

Be Kind - Learn to Learn - Think Globally – Create Beauty

Newsletter December 2018

Thomas's Academy

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Upcoming Events

December 2018

- 4th: Carols in the Square (5.30pm)
- 6th: Flu Immunisations (nasal spray)
- 7th: Christmas Fair
- 7th: Mayor's Cup (Y5 & 6)
- 10th: Book Fair (all week)
- 10th: Hearing Dog for Deaf visit
- 12th: Dress Rehearsal Christmas Nativity (Y1 & Y2)
- 13th: NSPCC Pants Assembly
- 14th: Christmas Lunch
- 14th: Christmas Jumper Day
- 14th: Nativity Production (Y1 & 2)
- 17th: Health and Well-being Week
- 18th: Early Years Grandparents Visit
- 20th: Early Years Christmas Songs
- 21st: School finishes at 2pm

January 2019

- 7th: INSET Day (staff only)
- 8th: Children return

8th: Y3 photography project

Children in Need

Well done Thomas's Academy. You raised £365.00 for Children in Need. Congratulations especially to the Thomas's Academy School Council who planned and organized the fundraising.

Quiz Night

Many of the parents and teachers enjoyed this event. £495.00 was generated to go towards our school playground fund. Thank you to the parents who organized this and to all those who attended.

Christmas Fair – 7th December

This is being organized by our amazing parents. There will be activities including biscuit decorating, face painting, Christmas crafts and much more. Food and drink will also be on sale. Please support this event and help us raise money for redevelopment of our playground. Buy your programme from the school office for £4 so children can take part in the activities.

Photo Consent

You may have noticed that our blog and twitter posts have stopped. Due to new regulations, consent to use children's images has had to be re-sought and has made this more complex. Once we have received permission from parents regarding this, we can share more of the wonderful things that we do.

Early Years staff share children's achievements through a digital programme called 'Tapestry'. Without parental consent, parents will not be able to view pictures of their child in school.

Thomas's Academy places the safeguarding of children's welfare as our very highest priority. If you have any concerns about a child's safety or welfare, inside or outside school, please contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads or call us on the number above.

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School Playgrounds and Doctor Espresso

We are looking for help from parents to research and apply for grants in order that we can resurface and improve the playgrounds once the scaffolding has been removed. If you have the time and capacity, please speak to either Mr Chester or Miss Kelly. Doctor Espresso on Fulham High Street is supporting our efforts by selling cake made by Academy parents and donating profits to us.



Saatchi Gallery



Selected pupils in years 4 – 6 got to visit the Saatchi Gallery as a reward for their extraordinary effort during Art week. They had a wonderful time, even getting to create their own art.

by an adult. If you have good quality books that you'd like to donate, please bring them in to the school office.

Home Learning Club

Please don't forget that this club is open for pupils after school on Mondays. Just come along to the library (with your home learning and a parent) and Miss Geordie will be there if you need help. You can also access Maths Whizz during this time.

Dodgeball Tournament

On 7th November, 6 pupils took part in a dodgeball tournament. The pupils did exceptionally well considering that it was their first taste of competitive dodgeball and for some of them, competitive sports for Thomas's Academy. The team played 6 games, winning four, drawing one and losing one. The team showed excellent skill, teamwork and enthusiasm. There will be another tournament for younger children soon so we are looking forward to continued success in this area.

Football Tournament

On a crisp Saturday morning, some year 5 and 6 boys took part in a football tournament. With tough competition, the boys did Thomas's Academy proud. They won one game, drew one and lost two. The teamwork and enthusiasm was impressive. A big thank you to the boys and their parents for their participation – and of course to Mr Bates.

School Library

This has been spruced up a little. We now have four Year 4 monitors plus a volunteer to keep it organized so pupils can find books easily. Mondays after school, the library is open for families to use. Children must be accompanied

Hearing Dogs for Deaf

On December 10th, we will be visited by a companion hearing dog and speaker from Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. They will be visiting us to help us understand the jobs these amazing animals do. The visit has been organized by a parent at the school: Marie Teather who is running the London Marathon next year on behalf of the charity. To help raise funds, she is asking pupils and parents to enter a school specific raffle. Please do support Marie and this amazing charity if you can. Go to: <http://bit.ly/RaffleHearingDogs>

We also wish Marie the best of luck with her marathon run.

The Daily Mile

We have run a marathon! If we combine all our classes' efforts for The Daily Mile, we have now run an entire marathon together. Hopefully soon, each class will be able to run one on their own. A big 'well done' to Thomas's Academy for trying really hard to improve their fitness and concentration in class by running. Fingers crossed that in 2019, we will be able to add a running track to our playground to help us improve even more! Thanks to Miss Wood for introducing Thomas's Academy to this initiative and for her continued encouragement.

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Unicorn Award

Pupils have been introduced to the Thomas's Academy unicorn award. Every child from Y1 – Y6 will receive a **new** book to record special experiences which help develop understanding of the schools' cornerstones. For children in year 3 and above, please make sure your child's book is kept in their book bags/ruck sack so it can be worked on in school too. Please help your child to treasure this book and complete it carefully so they can create beauty that they are proud of.

Photography Project

On 8th January, Year 3 will be taking part in a Steve McQueen photography project. About 115000 children have been invited to participate. They will have their photos taken in school which will be exhibited at Tate Britain and across the city. McQueen has said: "It's a project to reflect who we are, where we come from and the future". All parents and carers will be asked for permission for their children to participate in due course.

Christmas Lunch

If your child has packed lunch but they'd like to have a Christmas lunch on 14th December, please let the office know as soon as possible and pay £1.80.

Christmas Jumper Day – 14th December

This day is to fundraise for the charity 'Save the Children'. There is no requirement to buy a jumper – you could decorate one you already have. We'd much prefer the money given to charity. We are asking for £2 per person or £5 per family if you prefer (obviously you can donate more).

Sensory Rooms

We are lucky enough to have two rooms in our school dedicated to developing children's senses. This is done through special lighting, music and objects. Many children benefit from these areas however we are in need of some new equipment. If you have any items at home which could be appropriate such as fairy lights, mirrors and lava lamps, please hand them to a staff member. Thank you in advance.

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Uniform

Please ensure that pupils are wearing full school uniform. Please be reminded that school shoes should be black and that trainers or boots are not permitted. School coats, hats and scarves are available at Sogans. Please label all items so they can be returned to their owner if lost.

Lunches

If you wish your child to change to or from school lunches, please let the office know in advance. We request that this is only done at the end of a half-term. Packed lunches should be healthy and contain no nuts due to allergies in the school although a small treat is permitted on Fridays.

Pines and Needles

Thank you to Pines and Needles who have donated a marvelous 6 foot Christmas tree to the Academy. If you order from there, quote **FESTIVE18** for a free gift. They are located on St Johns Church, N End Rd, London, London SW6 1PB.



School Crossing Patrol

The council have advertised for the paid position of 'school crossing patrol' at the junction of Munster Road and New King's Road. The position is for 10 hours per week. If you would like to apply for this post, please do so online at: <http://ats-lbhfjobs.jobsgopublic.com/vacancies/view/81847>. Alternatively, please see Miss Kelly who can help with the application process. Please be aware that the closing date for applications is 06.12.18.

Points of Contact

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If you wish to discuss your child, your first point of contact is your child's class teacher. Teachers are normally available in the playground before school and after school but please do not have conversations after 8.50am as they need to get to class. If you wish to speak to our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO), Lyndsey Gale, she works on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Appointments can be made with her via the school office. The leadership team are also available in the mornings, after school or via appointment.

Absences

Please be reminded to call the school office each morning when your child is off school. You may also email to absent@academy.thomas-s.co.uk

Our school is committed to promoting the welfare of your child through regular school attendance. All holidays taken during term time will be considered as unauthorised and may incur a penalty charge.

Updating information

Please remember to let the office know if you change any details such as your phone number. We are increasingly using e-mail as a form of communication so please let the office know your email address if you haven't already.