



Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Dear Families,

### **Catholic Life of the School**

This week we heard the story Jesus told about new life coming from a dying seed and linked this to Jesus rising from the dead which we will celebrate in a couple of weeks on Easter Sunday.

On Tuesday, Year 5 attended Mass at Sacred Heart parish. They represented the school and read excellently, thank you.

On Friday, Fr Joseph was back in to provide the Sacrament of Reconciliation to some more of our KS2 pupils as part of our Lenten preparations for Easter.



Thank you for your support for Tuesday's 'Break The Rules Day' for our Lenten and OPAL fundraiser. I'm pleased to share that we raised **£340** towards both causes, thank you for your support.

**Faith into action** – Pupils across our school are keen to see our pond repaired And restored to its former glory to enrich our school environment and care for creation (particularly are seemingly numerous frog neighbours!). They have planned to hold a stall at the STMSA Egg Hunt on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March and will be selling items to fundraise for the pond repairs works.



### **Year 3 & 4 Easter Production – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>**

You are warmly invited to join us this Holy Week to watch our Year 3 and 4 Easter Production 'Three Trees'. There is a dress rehearsal on Tuesday morning at 9.30am which the school will also be in attendance and an evening performance on Wednesday at 6pm. There will be a retiring collection in support of the Catholic Children's Society.

### **Parent Consultation Evening – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

Thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to join us on Wednesday evening to hear about your children's time in school and to see their work. The STMSA, in association with school, have arranged a summer term 'look at my books' event to welcome parents in to see pupils' books later on in the year also.

### **School Meals Increase – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

Regrettably, we have been notified by Herts Catering Limited that due to ever increasing costs they will be increasing their prices with effect from 1st April 2024. The cost of a universal infant meal (Reception, Y1 & Y2) will remain the same and is still free for all children in Receptions, Years 1 and 2. However, the cost of a Nursery meal will increase to £2.55 per day and the cost of a junior meal will increase to £3.40 per day. Should you wish to change your child's meal plan please email the office at [admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk). Thankyou

### **Music Assembly**

Thank you to the children who performed in our Music Assembly this afternoon. It was great to showcase the amount of musical talent in our school. Thank you to those who came to watch and to Miss Miles for arranging the assembly and performers.

### **Science Fair**

Thank you to the children and families who partook in this year's Science Fair, we had such an array of entries all to a very high standard. All children who brought in a project received a chocolate egg for their efforts and the four prize winners were Luigina, Victoria, Thomas M and Nola – congratulations and well done to all.



### **Football Quarter Final Match – Mr Cartwright**

St Bart's 1 - 11 STM

STM were prolific in front of goal in their quarter final cup match away to St Bart's School, in Wigginton. A fine Max hat-trick, and a brace from Benji, saw STM take a 5-0 at half-time. The second half continued the same as the first, with goals from Henry, Raph and Joe completing scoring. A special mention to Rhys for a save of the season contender. STM will go into the semi-final match with confidence, after scoring an incredible 21 goals in their last two games.

Scorers : Petter x4, Grant x2, Kelly x2, Cartwright x2, Musgrove x1

Thank you to Mr Cartwright and Mr Grant and well done to the team, best of luck!

### **Piano Lessons**

We offer piano lessons through Herts Music and also directly with Mrs Gordon, a very experienced piano teacher, who has been teaching at the school for many years. Mrs Gordon teaches on a Thursday and she has advised us that she will have two spaces available after Easter. She is also likely to have spaces available in September and if there is enough demand may well offer additional lessons on a Tuesday afternoon.

The cost of her lessons are £14.00 for 20 minutes or £21.00 for half an hour. She is happy to teach from year 2 upwards but would only recommend 20 minutes for year 2 students. If your child is interested please email the office at [admin@stmores.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmores.herts.sch.uk) who will be able to provide more information.

### **Attendance**

Whole school attendance is at **97%** this week. Thank you for your support.

Reception	97%	Year 4	99%
Year 1	97%	Year 5	99%
Year 2	93%	Year 6	87%
Year 3	98%		

Well done to Years 4 and 5 with the highest attendance this week!

### **Lateness**

This week we have seen 40 instances of lateness across the school. A reminder that classroom doors open at 8.40am and are closed at 8.50am, at which point children will need to enter via the main school office.

### **Community News:**

#### **Prayer at Home**

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

### **Calendar dates:**

#### **Spring Term:**

#### **March**

26/3/24	Start of Holy Week
26/3/24	Year 3 & 4 Easter Production Dress Rehearsal @ 9.30am – <i>families welcome, limited capacity</i>
27/3/24	Year 3 & 4 Easter Production @ 6pm – <i>families welcome</i>
28/3/24	STMSA Easter Egg Hunt – <b>after school</b>
	Nursery Applications Close
28/3/24	End of Term @ 1.30pm

#### **April**

15/4/24	<b>INSET Day – school closed to pupils</b>
16/4/24	Start of term for pupils
29/4/24-3/5/24	Year 5 Bikeability course

#### **May**

6/5/24	<b>Bank Holiday – school closed</b>
27/5/24-31/5/24	<b>Half term – school closed</b>

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Lally



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



## **STMSA News**

### **☘ St Patrick's Day Event**

Last weekend the STMSA worked with the Parish to run their annual St Patrick's Day event which raised £1416.05 for the school. A huge thank you to all the families who helped the Parish put on such a wonderful event for the STMSA community. A special thank you goes to Clare Trowbridge for her many hours of planning to make the event such a success!

### **📅 PTA Meeting**

Thank you to the parents who joined the PTA meeting last night to start planning the summer events. Watch out for more info on these exciting events and please pop the dates in your diary:

- International Day - Tuesday 21st May
- Father's Day Craft June Friday - w/c 10th June
- Father's Day Beer Tasting - Thursday 13th June
- Look @ my books / Cake Sale - Friday 14th June (after school)
- Summer Fair - Friday 28th June
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### **👕 Clothing Bin 🗑**

We are excited to announce that a clothing bin has been installed in the carpark (in the far corner) of school. This means you are now able to drop off your unwanted clothing items on a regular basis and a percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the school.

They take clothing, uniform, shoes, accessories (such as belts, hats, gloves, scarves, handbags), bed linen and soft toys. They cannot take carpet, curtains, duvets, or We kindly ask that parents to bag the items as drivers weigh each bag on site on scales in the van. Bagging loose items takes a lot of time and garments can degrade quicker when put into the bank loose.

### **Easter Egg Trail - Thursday 28th March at 1:30pm 🐰**

Don't forget to join us after school on Thursday to celebrate the start of the Easter holidays with our fun Easter event! Each child will be given a clue sheet to help them find letters placed around the school grounds. Rearrange the letters into an Easter-related word to earn a chocolate reward and a book!

Tickets are £2.50 per child (with a maximum charge of £10 per family). Please bring in cash on the day or you can pre pay via [www.pta-events.co.uk/stmsa/](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/stmsa/)



### **St Thomas More School Association**

We are a charity (no. 325080) who help to fundraise for St Thomas More School. Parents and staff who join our PTA are volunteers, offering their time and energy to events such as Fayres, Footballathon, Cinema Clubs, Discos, Cake Sales, Quiz Night, Mother and Father's Day events and much more.

[www.pta-events.co.uk](http://www.pta-events.co.uk)

### **Pond Fundraiser - Thursday 28th March at 1:30pm**

A few of our wonderful Year 5 children will be selling goodies after school on Thursday 28th to help fundraise to re-line the pond, which is currently in desperate need of repair! We would love to see this core feature up and running again. Please bring cash and support our budding entrepreneurs.

*Assistant Headteacher*



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