

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CE JUNIOR SCHOOL

"Realising the potential of every child within a caring, Christian community"

NEWSLETTER



9th June 2023

Well things are certainly starting to warm up. This weekend we have been promised some gloriously hot and sunny weather! As we prepare to experience our first heatwave of this summer season do remember to take care and be sensible in the sun. Remember to apply your sun screen, keep well hydrated with plenty of water and take advantage of the shade during the hottest parts of the day. I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend!

On Thursday we were delighted to welcome the PTA Committee and additional volunteers to help set up and run our Father's Day Sale. Next Sunday is Father's Day (18th June) and I hope everyone is ready to spoil the 'marvellous men' in their families. We saw some discerning shoppers in the hall on Thursday morning with various gifts and surprises secreted away in bags. Hopefully these will remain well hidden before next Sunday!



With the Father's Day Sale out of the way I know the PTA Committee are turning their attention and energy to the '**Big PTA Picnic**' planned for **Friday 23rd June 2023** (3:30p.m. – 5:00p.m). They have recently sent out additional information via a Parent Hub message, so I do hope you have had an opportunity to take note of the details. The event is open to families and friends of both the Infant & Junior Schools and will be happening straight after Sports Day on the school field. Bring your own food or pre-order discounted Domino's pizza for delivery to the field! There will be plenty of entertainment on offer and it is hoped that with fine weather and good company it will be a fantastic community event. Please do take note of the health and safety requirements:

- No nut products to be brought on to the school grounds please
- Due to the terms of the PTA licence, adults are unable to bring their own alcohol – there will be a licenced bar
- Domino's pizza must be pre-ordered
- Children will need to be supervised by a responsible adult throughout the event
- No dogs on site
- No smoking or vaping is allowed on the school site at any time

As always we look forward to strengthening our partnership with you and bringing another busy, challenging but successful academic year to a close. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

REMINDER: Non-Pupil Professional Development & Training Day

In case you have missed this date on our previous newsletters and the school website we would like to remind you that **Friday 16th June 2023** is a non-pupil professional development and training day and the school is **closed** to the children. That's NEXT Friday!!

PTA Marvellous Me Day

At St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Junior School, everyone is marvellous and unique. 'Marvellous Me Day' is being held on **Thursday 15th June** and is a chance to express yourself and show everyone a small part of what makes you so special. If you are a fantastic basketball player or a responsible member of a uniformed organisation (e.g. Cubs or Guides), you could come dressed in your kit/uniform. If your ambition is to be an astronaut or a doctor when you are older, then you could come dressed as that. Or, you could simply come dressed in your favourite colour or wear your favourite outfit. Donations of **£2** would be gratefully received by the PTA – please bring in change to give to your child's classteacher on the day. Thank you for your support!

Essex Girls' County Cup Final Winners - We Are The Champions!!

Congratulations to the Year 6 Girls' football team, who have completed a successful season by winning their County Cup final! This tournament involved 35 teams from across the County so is an amazing achievement. The final was against Northwick Park Primary School from Canvey Island, and took place at Aveley FC. It was a close-fought match on a hot afternoon; the girls played well, had a brilliant attitude and showed fantastic teamwork. They have enjoyed showing off their medals – and the trophy - in school and thoroughly deserve their success. The girls have worked hard over the last couple of years at football club and we are very proud of them – well done!



Sports Day 2023

As I am sure you are aware from the dates sent out at the beginning of this term, Sports Day is fast approaching and is scheduled for **Friday 23rd June 2023**. This will obviously be weather permitting! We do hope that you will be able to join us for this annual event and popular afternoon. Parents and other spectators can enter the school premises from 1:10p.m. when the gates to the playground will be opened. The event is due to start promptly at 1:30p.m. There will be refreshments available to purchase during Sports Day with cold drinks and snacks on sale from the PTA. Can I kindly ask you to use the litter bins provided once you have finished with cups, wrappers...etc.

Parents are kindly requested to stay behind the cordon on the school side of the track and should not under any circumstances make their way across the track to the children. The children will be sitting in their house groups and cheering for the children competing on their behalf in each race. The children will be closely supervised by members of our own staff, first aid will be on hand, and there is absolutely no need for any parents to come across to their children. Please respect these guidelines to ensure everyone is able to enjoy the event!

Please remember there will be no swimming lessons on this day.

REMINDER: Class & Team Photographs

On **Tuesday 20th June 2023** we will be welcoming the school photographer from Kittle Photography in for the day to take class photographs as well as some team pictures. Can I remind you that all children need to be wearing school approved summer uniform on this day. Don't forget to brush your hair and ensure you bring your best smile! Please ensure your child arrives to school on time as if they are late they may miss being in the class photograph!

Open Classrooms - A special invitation!



We are delighted to inform you that we are going to have another 'Open Classrooms' opportunity for parents on **Wednesday 28th June 2023** from 3:30p.m. until 4:15p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to view your child's working environment and marvel at the displays within the classroom. The classteacher's will also be present to answer any questions you might have about the work on display. You will also get a chance to look at some of your child's exercise books to see the work they have completed to date. It is not an opportunity to discuss academic progress and attainment as this will have been covered during parents' evening and updated in End of Year Reports.

This is an open invitation with no designated appointment times and I'm sure your child will relish the opportunity to proudly show you around their classroom. Please remember to wait on the playground until 3:30p.m. Unfortunately we are not able to admit any pushchairs due to health and safety/fire regulations. We look forward to seeing you!

Finally....

As well as preparing for various transition visits to their new Secondary Schools for September 2023, the Year 6 children are busy rehearsing for their end of year production – 'Wind in the Willows'. I am sure this will be a great opportunity to have a bit of fun and showcase their gifts and talents!

On the subject of gifts and talents, we are looking forward to our **Summer Music Concert** which is being held on Tuesday 13th June at 5:30p.m. Tickets have already been distributed and we look forward to seeing you.

Please do continue to pray for our Year 5 children who are currently preparing for Confirmation with Bishop Norman on Sunday 9th July at St Thomas of Canterbury Church.

I am also delighted to share the news with you that **Miss Hayley Phillips** has become engaged to be married. Miss Phillips returned from our half term break having been proposed to on her birthday! I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Miss Phillips and her partner (Ray) as they take this exciting next step in their relationship and start planning for a wedding in the future. It is a joy to have such uplifting news to share at this time and I am sure you will all pray for God's blessing on their future plans.

The staff and I would like to thank you for your continued support and trust. Please keep the life and work of the school in your on-going thoughts and prayers.

Mr D. Moran
Headteacher

And...please remember if you have any questions or queries or comments feel free to contact us:
admin@stthomasjnr.essex.sch.uk