



Our vision is that everyone will leave our school feeling they have achieved more than they ever thought possible, and they will make a difference to the world by serving God by helping others.

Dates for the Diary

Sat 25 April	Community Colour Run Event
Fri 8 May	Friends of STMS Adults' Quiz Night
Mon 18 May	Class and Year 6 Photographs
Mon 15 June	INSET Day for School and Pre-School
Sat 20 June	School Summer Fair

Attendance

Aquila	97.9%
Jellyfish	97.8%
Mars	96.9%
Pre-School	96.3%
Delphinus	95.8%
Lyra	95.8%
Columba	95.3%
Jupiter	94.5%
Orion	94.5%
Phoenix	93.7%
Angelfish	92.7%
Neptune	92.7%

Musical Theatre Club – Gaiety Show

Exciting News from Mrs Takács' Musical Theatre Club!

We are so excited to announce that our annual Musical Theatre Club show at the Gaiety is back — and this year it's bigger and better than ever!

With an incredible cast of 42 children from Year 4 to Year 6, alongside 7 returning ex-pupils, this is set to be a truly special celebration of talent, confidence and love for the stage.

 *Wednesday 8th July 2026

 Tickets available here: <https://book.events/stms/2026-07-08/46813> (<https://book.events/stms/2026-07-08/46813>)

The children have been working so hard and are ready to shine.

We promise an evening full of energy, talent and pure joy

Don't miss it — it's going to be unforgettable.
Come alive!



Tommy's Childcare

Breakfast club Sessions:

7:45am - 8:45am £5.00

8:00am – 8:45am £4.00

Afterschool Club Sessions:

3:15pm - 4:30pm £6.00

3:15pm - 5:45pm £11.00

3:15pm - 6:00pm £12.00

For bookings, cancellations and queries, please contact tommys@st-thomasmores.hants.sch.uk.

In emergencies call: 07719 920 572

Sessions need to be booked in advance.

No last-minute bookings on a Thursday.



To enhance the spiritual life of the school community, our Spiritual Leaders will be sharing scripture which is personal to them and our school.

My name is Lockie. I am a spiritual leader in Orion. My favourite scripture is when Jesus calms the storm because he helps his friends and shows us that Jesus is there for us in our hardest times. "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" (Mark 4:40)



Young Leaders

This week, our Year 5 Young Leaders took their first steps into leadership by organising and leading lunchtime play activities. They worked closely with children in Years 3 and 4, helping them learn new games, understand the rules, and take part with confidence.

The Young Leaders have already demonstrated excellent teamwork and communication, while also modelling positive behaviour and good sportsmanship.

We hope that their enthusiasm and sense of responsibility will make a real difference to the quality of playtimes, and we are proud of the way they have embraced their new roles.



ST THOMAS MORE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

COLOUR FUN RUN



**Obstacle course with
added messy colour!!
Family fun - run together
Everyone receives a medal
Refreshments too!**

SAT 25 APR

**Slots available from 10 - 2
Pre-booking essential**

£4 per entry - 50p spectators

**Book your slot with
the school office
Exclusive slots for younger
participants**

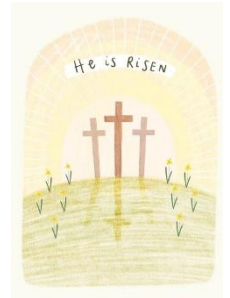


Faith Corner

Chapel News

He is Risen! As we enter into the joyful season of Easter, there continues to be daily prayer from 8:15-8:40 Monday to Wednesday with Ms Cryer. Your family are welcome to come and join us in praying the rosary, special devotions and hymns. This is an inspiring opportunity for parents to accompany their children for prayer.

Please meet Ms Cryer at the infant gate before 8:15am. Be assured of prayers for our school's intentions.



Teach me to pray

In our first week of the summer term, we continue the rejoice of Easter Gladness! We prayed the first two glorious mysteries: Jesus' Resurrection and Jesus' Ascension. This week, we were so pleased to welcome more new children. It is great to see this group growing in faith and number.

Below are the children's prayer intentions from this week:

Missy/Eliza/Freddy G/Rupert- Grandparents

Jax - pets who have died

Anne- Loved ones

Freya H- mummies with babies in their tummies

Freya C-Those who have died

Tiggy- for Our Mother Mary



Teach me to Pray is a beautiful opportunity to bridge our older and younger children to grow spiritually, share wisdom and pray together as one community. Through the Rosary, Scripture reflection, and shared intentions, we hope to nurture our faith and pass on the rich traditions of our Catholic faith to the next generation.

All children from year R to 6 are welcome to join. We meet on Mondays at 2:45 in the chapel and children return to class before the end of day for normal end of day collection.

If you would like your child to join Teach me to Pray, please let your teacher know or message them on dojo. All children who join will receive a rosary which has been blessed by Papa Leo.





Adults Quiz Night -

Sign up now!!

Please see our poster below for the next Friends of STMS quiz night.

If you wish to sign up, please do so soon, so that we know we have enough teams to run the night.

It's not an evening of Mensa level questions, just fun questions about things we all know (cartoons, music, games and much more).

Bring your own drinks and nibbles (alcohol allowed) and a competitive side is a must!!

Cost is £4 per person, sign up in the school office or email adminoffice@st-thomasmores.hants.sch.uk

The evening will be held in the school hall and there's plenty of cash prizes and a raffle too!!

Hope to see you there!



FRIDAY 8 MAY - STMS SCHOOL HALL
DOORS OPEN 6:30pm for 7:00pm START
OVER 18s ONLY - FAMILIES, FRIENDS & STAFF
£4 PER PERSON - TEAMS OF UP TO 6
RAFFLE & BLACK OUT CASH PRIZES
EXTRA POINTS AVAILABLE FOR CREATIVE
TEAM NAMES, COSTUMES & TABLE DECOS
CASH PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM
BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & NIBBLES
(ALCOHOL ALLOWED)
SIGN UP IN ADVANCE BY 20 APRIL BY
CONTACTING SCHOOL OFFICE

KS1 Bugfest Visit

This week, KS1 were treated to an exciting, informative visit from Nick at Bugfest. The children learned that without any minibeasts, our world would not survive. They got to get close up and personal with lots of animals including cockroaches, scorpions, millipedes, giant snails, tarantulas, stick insects, ants, and many more fascinating creatures.





Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Show

What an incredible evening we had on Thursday!

We took 45 children from Mrs Takacs' Musical Theatre group to see Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the King's Theatre — and wow, did they make us proud. It was truly a magical experience, and the real highlight was watching the children's faces throughout the performance. For some, it was their very first time in a theatre, which made the night even more special.

Creating opportunities like this — sparking joy, curiosity, and a lifelong love for the arts — is so important. As the show reminded us, 'teamwork can make a dream work' — and tonight, that couldn't have been truer.

The moment the car flew across the stage was unforgettable; the awe, wonder, and pure excitement in their eyes is something I will always remember as a teacher. It really did feel like "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, we love you" came to life right in front of us.

It was such a joy to see every child fully immersed in such a special experience. Smiles, laughter, and a little bit of theatre magic, everywhere you looked.

We are already so excited to bring some of that magic to life ourselves, as we recreate a selection of songs in our upcoming show at the Gaiety on 8th July — be sure to get your tickets!

A huge thank you to all the adults who supported the trip and helped make the evening possible. And an enormous well done to the children — you were respectful, smart, and absolutely incredible throughout. Smiles from start to finish!

We couldn't be prouder.



Polite Notice

Please can we remind you at the end of the school day, once you have collected your child, that you leave school site.

School finishes at 3.15pm, we would ask that by 3.35pm, the school site (front playgrounds) should be clear. Thank you.

This week's practical guide from National College explores how to help children use app stores safely, covering key risks and simple steps to support safer downloading habits.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APP & PLAY STORES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use and attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the ages of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. This guide will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

MALICIOUS APPS WITH MALWARE

Although Google and Apple must approve the apps on their official stores, inappropriate content sometimes slips through the net. For example, in 2025, the security company Kaspersky found that multiple iOS and Android apps contained screen-reading software, primed to look for passwords and stealing crypto-wallet recovery phrases captured in screenshots.

UNOFFICIAL COPYCAT APPS

Both official app stores contain copycat apps – often games – designed to look like popular rivals, mimicking their branding, layout and logos. While these will usually just offer a poor experience packed with ads as a quick money-making exercise, they're also more likely to be vessels for malware than the products they're counterfeiting.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As the App Store and Play Store are for all ages, there's a lot of content available that's inappropriate for children. Examples include apps that have references to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence or gambling. In general, these are sensibly age-rated, but social media sites such as YouTube and TikTok, which both have an App Store age rating of 12+, can be gateways to adult material.

PREDATORY IN-APP PURCHASES

App-making is a business, and most creators have found that 'freemium' software is the way to make money. That means the app will be free initially but will either require the user to watch ads or rely on them making in-app purchases. Some 'free' apps can be predatory, and there are plenty of examples reported where parents have racked up huge bills on behalf of their children's app activity.

ADDICTIVE BY DESIGN

Phone addiction is fast becoming recognised as a real concern, and apps are a big part of this. Freemium apps have a real incentive to keep children checking in every day in order to generate more ad views or secure extra in-app purchases. This can interfere with schoolwork and other offline hobbies.

SIDeloADED BANNED APPS

'Sideloaded' – the more complicated practice of installing applications on a device from sources other than the official app stores – bypasses Google's and Apple's security procedures; however, it is possible for tech-savvy users. This opens up huge risks – not just apps that would be forbidden by Apple and Google, but pirate ones packed with malware too.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOR APPS

Both Google and Apple have apps that can give adults greater control over children's phone activity. 'Screen Time' (iPhone) and 'Family Link' (Android) have a range of features, such as letting you set age-related restrictions on the app stores, require permission to download an app, set daily time limits on specific apps, and control real-world spending.

DO YOUR RESEARCH

If children ask permission to download an app, do your due diligence and research it. Read the app summary and search the internet for reviews and discussions to establish its legitimacy, safety and appropriateness – if it doesn't seem to be appropriate, look for safer alternatives instead.

LOOK BEYOND THE REVIEWS

App store reviews are helpful, but they are easily gamed, and some unscrupulous developers will pay for quick reviews to give their work perceived legitimacy. Take more than a cursory glance at listings by digging out the one- and two-star reviews and looking closely at the developer – for example, if they've published a lot of unrelated apps, that's a red flag.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD

Talk to children and make sure they're aware that apps can be risky. As part of a wider talk about internet literacy, ensure they don't download apps outside of the official channels, nor grant apps permission to access their camera, microphone, or photos without a good reason. Make sure they understand that in-game currency costs real-world money.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

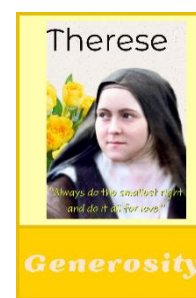
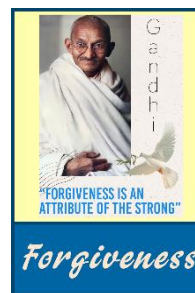
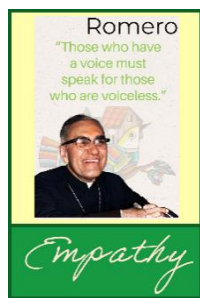
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We have recently updated our School Mission and Vision Statements.

For us, the **Mission** of the School is for the staff and states:

Our mission is to inspire every child by ensuring SUCCESS, providing OPPORTUNITY and fostering STEWARDSHIP within a loving, Catholic community.

The **Vision** is what we want everyone in our school community to strive towards. It states;

Our vision is that everyone will leave our school feeling they have **achieved** more than they ever thought possible, and they will **make a difference** to the world by **serving God by helping others**.

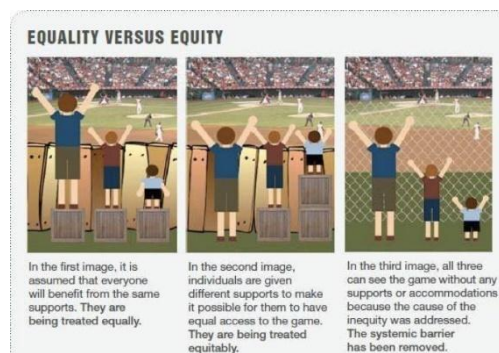
Our values are qualities which we endeavour to show in all we do. They are;

Dedication, Empathy, Forgiveness and Generosity.

Our House Patrons are role models of these values:

Claudette Colvin - Nine months before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat, Colvin did the same. She wasn't being rude or selfish (as there was a seat free across the aisle from her), but this was a stand for all humans to be treated with dignity and respect during segregation in 1960s America. Colvin was only 15 when she took her stand against racism, and so she is an excellent role model for our pupils - to be dedicated to what is right, even if it means standing alone.

Oscar Romero - Catholic Social Teaching calls us to give preferential treatment to the poor - not just those who are poor in monetary value, but those who are disadvantaged in any way. Oscar Romero spoke out for the voiceless, which ultimately cost him his life. He serves as a reminder to us to be that voice for those who can't make themselves heard, to empathise with how they may be feeling and take action to put things right. We teach the children that equity is more important than equality.



Mahatma Gandhi - The Indian political ethicist is often quoted as saying "Be the change you wish to see in the world" - a motto which fits so well with the teachings of the Catholic faith. However, Gandhi is our patron for the value of Forgiveness. He said, "The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is an attribute of the strong." We teach children to forgive, but it is important that they also recognise forgiving shows great strength. It isn't always easy to do, but forgiving is something Christ taught us; therefore, we must strive to do this.

St Therese of Lisieux - St Therese struggled in many ways, something which we all do, but she lived her life doing random acts of kindness for people, calling people to love Jesus. This is something very simple for the children to understand and emulate. We teach the children to be stewards of all that they have been given - their time, their talent, their treasures, and to be generous with all of these things, just like St Therese.