

St. Thomas' School News

16.10.2020

Events of the Week

Week beginning

19.10.2020

School Council Raffle

This will be drawn on Thursday 22nd
October

Governing Board Meeting at 6.30pm

School is closed on Friday 23rd
October for INSET day

Message from the Headteacher



On Friday 16th October, the whole school took part in a green themed day to promote the messages from the new BBC short animated film called 'The Promise'. This follows on from the Oliver Jeffers project and focuses on the small changes we can all make to save the world from climate change.

I would like to thank you all for your support throughout this challenging first half term of the school year – it has been a half term like no other!

From the office...

School dinners

Some parents are still unable to access Wisepay. Mrs Milne has been in contact with Wisepay support to highlight the issue. We are waiting for a response. The email address for support is:

support@wisepay.co.uk

If you are unable to order your child's lunches due to this issue please email the school office office@stthomasnewhey.co.uk with your child's choices so that lunches can be ordered. Please send the correct cash into school (£9.20 as next week is a four-day week).

School Spider Messages

I have contacted School Spider this morning about the notifications. In order to receive class specific messages, you need to use your parent login on the app. To access messages, click on the bell icon.

Youtube Channel

Thank you to all who have returned consent forms for this. If you haven't done so, can you return them as soon as possible, so that we can start to work out how we manage the videos. Thank you.

Facebook

During lockdown, we set up our school's Facebook page. This became a very important communication tool, allowing us to keep parents informed of what we are doing at school. All children have been given a letter requesting permission to use their image on the Facebook page. This could be a still image or a short video. Please could you return these as soon as possible, so we can start using it again in a more proactive way. Thank you.

Illness

Thank you all for your continued support and understanding as we continue to deal with coronavirus.

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 16th 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 website after the half term holiday.

Remembrance Day



After the half term holiday, poppies will be available in school for children to buy.

We will not be able to hold our traditional service on November 11th in Church. Instead, class 5, will be leading a recorded service for the children.

Class 5 children will also be laying crosses on the graves of the fallen soldiers buried at St. Thomas' Church.

All children will be making poppies in school as part of an art installation, which will be displayed in the grounds of the school.