative language and a range of punctuation to bring their writing to life. They have also been proofreading and editing their work to ensure it meets the success criteria.



TIME TO CELEBRATE....

WINNING HOUSE



ATTENDANCE AWARD



St.
Maximilian
Kolbe

WINNER

CERTIFICATES

ST. NICHOLAS-EDITH & FRANCESCO

ST THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX- AMBER & JAEDON

ST. CHARBEL- SOFIA & MELINA

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA-CAMERON & HILARIO

ST. OSCAR ROMERO- IRIS & LEVENT

ST. CARLO ACUTIS- ANTEK & MICHELLE

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE- HANNA & HANSEL

Happy TA Appreciation Day! ❤️

Today we would like to say a huge thank you to all of our wonderful Teaching Assistants at St Thomas More. Our TAs are the backbone of our school, supporting learning in the classroom, providing first aid, supervising at lunchtime, helping at the gates and ensuring every child feels happy, safe and valued. Their kindness, patience, dedication and sense of humour make a difference to our children every single day.

Thank you for everything you do, often behind the scenes, to support our pupils, staff and wider school community. We are incredibly grateful for your hard work and commitment.

Happy TA Appreciation Day to the best team around – we simply couldn't do it without you! ✨



★ Our New School Library

We are delighted to share that our new school library is now complete and ready to be enjoyed by all of our children!

This wonderful new space has only been possible thanks to the incredible generosity and support of our school community. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made a donation and to all those who purchased items from our Amazon Wishlist. Your kindness and support have helped us create a welcoming, inspiring environment where children can develop a lifelong love of reading. The library is already proving to be a fantastic addition to our school, providing pupils with access to a wide range of books and a dedicated space to explore, learn and enjoy reading.

We hope all of our children enjoy using the new library for many years to come. It is a huge asset to our school, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped make it possible.

If you would like to contribute to our library, please follow the link below to make a donation.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3ZK25D4PY3MX?ref_=wl_share

Thank you for helping us turn this vision into a reality!





DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM



September

Tuesday 29th

Year 6 Bikeability all week

Wednesday 30th

The Lion King Theatre Trip (Years 3,4 &5)

October

Thursday 1st

Year 3 & 5 Parish Mass 09:30am

Friday 2nd

Fairtrade Cafe 09:00-10:00am

Tuesday 6th

Reception Open morning for September 2027 applicants

Thursday 8th

Fan the Flame (Year 5) details to follow

Thursday 15th

Year 4 & 6 Parish Mass

Monday 19th-Friday 23rd

Year 6 Residential to The Beacon

Friday 16th

Road Safety Visit with ride on time for Nursery and Reception

Tuesday 20th

PFMAC Concert (Year 5) Details to follow

Monday 26th - Friday 23rd Half Term

November

Monday 2nd	Inset Day–School Closed to children
Tuesday 3 rd	EYFS Open Morning (For The Arc and Age 3 Nursery admissions)
Thursday 5th	Year 3&5 Parish Mass 09:30
Tuesday 10 th	Parents Evening 3:30pm–6:00pm
Thursday 12 th	Parents Evening 3:30pm–6:00pm
Wednesday 18th	SEN Parents Evening 3:30pm–6.00pm
Thursday 19th	Year 4&6 Parish Mass
 December 	
Wednesday 9th	Whole School Panto
Friday 11th	Christmas Fayre 3:15pm–17:00
Tuesday 15 th	Marlborough Lodge Choir Carols
Wednesday 16th	Christmas Dinner in school KeyStage 2 Carol Service in Church 3:30pm
Thursday 17th	Advent Mass 09:30 (Year 5 lead)
Friday 18th	School finishes at 1:00pm (No afterschool club)