12.12.25

THE MORE MESSENGER

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning to love, live and celebrate as we grow in the knowledge and love of Christ

Anything in The More Messenger that is red and underlined is a dynamic link. Click or tap the link to take you to further information or booking forms.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

***New dates in green**

Monday 15th December	KS2 Carol Mass Rehearsal @ Sacred Heart 10:30am
Monday 15th December	Mixed League Football Match vs Grove Road Primary (Away) 3:30pm
Tuesday 16th December	KS2 Carol Mass @Sacred Heart 6pm for parents
Wednesday 17th December	Reception and Y1 Panto @ Aylesbury 10am
Thursday 18th December	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Craft Fair @ 3:30pm
Thursday 18th December	Mixed League Football Match vs St Paul's Primary School (Home) 3:30pm
Friday 19th December	End of Term - Finish at 1:30pm
Monday 5th January	INSET DAY - ***school closed***
Tuesday 6th January	Children return to school
Tuesday 6th January	Epiphany mass at school 2:15pm parents are welcome
Monday 12th January	Reception School Tour with application support[In-person] 2-3pm

Please check the calendar on our school website here for updates and future dates.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

SCHOOL TARGET - 97%	THIS WEEK - 94.41 %	THIS YEAR - 95 %

HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS CHOIR CONCERT - ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL

Last Sunday, our school choir had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Hospice of St Francis Carol Concert at St Albans Cathedral. The children represented our school beautifully and we are extremely proud of the confidence and joy they brought to their performance. They also sang alongside the Greenway Choir, making it a truly special and memorable occasion. A huge thank you to Mrs O'Brien, our choir teacher, for all her dedication in preparing the children for this event.

PRAYER AT HOME

This week's resource can be found **here** to share with your families.

FOLLOW US Find us on social media:
Instagram - @stmorecps
Facebook - St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Year 3 children who are preparing to make their First Holy Communion this year will be celebrating their first Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday 12th at 6:00pm at church with Father Joseph. This is a special milestone in their faith journey, and we keep all of our children and families in our prayers as they take this important step.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Today, some children in Years 4–6 took part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, led by Father Joseph and Father John. The children approached the session with calmness and reverence, showing a truly reflective attitude throughout. Reconciliation is an important sacrament in our Catholic faith, giving us the opportunity to say sorry, receive God's forgiveness, and make a fresh start with renewed hearts. This links closely to Advent, as we prepare to welcome Jesus at Christmas—taking time to reflect, to turn back to God, and to make room in our hearts for His love and peace.

RECEPTION AND KS1 NATIVITY

A huge thank you to our Reception and KS1 teachers and support staff for the time, care and effort taken to organise and prepare the children for this week's nativity performances. The children were a delight to watch and performed with great enthusiasm and confidence, sharing the Christmas message through their words, actions and songs. We are very proud of them for their hard work and commitment in learning their parts and for the joy they brought to each performance. Thank you also to our PTA for providing refreshments for parents, with a tea, coffee and mince pies station available to collect during the performances, which added a warm and festive touch to the occasion.

PANTOMIME - CINDERELLA (YR 2-6)

A huge thank you to our PTA for generously funding the pantomime trip for children in Years 2–6. We are so fortunate to have such a supportive PTA community. The children had a fantastic time and it was a wonderful festive treat for everyone!

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

If you know families with young children (particularly those in local nurseries or toddler groups), we'd love for you to take a few of our school flyers and share them. Whether it's at a nursery, playgroup or just in conversation with friends, you can help introduce others to our warm and welcoming community. **Flyers are available from the school office - please take as many as you need!** Thank you for helping us grow and strengthen our school family.

OTHER NEWS

Consultation of St Rose's Catholic Infants School Admissions Policy

St Rose's Catholic Infants School is a part of the All Saints Catholic Academy Trust (ASCAT), and collectively we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. We are contacting all our stakeholders to inform you of our plans to make some changes to the Admissions Policy of the school for the admitting year 2027/2028. All details regarding our admissions protocol can be found on our school website https://www.stroses.herts.sch.uk/Key-Info/Admissions/ If you have any questions relating to any aspect of our admissions policy, please contact Chair of Governors, by email at chair@stroses.herts.sch.uk.

Consultation on the admission arrangements 2027-28 of John F Kennedy Catholic School

Please find the following link to the School Admission Policy 2027-28 which includes the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) 2027-28 and Sixth Form Application Form. The governing body of John F Kennedy Catholic School is putting the above documents out for consultation between 27th October 2025 – 7th December 2025. The published admission number (PAN) for 2027-28 will be 180 and this has not changed from previous years. The changes on which we are asking your opinion are:

- Criterion 2 applicants to provide a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) to confirm children are practising Catholics
- Priority of siblings within criterion 7 - Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church

Please address your comments to Ms E Final, Clerk to Governors, at the school address, or by email to efinal@jfk.herts.sch.uk . You can also reply by phone on 01442 266150. Please make sure to reply by 7th December 2025 as governors will be meeting in January 2026 to determine the admission arrangements 2027-28.

Autumn 2 REMINDERS:	FOREST SCHOOL Year 5	SWIMMING Year 4

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (STMSA) NEWS

STMSA Volunteers Needed!

Co-Chairs: We're still looking for a Chair (or Co-Chairs!) for 2026 to help keep our brilliant PTA events and fundraising going. You'll be joining a supportive team - with a Vice Chair already in place, plus our Treasurer, Secretary and committee ready to help. The current Chairs will ensure a smooth handover too. It's a fantastic chance to make a real difference and help our school community continue to thrive!

Comms Officer: Fancy helping but not sure where to start? We have a Comms Officer role that could be perfect. It's all about helping parents stay informed in clear, friendly ways - no marketing experience needed. You can shape the role to suit you, mostly working in your own time, with full support from the committee. It's a great way to get involved without attending lots of meetings, use your creativity, and make a big difference with a small time commitment. The role includes sharing updates via class reps, providing short newsletter snippets, or helping with posters and simple event communication - just keeping everyone in the loop.

If you'd like to help, please chat to Cath, Terri-Ann or Sarah in the playground, or email contactstmsa@gmail.com. The school community would be so grateful!

Our Festive Events Are in Full Swing!

Wreath Making: Thank you to everyone that attended and supported this lovely event last Friday!

Elfridges – Fri 12th December: Today the children enjoyed choosing a gift for a special person in their lives, thank you for all your generous donations to make this event possible

Christmas Crafternoon – Thursday 18th (after school) – £5 per child. The ticket price includes crafts, biscuit decorating, games and food for each child. Please book your tickets on the PTA website: https://shorturl.at/KoLaG

Christmas Bake Off – Dust off your baking skills and enter the STM Christmas Bake Off! We would love families to contribute festive baking efforts (no nuts please!) to be admired and sold at the Crafternoon event. Entries to be brought into school on the morning of the 18th.

Raffle tickets are also available to buy online (varying quantities available)

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