

St. Thomas' School News

9th October 2020

Events of the Week

Week beginning
12.10.2020

Message from the Headteacher



School Places

Anyone requiring a reception place at St. Thomas' for September 2021 needs to apply through your local council's website.

Unfortunately, we won't be able to hold an open afternoon this year due to social distancing measures. I am hoping to put together a little film about our school which will be put on our school website in due course.

Parents of year 6 pupils will need to apply for a secondary place by Monday 2nd November through your local council's website.

The whole school have been using the same titled 'Here We Are: Notes for living on planet Earth' by Oliver Jeffers as part of our recovery curriculum following the National Lockdown last academic year. The project has been a huge success and now most classes are bringing in to a close. The children have created some fantastic artwork some of which is on display in the hall. The children have also spent time exploring the theme of relationships in PSHE and cooperation in Commando Joes. Class 4 have begun their whole class ukulele music project too.

From the office...

School dinners

Wisepay is now working again following a national technical issue. You will have to reset your password. Please ensure dinners are ordered by midnight on Sunday. Thank you.

Lost Property

We are starting to amass lost jumpers, cardigans and P.E. tops. Most of these are nameless. We cannot return clothing the rightful owner if it doesn't have a name in.

Head lice

We appear to have a small number of children in school with head lice. Please check your child's hair and treat accordingly. Thank you.

Half Term Holiday

School closes at 3.30pm on Thursday 22nd October for half term holiday.

School reopens on Monday 2nd November.

Illness

It is important that everyone understands the guidance around illness.

If a child presents with any of the main three symptoms in school, they will be sent home and asked to follow self-isolation guidance and book a test. Siblings of these children will also be sent home in accordance with guidance.

In classes where a child or staff member has shown symptoms and been sent home (or not arrived in school if symptoms develop overnight) letters will be sent to parents informing them of a suspected case. School carries on as normal, unless a positive test result is confirmed.

If a positive test result is confirmed, the school will work with the Local Authority and Public Health to determine close contacts of the positive person. It is at this point that parents will be informed and bubble closures may happen, depending on the outcomes of the track and trace process.

Close contacts are tracked over the 48 hour period before symptoms developed in the positive person.

It is important that parents work with the school to keep us informed of illness and those isolating due to household members showing symptoms.

It is all quite complex, so if you do have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the school and we will answer your questions.

Children and staff with a high temperature, a persistent cough or loss of taste/smell cannot be in school until they have a negative test result or have isolated for 10 days from the start of symptoms.

Do not send your child to school if they are displaying one of the symptoms. This could put the class and their families at risk.

Parent's Evening

Due to the ongoing pandemic, Parent's Evening will be a little bit different this year. On Monday 2nd November, all children will be given a mini report to take home. This report will give a brief overview on how your child has settled in school this term.

On the bottom will be a return slip for you to add your comments on and an option to request a Zoom meeting with your child's class teacher. These meetings are likely to be held the week beginning the 9th November and will be time limited to 10 minutes.

Those parents that want a Zoom meeting will be able to book one in the usual way via the school

Christmas

We will not be able to go ahead with our usual Christmas concerts this year. However, I have been thinking about alternatives. At the moment, we intend to go ahead with class based productions for children in classes 1 to 4. These will be filmed and put on the school YouTube channel.

In order to be able to do this, all children will be taking home a letter requesting permission to allow them to do this. Children who we don't get permission for can still take part, but they will not be filmed.