



NEWSLETTER

AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

No 13 – 12th February 2021
www.stthomasmorefir.com



*Our Virtues and Values for this term are
"Generous & Grateful"*

SCHOOL CLOSSES TODAY FOR HALF TERM ON AND RE-OPENS ON MONDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY 2021

CATHOLIC LIFE

Next week we begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. It is a chance for us once more to take stock of our lives and turn towards Christ for guidance.



In past years we would have celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass in school and the staff, children and community would have come together to receive the mark of the ashes on our foreheads with the words 'Repent and believe in the Good News'. This year things are a little different, but it is important that we find time on Ash Wednesday if not through Mass, to pause and spend time in prayer as Christ taught us.

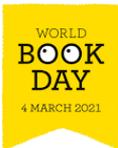
A Prayer for Ash Wednesday Taken From Bible Alive

Lord Jesus,
Teach me that in denying myself I find myself,
and in setting out on the road of self-denial and self-sacrifice
this Lent I imitate You, who laid down Your life as a ransom for many.
Amen.



During Lent we will be working with Sam Downes, the MAC Chaplain to support children in leading weekly prayer services for other classes. In addition, she will be preparing presentations and PowerPoints to help us reflect during the season of Lent, which will be shared with you via the Remote Learning Pages.

Alongside the heightened importance of prayer in Lent we are called to try to give more. This may be our time to help those who are in need or to share what we have with those less fortunate. We are asking families to send in donations of non-perishable food items for The Trussell Trust as our Lenten charity this year. If your child is not currently in school, you can drop a donation off to us at the main entrance where there will be a box for you to leave it in. **Any items are welcome apart from the following which they currently have plenty of:**
sugar, baked beans, tea, feminine hygiene products, tinned tomatoes & passata and nappies.



WORLD BOOK DAY 4th MARCH 2021

This year we asking children to dress up as their favourite book character if they can do this. The live lessons on this day will be activities based around the book shared by the Teacher.

On 15th and 16th March we have booked West End in Schools to come and deliver dance workshops based on the book 'Alice in Wonderland'. If the children are not back in school on this date the sessions will be re-arranged or live streamed. Your child may like to watch the film or read the book during the half term break, so they are familiar with the story.



ST THOMAS MORE PRE SCHOOL

The Local Governing Body and the Our Lady of Lourdes MAC Directors are exploring the possibility of opening a pre school provision here at St Thomas More. We are consulting with the community. This can be found on the school website www.stthomasmorefir.com. The consultation runs from 12th February 2021 – 12th March 2021 and you have the opportunity to complete the Forms and submit them electronically.

PHONICS TRAIL

There is a lovely phonics trail with a fairy tale theme at the woods alongside Morton Stanley Park. You may want to walk the trail during the half term break.





CHINESE NEW YEAR – THE YEAR OF THE OX

At the end of each half term we try to offer children opportunities they would not get during the usual curriculum. On Friday, 12th February we celebrated the Chinese New Year by making lanterns, fans and doing ribbon dances and other activities linked to the celebrations. It was lovely to see the children in school dressed in red to celebrate Chinese New Year. We hope your child has enjoyed doing all the activities.

REMOTE LEARNING UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to those parents/carers that have taken the time and responded to the Remote Learning Update questionnaire, we value your feedback. You can still submit your form by clicking on the link.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=MKcd5G15b0SG85FNYTivOEpxg3TKQsRDkdMNglddpQZUQ05CWUJZWEIOQkNOM05WSUIRSFAxWVZLOS4u>

CORONAVIRUS

During the half term break you **MUST** inform the school if you or anyone in your household child tests positive for Coronavirus. Please call the school mobile on **07436 816 015** to inform us of the result. You can text or leave a message and it will be picked up.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021

Thank you to those parents/carers who have submitted the form stating their date preference for First Holy Communion Day. We will collate the information and let you know which date you have been allocated. If you still need to complete the form, please see the link. Creation & New Life meeting will be on **Tuesday, 9th March at 6.00pm** via Teams.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=MKcd5G15b0SG85FNYTivONPUdpgQjwFBjkHKUjOBp_tURUo2QlBMS1pUSk9QNINMUU1SV1g4OFRSUC4u



FACE MASKS ON SCHOOL SITE

Due to the increase of COVID-19 cases, in order to protect children and staff at school, **you are required to wear a mask to come onto the site** - the mask must cover your nose and mouth and should not be a bandana. If you do not wear a mask, you will not be allowed through the gate. Children do not need to wear a mask but can do so if they wish. If you are exempt from wearing a mask you will be asked to provide proof of this.

Please do not be offended if you are refused entry, as this is about keeping us all safe and the school to remain open for your children.

WEDNESDAY WORD



Please find a link to this week's Wednesday Word.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday?pid=MTA101634&v=18.9>

ADMISSIONS

The closing date for applications has now closed. If you have not completed an application for your child to start school or move to middle school in September 2021, then you will now have to complete a late application form, a link to which can be found below.

[School Admissions | Worcestershire County Council](#)

We thank you Lord, for this term,
For the challenges, the successes, and the mistakes from which we have learnt.
Be with us as we spend our time with family and friends.
Give us strength and courage to do what is right: to be witnesses of our faith.
Help us to be a practical Christian these holidays, to appreciate what others do for us, to
give time and effort to help others,
To be peacemakers in our family.
Keep us safe in our activities; give us good rest and good fun.
Bring us back refreshed and ready for a new term.
We thank you for our classmates, teachers, parents
And a community that cares for us. May we always be conscious of you in our lives.

Learning, loving and living together with Christ



Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Multi-Academy