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

Newsletter December 2019

Thomas's Academy

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Communication

If you wish to discuss a matter relating to your child, your first point of contact should be their class teacher. Teachers are available for a short amount of time before and after school however we ask that conversations do not spill over into learning time (after 8.50am in the the morning) as at this time, a teacher's focus will be on the entire class. If you wish to have a more substantial conversation, then please make an appointment with the teacher via the school office.

Uniform

We are very proud of our uniform at Thomas's Academy. We feel that, in lots of cases, pupils behave in a more positive and collaborative way when they are in uniform. As it is our uniform, it is the expectation that pupils from Year 1 are in full uniform at all times. (We are a little more relaxed in the Early Years where children are still learning to dress themselves.) This uniform expectation includes PE lessons. We ask that over the next few weeks, if your child does not have a part of uniform such as shoes or a school coat, that you organise this. We thank you in advance for your support.

Kidzania for Best Attenders

As we have done for the last two years, we intend to take children with the **best attendance and punctuality** to Kidzania. The criteria for selection includes that a child has no unauthorized absences and that their attendance is at least 97%. This is open to all children from reception to year 6. Well done to all the pupils with 100% attendance so far.

School Gardening Awards



Congratulations to Miss Sam and the Outdoor Adventures Club for achieving Level 3 status as part of the Royal Horticultural Society Campaign for School Gardening. Because of this great achievement, they

have been awarded a $\pounds150$ voucher for vegetable seeds. Well done.



December 2019

6th: Winter Fair

6th: Mayor's Cup

10th: Y6 Height and Weight measurements

11th: KS1 Nativity performance

12th: School closed for General Election

13th: Christmas Jumper Day

13th: Christmas Lunch

16th: Y4 to St Dionis Church

17th: Y2 Outdoor Learning

17th: Y3 & Y5 to St Dionis Church

18th: Early Years Christmas Production

18th: Y2 & Y6 to St Dionis Church

19th: Last day of Autumn Term – 2pm finish

January 2020

7th: Pupils return to school

21st: Y4/5 Maths Challenge at Thomas's Fulham

30th: Y4 Art Buddies

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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Reading Awards Revamp

We have launched a new reading prize. This is to celebrate all of the fantastic reading that is happening at the Academy. Not only are there awards for numbers of books read but also for effort and resilience when it comes to those trickier reads. Successes and achievements will be celebrated in Friday's Awards Assembly. More details to come!

Reading Areas

Thank you for your support in our efforts to raise money for our classroom reading areas – from bake sales to pyjama days! We are now in the process of putting the funds to good use – creating warm, inviting areas to read and reflect in class. Pictures coming soon!

Winter Fair

On Friday 6th December, the Parents Association will be hosting a Winter Fair from 3 - 5pm. Booklets are for sale in the school office for £2. There will be games, crafts, music and food. We look forward to seeing you there.

Steve McQueen Year 3 exhibition

This is an exhibition held in the Duveen Galleries at **Tate Britain** from 12th November 2019 to 3rd May 2020. It is displaying 1,500 Year 3 class photographs taken from different schools across the country in 2018. Unfortunately, we were unable to secure a class booking for this event but families are welcome to visit free on weekends and during the holidays. The Thomas's Academy photo (current Y4 class) is located in **Section 2**. The exhibition spans 24 sections that are marked clockwise from the entrance.

For more information, go to:

https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tatebritain/exhibition/steve-mcqueen-year-3

Aktiva Camps After-School and Holiday Care

If you would like after-school care, please contact Aktiva. The staff from Activa collect pupils directly from their classrooms at the end of the day, they then

have a range of activities to choose from as well as an evening snack before they are collected. Further information can



be found on the Aktiva website: <u>www.aktivacamps.com</u>

Christmas Lunch

If your child is usually packed lunch but would like to join us for a festive Christmas lunch instead on 13^{th} December, please let the office know. The cost is £2.20. Please also let the office know if your child would like to change their lunch type for next term (packed lunch to school dinner or vice versa).

Breakfast Club



For £3 a day, pupils from Nursery to Y6 may attend breakfast club in the school hall from 8am. It is run by staff at Thomas's Academy. Please sign

up at the office if you would like your child to come along.

Playground

We are working towards improving our playgrounds with lots of money raised for improvements already. Please note that **it is not safe to scoot and cycle in the playground** before and after school as these are busy times and toddlers are sometimes enjoying the space also.

Change in personal details

Please remember to let the office know if you change any details such as your address or 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. Please also make sure that you let your child's teacher or the office know if somebody different will be collecting your child.

Happy New Year

May we take this opportunity to wish the entire Thomas's Academy Community a very Happy New Year.

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