



St Thomas More

Catholic Primary School

Greenway, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3LF

Tel: 01442 385060

admin@stm.herts.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mrs K Little

Head of School: Mrs M Anderton

Dear Parents

Our lovely Catholic school is a voluntary aided school. This means that we receive money from two places:

1. The government for our running costs such as salaries.
2. The Catholic Church for our big one-off costs such as building work. The school has to repay the Catholic Church 10 percent of any grant.

The funding model does not alter our main focus on the children, the quality of their education and their happy experiences attending the school.

Grant from the Catholic Church for essential building works

Due to the age of our school and to comply with the latest health and safety laws, the school, (working with the governors), has recently applied for grant money from the Catholic Church for essential building works. We are also ambitious for our school to be the best it can be, to provide a great learning environment for our children and are seizing the opportunity to apply for grants as they arise.

We have completed certain building works and others will be completed, hopefully by the end of August. The fire doors are all installed (May half term) and the School Kitchen will have its upgrade before the summer holidays. This has proven to be a much bigger project as we now need to have asbestos removed. Starting in the summer holidays, a new roof will be installed but this will continue through the Autumn term – with an expected completion date of Christmas. **These essential works will make the school drier, safer and more comfortable for all our children.**

When we receive the grant money for building work from the Catholic Church, we have to repay 10 percent of the total amount over a three-year repayment period.

All voluntary aided faith schools in England are run this way and all schools ask for regular contributions from parents in order to cover the school's 10 percent contribution to these essential one-off building costs. If your older children have gone on to JFK, you will be aware that you are strongly encouraged to sign up for the JFK building fund when joining the school.

STM Building Fund Charity

The school raises money to pay back the 10 percent contribution to the Catholic Church through our charity the STM Building Fund, formerly known as the Governors Fund.

Money raised is kept completely separate from the school budget and cannot be spent on anything else. Donations can be gift aided which is a fantastic opportunity to increase the amount donated by 25 percent and is especially beneficial for higher rate tax payers.

We are extremely grateful to the parents who have been generously supporting the STM Building Fund with regular contributions over the years. Your contributions have allowed us to make repayments for grants for building projects to date.

Regular parental contributions are a normal part of running voluntary aided schools. However, over the past few years our STM Building Fund has not been well publicised, and we are aware that for many parents, particularly newer parents, this will be the first time you have heard of it.



Website: www.stmore.herts.sch.uk
Email: admin@stm.herts.sch.uk



With the building works planned for the kitchen and the new roof, we need to rapidly increase the funds in the STM Building Fund to meet our 10 percent contribution. Our first repayment of £10,000 is due in January 2023 – 8 months away.

How are we going to do this?

1. Regular monthly contributions

We need to raise £1,250 per month. We have 112 families in the school. If each family gave £10 per month plus gift aid that would be fantastic. However, we appreciate that is not possible for everyone. We would like to invite all families that can, to set up a regular monthly contribution and a £5 or even £2 monthly donation would be greatly appreciated.

2. Fundraising events

The STMSA (PTA) is very busy successfully fundraising for money to pay for enrichment activities for our children – playground equipment, school trips, Forest School, books, Chromebooks etc.

Depending on the amount raised for the Building Fund from parents' regular monthly contributions, and depending on feedback and ideas from parents, we could look to run some additional fundraising events, in conjunction with STMSA to raise funds for the STM Building Fund. We could also seek to involve the wider parish in these fundraising events.

Snapshot of the two charities raising funds in parallel for St Thomas More School

Name	St Thomas More School Association (a.k.a. PTA)	STM Building Fund (previously called Governors Fund)
Objective	Support the enrichment of children's education.	Support school building projects.
Charitable Status	Registered charity, not gift aid registered. Actively fundraises in the school community	Registered for Gift Aid. Does not undertake active community fundraising activities
Raises funds for	Playground equipment, forest school, school trips, sports, science, arts equipment, books, in school events, chrome books, software.	Pay the Catholic Church for the 10 percent contribution to large one off building projects such as the roof, kitchen refurbishment, fire doors, gates & fence, CCTV, IT systems for school security.
Does not pay for	Items Local Education Authority or Catholic Church should cover such as salaries and running costs, or large one off costs.	Anything else relating to the school.

The Head, the governors and the STMSA would like to invite parents to a social evening on 20.9.22 at 8:00 pm to discuss fundraising. We are keen to be fully transparent, to answer any questions, provide any further information and in particular listen to any ideas and suggestions you may have for fundraising to improve the fabric of our school to support all our children.

We particularly look forward to meeting parents from EYFS and KS1 because with the pandemic we have not had many face to face opportunities in school.

We would welcome the opportunity to help you put faces to names and meet chair of governors David Swarbrick, vice-chair of governors Laura Connor and co-chairs of STMSA Marina Burke and Aisling Hilsdon. We will also be conducting a survey in advance of the meeting to understand your wishes & ideas

Best wishes,

STM Heads, Governors, STMSA



Website: www.stmore.herts.sch.uk
Email: admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk





Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT)
Registered Charity No. 233699

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Name of Pupil:

Year Group:

Please complete using BLOCK CAPITALS

THIS DECLARATION MUST BE IN ONE NAME ONLY

Title Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / (Please delete as appropriate)

First Name

Surname

Full Home Address

.....

Post Code

Signature

Date

I would like the Diocese of Westminster to treat all qualifying donations I have made since the 6th April 20 *, and all donations I will make in the future as Gift Aid donations.

***PLEASE COMPLETE THE TAX YEAR.**

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Official use only

School Code: *STMB

GAD No.

School: **St Thomas More Primary School**

PLEASE NOTE

1. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying your school.
2. If in future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the Charity reclaims, you must cancel your declaration.
3. As any tax refund received by the Diocese of Westminster will be made at the basic rate, higher rate tax payers will benefit through additional tax relief if they declare their Gift Aid Declaration on their Self Assessment tax return.
4. This Declaration refers to all donations for which the above school has record of receipt.
5. Please notify the school if you change your Name or Address.

Protecting your privacy — Gift Aid donations

This school is part of the Diocese of Westminster, and therefore your personal details relating to Gift Aid donations to the school will be stored securely on the Diocese of Westminster's database. We comply with data protection regulation and the Fundraising Regulator's code of practice. We will never sell your data to third parties.

We (your school office and the Diocese) will use your details to administer your Gift Aid donations to the school. We only share information with external organisations working on our behalf or when required by law (e.g. to claim Gift Aid). You can read our full privacy policy on the school website or by contacting the school office.

You can review communications from the school by contacting the office.



St Thomas More

Catholic Primary School

Greenway, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3LF
Tel: 01442 385060
admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mrs K Little
Head of School: Mrs M Anderton

STANDING ORDER FOR PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GOVERNORS' BUILDING FUND

To: The Manager

Bank/Building Society

Address

Post Code

Please pay the following amount – *tick one box only*

☐ £10

--	--

Any other amount e.g. £20

**PLEASE COMPLETE
THIS FORM IN
BLOCK LETTERS**

With effect from 1st July 2022 and on the 1st day of each month thereafter until further notice from

Account Name

Account Number

Sort Code - -

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

POST CODE

SIGNED

To: THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC, LONDON VICTORIA BRANCH

SORT CODE: 16-01-09

ACCOUNT No. 00277011

FOR THE ACCOUNT OF WESTMINSTER ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE TRUSTEE ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THE SCHOOL WILL FORWARD IT TO YOUR BANKERS.

NAME OF PUPIL

YEAR



Website: www.stmore.herts.sch.uk
Email: admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk

