



ST. THOMAS MORE NEWSLETTER

'Do all that you do with Love'

Friday 16th October 2026

A MESSAGE FROM MRS EXLEY

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a lovely week we have had at St Thomas More!

The week got off to a wonderful start with our Poetry Assembly, where every class performed a poem they had been learning. It was an absolute delight to see the children speaking so clearly, confidently and with such a good understanding of the words and meaning behind their poems. The wide and varied range of poetry performed made the assembly particularly special. We are incredibly proud of every single child who took part. What talented children we have!

This week, we also welcomed staff from the local Food Bank, who came to collect our Harvest donations. Our Year 6 children were only too happy to help load the van with all the wonderful food items you so generously sent into school. It never ceases to amaze me just how kind, thoughtful and generous our school community is. Your donations will make a real difference to families who need a little extra support. Thank you so much for your kindness.

I am also delighted to share that our fantastic Year 6 children raised an incredible £142 for CAFOD by organising our Wear Your Favourite Colour to School Day. What a wonderful achievement! The money raised will help provide clean, safe water to families who desperately need it. This is such a beautiful example of our children putting their faith into action and living out our school motto, "Do all that you do with Love." We are so proud of their compassion, initiative and determination to make a difference in the world.

Finally, it was an absolute delight to see our youngest children in Reception and Nursery learning about Road Safety this morning. They were certainly having a wonderful time riding around on their various toy vehicles, all whilst learning some very important lessons about keeping themselves safe on the roads. There were lots of happy faces, excitement and laughter, and it was lovely to see such important learning taking place through play.

As always, thank you for your continued kindness, generosity and support. It is the partnership between our families, staff and children that makes St Thomas More such a special school community. I feel incredibly privileged to be part of it.

I wish you all a lovely, restful weekend and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday morning.

Julieann Exley



Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the gift of this day and for Your constant love and guidance. Help me to show kindness, patience and compassion in all that I do.

Lord Jesus, strengthen my faith and guide my words and actions. Fill my heart with peace and help me to recognise Your presence in everyone I meet.

Through the prayers of Our Blessed Mother Mary, may I grow closer to You each day and live according to Your will.

Amen. 🙏



Year 5 Rosary Prayer Service

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us and supported Year 5 as they led their first pupil-prepared prayer service of the year.

The children wrote and shared their own prayers, with two pupils leading a guided meditation. We then came together to pray a decade of the Rosary, before finishing with the beautiful hymn Immaculate Mary, which we have been practising for our upcoming Walking with Mary pilgrimage.

Year 5 were wonderfully respectful and reverent throughout, with every child taking part prayerfully. We are incredibly proud of them all for leading such a meaningful and special prayer service. Well done, Year 5!



Putting Our Faith into Action £140 Raised for CAFOD!

A huge thank you to everyone who generously supported our CAFOD fundraiser! We are delighted to have raised an incredible £140, smashing our original target of £35!

Thanks to your kindness, we can help four families gain access to safe water for drinking, cooking and cleaning, giving them more time for education and work.

A special well done to our Catholic Ambassadors for organising this fantastic fundraising initiative and helping us put our faith into action by making a real difference to the lives of others.

Together, we are living out our faith through love, kindness and generosity! ❤️



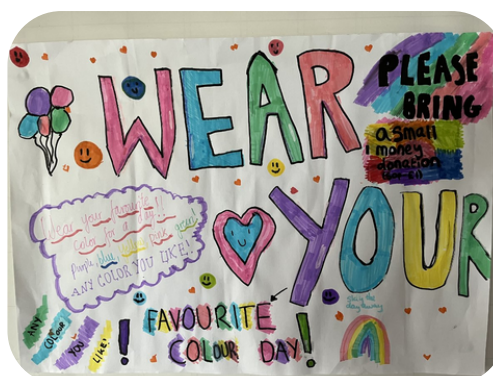
CAFOD'S
WORLD
GIFTS

[Browse Gifts](#) [Celebrity Edit](#) [How it works](#)

Water for a family
£35.00



Your gift provides water tanks, filtration equipment, and expert training so families can access safe water for drinking, cooking, and washing, protecting health and freeing up time for education and work.



ST THOMAS MORE IN ACTION!

St. Carlos Acutis

Year 5 Dancing Queens! 🎤

Well, it was finally done! Year 5 filmed the video that will be shown before their performance at the PFMAC concert next week, and what a fantastic job they did!

The filming was a great success, with the children looking amazing and throwing themselves into the experience with enthusiasm, confidence and some brilliant ABBA-inspired dance moves!

The finished video is absolutely brilliant and captures Year 5 as the wonderful, happy and enthusiastic bunch of children they are. We are incredibly proud of them all!

Take a look at the for a little sneak preview of the ABBA magic to come. Get ready to say "Thank You for the Music!" 🎵



St. Maximilian Kolbe

☀️ Year 6 Sports Leaders Shine!

Year 6 led a fantastic PE session for our Year 2 children today! All their hard work planning, testing and preparing the games certainly paid off.

Our Sports Leaders did an outstanding job explaining and demonstrating each game, supporting the younger children as they took part and responsibly guiding them from one activity to the next. Most importantly, they made sure everyone had fun! We were incredibly proud of Year 6 and the maturity, teamwork and enthusiasm they showed throughout the session. Well done, Year 6 you were fantastic role models!

🎵 Year 1 – Music: Making Music with Our Voices! 🎵

Year 1 had lots of fun in Music this week! We warmed up our voices by experimenting with loud and quiet sounds, and got our bodies ready for singing by making some wonderfully silly faces! 😜 We discovered how to warm up our muscles and voices while having lots of fun along the way!

The Trinity

🌱 Growing Our Own Vegetables! 🥕

Inspired by our story of the week, Oliver's Vegetables, we became little gardeners and planted our very own chia seeds!

🌱 We talked about what seeds need to grow and thrive, including water, sunlight and care. We can't wait to watch our tiny seeds sprout and grow, just like Oliver's vegetables! I wonder what changes we will spot over the coming days? 🌱



TIME TO CELEBRATE....

ATTENDANCE AWARD

WINNING HOUSE



WINNER

CERTIFICATES

ST. NICHOLAS-

ST. JOSEPH OF ARCHITA-

ST THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX-

ST OSCAR ROMERO-

ST CHARBEL-

ST. CARLO ACUTIS-

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE-

Double Celebration
next week

A Huge Well Done to Miss McLoughlin!



We are so incredibly proud of Miss McLoughlin, who has completed the Oxford Half Marathon! What an amazing achievement! 🥳👏
Even more wonderfully, Miss McLoughlin has raised over £1,000 for Thames Valley Air Ambulance, helping to support the incredible work they do to save lives. ❤️

Miss McLoughlin, your determination, kindness and generosity are truly inspiring. We hope you are feeling very proud of yourself, you absolutely deserve to be!

What a fantastic achievement for such a worthwhile cause. ✨

💙 Would you like to support this wonderful cause too? If you wish to donate, you can visit Mrs McLoughlin's JustGiving page here:

🔗 [Donate to Rosie's fundraising page](#)

So Proud
of You

 **THAMES VALLEY
AIR AMBULANCE**

Important Christmas Dates for Your Diary! 🎄

The festive season is fast approaching!
Please make a note of our important Christmas dates and events.

🎄 Wednesday 2nd
Nativity performance for Year 1 and Year 2 at 9:30am

🎄 Thursday 3rd
Nursery and Reception Nativity at 2:30pm

🎄 Friday 4th
Nativity performance for Year 1 and Year 2 at 2:00pm

🎄 Wednesday 9th
Whole-school pantomime trip to the Oxford Playhouse

👤 Wednesday 16th
Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Hat Competition
Wednesday 16th December – KS2 Carol Service, 3:30pm–4:30pm

🎄 Thursday 17th
Advent Mass at 9:30am at St Thomas More Church

🎄 Friday 18th
School finishes at 1:00pm for the Christmas holidays.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the term.
We look forward to celebrating the magic of Christmas together as a school community! 🎄 ❤️ ✨



DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM



October

Monday 19th–Friday 23rd

Year 6 Residential to The Beacon

Tuesday 20th

PFMAC Concert (Year 5) Details to follow

Monday 26th– Friday 31st Half Term

November

Monday 2nd

Inset Day–School Closed to children

Tuesday 3rd

EYFS Open Morning (For The Ark and Age 3 Nursery admissions)

Thursday 5th

Year 3&5 Parish Mass 09:30

Tuesday 10th

Parents Evening 3:30pm–6:00pm

Thursday 12th

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 11 th	Christmas Fayre 3:15pm–17:00
Tuesday 15 th	Marlborough Lodge Choir Carols
Wednesday 16 th	Christmas Dinner in school KeyStage 2 Carol Service in Church 3:30pm
Thursday 17 th	Advent Mass 09:30 (Year 5 lead)
Friday 18 th	School finishes at 1:00pm (No afterschool club)
January 2027	
Monday 4 th	School Closed–Inset Day
Tuesday 5 th	School Reopens at 08:45