



**13 December 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Reflection

*"Christmas reminds us that God continues to love us all" Pope Francis.*

### New Website!

Since the summer we have been preparing for the launch of a new school website. It is now ready to launch (although not completely finished!) Due to issues with website providers, we are having to (hopefully only temporarily) change the main website link to:

<https://www.stthomasilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/>

We have made sure the new site has a calendar page that can be downloaded to phones here <https://www.stthomasilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/parents/calendar/>

Please have a look at the new site – we hope you like it!

### Specsavers High-Vis Vests

We have kindly been given some high-vis vests by a parent who works at Specsavers so your child will be bringing one of these home this week that maybe useful to wear on these dark mornings and evenings when travelling to and from school.

### PTA Raffle tickets

These are selling really well and there are some great prizes! Tickets are a £1 a strip. Tickets are still available in school if your child wants to bring in money and the PTA will be selling these at pick-up time today outside school.

### Travelling to school by car.

If your child arrives by car, please consider parking a little further away from school and walking in with your child. This has many benefits- it helps keep the air around school cleaner, helps lower congestion and is good exercise for you and your child (ren).

Please also drive carefully when dropping off and picking up, especially at the **Top of Allendale**- one of our staff nearly collided with a motorist driving too fast there last week. Thank you.

### School Uniform

We are starting to see a few children wearing trainers or boots to school. In winter, we expect children to wear black shoes only unless there is a medical reason. Thank you

### St Thomas Gospel Values badge

These lovely badges are still available to buy for £4



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**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



### **A Message from our Governors...**

*As this is one of the last newsletters of the year, I thought that it would be appropriate to let you all know about some of the things the Governing Body has been involved with this year. They include:*

- Reviewing the Mission Statement*
- Supporting school Liturgies*
- Linking with the parish.*
- Safeguarding Review and Training*
- Web-site review*
- Reviewing the new curriculum*
- Attending Trust meetings*
- Attending school meetings*
- Supporting Fund Raising Activities*
- Supporting the school and staff through weekly telephone calls*
- Being on the Interview panel for staff recruitment*
- Health and Safety Review*
- GDPR Training and Review*
- Working with the staff to produce and implement the School Evaluation Plan and the School Improvement Plan.*

*As you can see it has been a busy year. We like to think that we offer challenge and support to the school. We are always looking for new members of the team and if you think that you could get involved then please let us know.*

*Can I also take this opportunity to thank all the staff, parents, and children for doing their best in what has been a very challenging year. St Thomas' is a place where Christ is at the heart of the school and a place where the love of God is evident in all aspects of school life.*

*Wishing you all a peaceful, joyful, and safe Christmas*

*God Bless, Sue Doczynska on behalf of the Governing Body.*

### **Dates for your Diary**

**Wednesday 15 December:** Christmas Party in the afternoon – *party clothes.*

**Friday 17 December:** PTA “Bring a Pound” Christmas Jumper Day- *school uniform below the waist.* PTA raffle drawn.

**Tuesday 21 December:** Final day of school before the Christmas break.

**Monday 10 January:** Children return to school after the Christmas break.

Thank you for your continued support,

*God Bless, Mr Lobb & Mr Sellors*



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