CHRISTMAS 2017 – NEWSLETTER

Royal Greenwich Residents

Royal Greenwich’s updated ‘Benefits for Children at School’ leaflet summarises the main sources of help available for families and includes information about recent and forthcoming benefit changes, such as the rollout of Universal Credit in June 2018. Additional information can be found via www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/benefits.

Greenwich council’s Welfare Rights Service is keen to ensure that local families are claiming their full entitlement and are encouraging residents to call their telephone helpline on 020 8921 6375 for a free benefit check.

Safeguarding Notice
Child Protection at St Thomas More Primary School

Please note, if you have any safeguarding concerns regarding any child at St Thomas More Primary School please report your concern immediately to one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) at the school.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads are:
Mrs A Wood, Mrs S Barnes and Miss A O’Brien

Breakfast Club & After School Club

With the advent of the new kitchen on-site, the school is considering establishing an on-site breakfast club and after school club for our pupils.

If you have not already done so, please indicate on the slip attached if you may be interested in this service.

Vacancies for a School Chef and Kitchen Staff have been advertised on the school website.

Share the light of Jesus, by learning together and loving others
**Forthcoming Diary Dates & News**

**CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**

**Thursday 7th December**

Today at 2.30 pm we are having the official opening of the new Reception Classroom. Parents/Carers of children in Reception have been invited to attend.

**Thursday 7th December**

The Fire Brigade will be on site today visiting the children in Reception and Years 2 & 5.

**Saturday 9th December**

The School Choir are singing at The Progress Hall Christmas Concert at 2.15 pm (full details/timings already shared with parents).

**Tuesday 12th December**

The School Choir will be going on a trip to The Tramshed to see “The Magic Lamp” (full details/timings already shared with parents).

**Thursday 14th December**

Parents/Carers of children in Years 1 & 2 are invited to their Nativity Performance at 2.00 pm and 6.00 pm.

**Friday 15th December**

Parents/Carers of children in Reception Class are invited to their Nativity Performance at 2.30 pm.

**Monday 18th December**

Children in Years 3 – 6 will take part in the Christmas Performance at St John Fisher & St Thomas More Church at 2.00 pm.

Children will be dismissed after the service and can either be collected directly from church or from school at the usual time. Please see permission slip attached to be completed and returned to the School Office.
Tuesday 19th December
Christmas School Meal & Own Clothes Day

For those children in Years 3-6, who would normally have packed lunch, the Christmas School Meal is £1.80. Please see details on attached slip and return to the School Office.

In addition to this, we would like all pupils to wear a Christmas jumper/top in support of Save the Children. Pupils are to bring into school a donation of £1 for this very worthwhile charity.

CAFOD Lenten Appeal 2017 ‘Turn Little Fish into Big Fish’

Further to our Lenten Appeal this year, we are pleased to announce that £269.50 was raised for CAFOD and we would like to thank all families for their generosity.

Parking Problems

We have, once again, been contacted by one of our neighbours. A disabled lady (whose daughter had already called and complained a couple of weeks ago) has advised that the same parent keeps blocking her drive and recently the car was left for an hour.

Once again, the School Governors and I urge all families to park considerately and safely for the sake of all children in school, local residents and pedestrians using the pavements.

Friday 5th January 2018

The Epiphany Mass will be taking place at SS John Fisher & Thomas More Church at 9 am. Children are to go directly to the church for 8.45 am for the service to start promptly at 9 am.

After School Clubs 2018

All After School Clubs will start week commencing 15th January 2018. Details to follow. Please ensure that all children are collected promptly when the club finishes at 4.30 pm.
School Uniform
As we move into the colder part of the year I would like to remind you that pupils may wear a plain navy jumper or cardigan, a plain blue coat and black shoes (not boots). It is important that your child is dressed for outdoor play. They may wear a hat, gloves (or mittens) and a scarf also.

Jewellery is not permitted

***Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled as we currently have a huge amount of lost property***

PE Kits
All pupils must have a PE kit in school, ready to take part in sport activities on any day of the week. The sportswear consists of a white t-shirt, red shorts and plimsolls or trainers. It is important that all pupils are ready to take part in their PE lessons. During colder weather, pupils may wear a plain navy tracksuit for outside activity.

Open Days for Children Starting School in September 2018
The final tour of the school will be taking place on the following date
Friday 5th January 2018 at 11 am
Please remember, you must apply for a primary school place by Monday 15th January 2018

TERM DATES

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<tr>
<th>AUTUMN TERM</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 30th October – Wednesday 20th December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Holiday</td>
<td>Thursday 21st December 2017 – Wednesday 3rd January 2018</td>
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<td>SPRING TERM</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Thursday 4th January – Friday 9th February 2018</td>
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<td>School Holiday</td>
<td>Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2018</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Monday 19th February – Thursday 29th March 2018</td>
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<td>School Holiday</td>
<td>Friday 30th March – Friday 13th April 2018</td>
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<td>SUMMER TERM</td>
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<td>Term 5</td>
<td>Monday 16th April – Friday 25th May 2018</td>
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<td>School Holiday</td>
<td>Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June 2018</td>
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<td>Term 6</td>
<td>Monday 4th June – Friday 20th July 2018</td>
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<td>Monday 2nd July INSET DAY NO ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS</td>
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<td>SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR STUDENTS ON THURSDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2018</td>
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School Meals
If you wish to change your child’s meal arrangements, you must do so in writing to The School Office and such changes can only be made on a half termly basis.
Reminder: school meals must be paid for in advance.

Share the light of Jesus, by learning together and loving others
BREAKFAST/AFTER SCHOOL CLUB: PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

I would be interested in the following for ______________________________ (child’s name) in Year ____________

Breakfast Club ☐ ☑ ) Please tick as appropriate ✓
After School Club ☐ ☑
Both ☐ ☑

Signed ____________________________________________ Parent / Carer

CHRISTMAS LUNCH: PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

I would like my child _________________________________(child’s name) to have the school Christmas Meal on Tuesday 19th December

My child is in Year 3 ☐ ☑ ) Please tick as appropriate ✓
Year 4 ☐ ☑
Year 5 ☐ ☑
Year 6 ☐ ☑

Please pay £1.80 via your child’s School Money Online Account

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE AT SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE: MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER

Please complete and return to the school office

☐ My child _________________________________ (child’s name) in Year __________ will be collected from church after the service

☐ My child _________________________________ (child’s name) in Year __________ will be collected from school at 3.30 pm

Share the light of Jesus, by learning together and loving others

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

On behalf of all the staff at St Thomas More we would like to wish all of our families a blessed and joyous Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing you all in 2018.

Please note that the school will be closed from Thursday 21st December re-opening on Thursday 4th January 2018.