



Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Families,

Catholic Life of the School

This week we thought about how Jesus included people on the margins of society, those who others left out and rejected. We thought about reasons why people might sometimes be left out of our games. We recognised that Jesus forgave and invited those people to be included so we need to try and do the same to others even when it is tricky.



On Friday, our Chaplaincy Team shared their experience and learning from last week's Retreat with the other ASCAT primary schools. It was a joy to see them so engaged and enthusiastic about their new roles.

Next week our Chaplaincy Team will be supporting our pupils in marking October as the month of the Holy Rosary with activities in our school Prayer garden.

Reception Tours – September 2024 start

Come and see our wonderful school! School tours for Reception children beginning September 2024 will be running on:

- Wednesday 18th October @ 9.15am
- Monday 30th October @ 9.15am
- Friday 1st December @ 9.15am

Please contact the school office via admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk if you wish to attend any of our tour dates.



Year 2 host a Macmillan Coffee afternoon – Friday 13th October

Year 2 would like to invite their family, friends and relations from 2.30pm to join them in the school hall for this fundraising occasion. At the end of the school day, from 3.15pm, all are welcome to join in the school hall to buy some yummy cake and a drink to support this cause. Mrs Simpson would kindly like any donations of cake to be brought in on Friday morning (13th) please.

Thank you

Thank you to the STMSA and all the parent volunteers for the Cinema Club events which the children have enjoyed the past two weeks. We appreciate your organisation and support in making these events happen.

Updated Photo and Video Permissions

Please ensure if you haven't already, to update us of your photo and video permissions so we can make use of digital tools to share insights into your child's learning. You can access the form by scanning the QR code to the side or by clicking [here](#). Thank you.



Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently **95.70%**, thank you for your support.

Reception	97.41%	Year 4	94.14%
Year 1	93.50%	Year 5	96.15%
Year 2	96.32%	Year 6	96.40%
Year 3	97.24%		

Congratulations to Reception who achieved the highest attendance.



Learning to love, live and celebrate as we grow in the knowledge and love of Christ.



Reading Volunteers

Thank you to the adults who volunteered to listen to our children reading on a weekly basis during the summer term. It is great to have additional adults to help listen to children read aloud. If you have any time which you could volunteer to listen to readers, please complete the link [here](#) and we will be in touch. Thank you.

STMSA News

In January, Aisling and Marina will step down as Co-Chairs of the PTA, concluding their 2-year term. We are currently in need of a Chair for the upcoming year. Given that we are a charity, it's vital for someone to step forward and take on this role to ensure the PTA's continuity.

The Chair role can be shared between co-chairs and it works effectively as a team effort. The current chairs didn't meet before starting their roles but have found working as a team really enjoyable. We have a supportive team, including a Vice Chair, Treasurer, Communications Officer and Secretary (all committed for 2024). The role of Chair isn't to organise or be present at every event, but to oversee the fundraising plans for the year. The funds raised by the PTA are vital for enhancing our children's education and fostering a sense of community through fun events and the Chair role is essential for us to be able to continue into 2024. If you have any questions or want to learn more about the Chair role, please contact Aisling at 07753400989, Marina at 07583018388, or reach out to your class rep. Your involvement can make a significant difference to our school!

Cinema Club:

Thank you to everyone involved in the Cinema Clubs over the last 2 weeks. The children loved it and it wouldn't be possible without your ongoing support.

Quiz Night - Friday 13th October

Join us for annual quiz night! The event starts at 7 pm, with the quiz kicking off at 7:30 pm. Tickets are £20 per person, including a tasty curry supper and a free round of Heads or Tails. Win great prizes for quiz champions and in our Heads or Tails game. Teams can have up to 8 people, so gather your friends for a fun evening! To reserve your spot, complete the form below and transfer payment to the STMSA account. Please make your booking by Monday 9 October: <https://forms.gle/Yv8JXmpRT5GTGBzq5>

STMSA bank account details:

Account number: 00684112 Sort code: 30-94-08 Account name: St Thomas More School
We're looking forward to having you with us at the quiz night!

Bags2School - Thursday 19th October

Reminder to keep your unwanted items for the Bags2School drop off - the full list of items that can be donated can be found here: <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>.

Community News:

First Holy Communion

If you have a child in Year 3 or above who has not made their First Holy Communion and you would like them to, please contact Fr Joseph at Sacred Heart Parish via josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk to arrange a meeting and find out more.

Prayer at Home

Hopefully you and your families are enjoying the Prayer at Home resources. They are all available on our school website [here](#).

Mrs Manning is walking 100 miles in October!

Mrs Manning is going to walk 100 miles in October to raise money for Cancer Research UK. If you wish to donate to this cause, please see the link attached, thank you - <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/carolines-giving-page-20132>



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Calendar dates:

Autumn Term:

October

12/10/23	Year 2 and 3 Glow Dance event at Ashlyn's school
13/10/23	Year 2 host Macmillian coffee afternoon @ 2.30pm
13/10/23	STMSA Quiz Night @ 7pm
19/10/23	Bags2School drop off, collection day (STMSA)
18/10/23	Parent/Carer Consultation Evening
20/10/23	Staff training day (All Saints Catholic Academy Trust schools) – <i>school closed to pupils</i>
23/10/23-27/10/23	Half Term
30/10/23	Reception Tour @ 9.15am – 2024 cohort

November

1/11/23	All Saints Day
3/11/23	Glow Party (STMSA)
9/11/23	Individual and sibling photos
13/11/23	Anti-Bullying Week
27/11/23	Occasional Day – <i>school closed</i>
28/11/23	Santa's Sleigh (STMSA)

December

1/12/23	Reception Tour @ 9.15am – 2024 cohort
1/12/23	Wreath Making (STMSA)
9/12/23	Christmas Fayre (STMSA)
20/12/23	End of term – school finishes at 1.30pm (<i>change of time</i>)

Have a lovely weekend,
Miss Lally
Assistant Headteacher



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