



Friday 28th April 2023

Dear Families,

I trust you all had a lovely Easter break and as ever it has been a pleasure to welcome our students back last week.

Thank you for your supportive and kind messages regarding our Ofsted inspection and report. As I said in my letter last week regarding Ofsted I am incredibly proud of our whole school community and the hard work and commitment of staff and pupils.

Prayer Theme

- This week we have been reflecting on Luke's Gospel's account of 'The Road to Emmaus'.

*"Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"
- Luke 24:32*

- We have been reflecting on the presence of Christ in the 'everyday'. We have prayed for comfort for those grieving or in pain and we have asked for God's help to become more aware of the power of His love in our lives. We have prayed especially for the repose of the soul of Mrs King, our Head of Chemistry, and her family and friends. She will be greatly missed by us all.

Industrial Action

- A reminder that all Year 11 and 13 pupils should attend school on Tuesday 2nd May in light of the NEU Industrial Action.

Year 5 Big Sing and Open Day

- We had a wonderful day on Wednesday welcoming many of our feeder Year 5 pupils and their parents/carers for our annual open morning and 'Big Sing' event. It was a fantastic event and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Irish Dancing World Champion

- One of our year 7 students Maria became the Under 12 'World Irish Dancing Champion' in Canada over the Easter holidays. An incredible achievement and I am sure you will agree Maria, her family and dance school, have every reason to be extremely proud of this wonderful young lady. We certainly are.

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Sporting

- One of very talented Year 11 boys Ollie, was selected to compete in the England Football men's U16 squad UEFA development tournament in France over Easter. Ollie is an exceptional pupil and footballer and we are very proud of his achievements and the unwavering good character he displays.

Refillable Water Bottles

- In line with the new law on the banning of single use plastics by October 2023, we will no longer provide plastic cups for the water fountains.
- It is essential that all pupils bring in a full 'refillable' water bottle to drink from in school. Keeping hydrated is a key factor for keeping healthy and being able to learn well.

Parking Around School

- Thank you to the vast majority of parents and carers who park safely away from the school grounds if you need to drop off or collect a pupil.
- Unfortunately we are still seeing a number of cars parked unsafely on the yellow zig zag lines or parking on the corners of the nearby residential streets, or blocking safer crossing areas. It is a traffic offence to do so and it is putting our community at risk.

Please follow us on social media (**Facebook and Twitter STM_CS_Blaydon**) where we share regular updates from our school community.

As always if you have any queries please do not hesitate to get in touch using the pastoral email addresses below:

St Bernadette	St Catherine Laboure	St John Fisher	St Therese	Sixth Form
s_stbqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_stclqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_stjfqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_sttqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_6frmqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Turner
Head Teacher

