



# Thomas's

## ACADEMY

December 2022  
Newsletter

### Contacts

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# Upcoming

# Dates (also available on the website)



December	
<b>2nd</b>	Photographer in for website photographs Toy, book and Christmas Jumper Swap Year 5 and 6 gardening with Pascale Aktiva's last day
<b>5th</b>	Shine Bright Club (After School Care) starts Year 4 Brain Buddies session with Mental Health Practitioner
<b>5th and 6th</b>	Visits to St Dionis Church
<b>6th</b>	Year 4 Swimming
<b>7th</b>	Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club Year 2 and 3 Outdoor Learning Open Dance Lessons
<b>8th</b>	Year 1 and 6 Outdoor Learning
<b>9th</b>	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner (if your child is normally packed lunch but they'd like a Christmas lunch, please let the office know)
<b>12th</b>	Reception, Year 4 and Year 5 Outdoor Learning
<b>13th</b>	Christmas Discos organised by PTA Year 4 Swimming
<b>14th</b>	Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club Early Years Christmas Show for parents Year 2 and 3 Reading Workshops
<b>14th - 16th</b>	Religious Education Focus Days
<b>15th</b>	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity for parents
<b>16th</b>	Last Day of Autumn Term - 2pm finish



# Upcoming Dates (also available on the website)



## January

<b>3rd</b>	INSET Day - School closed to pupils
<b>4th</b>	Children return to school Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club
<b>10th</b>	Year 3 swimming Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Parent Group Meeting with Shazia Chand
<b>11th</b>	Year 2 Trip to London Transport Museum Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club
<b>13th</b>	Year 1 and 2 Road Safety Show Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Parent Group Meeting with Shazia Chand
<b>17th</b>	Year 3 swimming
<b>18th</b>	Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club
<b>24th</b>	Year 3 swimming
<b>25th</b>	Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club
<b>31st</b>	Year 3 swimming



# Notices

## Nursery

If your child is three years old or about to turn three and you are interested in them joining our nursery, please contact the school office for information on how to apply:

[info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk)

## Reception

If your child was born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, they will be starting reception in primary school from September 2023. The application process is open now and closes on 15 January 2023. The national offer day is 17 April 2023. The eAdmission site is open for you to register your details and make an application for a reception place here:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/starting-school-reception-2023>

## Images Permission

If you haven't yet done so, please take the time to consider and complete the images permission form (link below). This informs the school as to how we can use images of your child. A photographer will be at school on 2nd December to take photographs for our new website so we are keen for permissions to be completed.

<https://forms.gle/MtLqzMhnen1BpDXC7>



We are registered with @easyuk, so over 4000 shops and sites will now donate to us for FREE every time you used @easyuk to shop. It doesn't cost you anything extra. Please consider choosing us as your chosen beneficiary.

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thomassacademy/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_content=gs-t1](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thomassacademy/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-t1)

## After-School Care

The new name for our After-School Care, suggested by Bella in Y4, is **Shine Bright Club**. This new club starts on 5th December and is open for bookings. It is being run by school staff who have lots of exciting plans to ensure it's enjoyable for all. The charge is £10 until 5pm and £15 until 6pm. We are in the process of creating a poster but for now, for more information, please contact Lisa in the office.



# Notices

## Values, Mission and Vision

### **VALUES STATEMENT:**

At Thomas's Academy, we practice and celebrate a set of core values throughout the school. They are kindness, courtesy, honesty, respect, independence, confidence, leadership and humility.

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

To create a vibrant, diverse and inclusive school community where all children are provided with a broad, knowledge and enquiry based curriculum, and where they can develop as confident, independent, self-aware and thoughtful learners.

### **VISION STATEMENT:**

Our vision is to develop well-rounded, confident and responsible individuals who aspire to reach their full potential and to make the world we live in a better place through their kindness.

## Leadership Roles within Thomas's Academy

**School council** - The School Council consists of children from Year 2 to Year 6. They meet regularly with Miss Kelly, sharing ideas from their classes about how to improve life at Thomas's Academy. Some improvements have already been made including having a Spanish awards in Friday's assembly and having an annual sleepover for children in Year 4.

**Green Unicorns** - The Green Unicorns are made up of children from Year 1 to Year 5 who are passionate about protecting our planet and leading our school to be a more sustainable place. The GUs start by completing a school environmental review which helps us to select three areas that we can improve. Watch out for our three focus areas in the next newsletter.

**Digital Leaders** - The Digital Leaders are a group of Y5 and Y6 children who are involved in several projects including creating a student-run website, creating digital presentations and helping peers and teachers with technology.

**Librarians** - The Librarians are a group of Y5 and Y6 children who look after our whole school library.

**House and Vice Captains** - two Year 6 pupils from each house represent their house and have responsibilities around the school including presenting in assemblies and assisting on school tours and events.





# Notices

## Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Gale for achieving a distinction in her recent completion of her post-graduate course: Leadership and Management in Special and Inclusive Education.



We wish Mr Kilgannon all the best for his upcoming wedding. It sounds like it's going to be a fantastic event. We look forward to seeing the photographs.



## Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Hello, I am Shazia Chand, Head of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) across the family of Thomas's Schools. I have worked in Thomas's Schools for 18 years as a teacher, Subject Leader and Deputy Head, and my current role involves promoting EDI matters within our schools, working towards creating an anti-discriminatory education and gathering the opinions of all members of the school communities - pupils, parents and my colleagues.

I would be very keen to gather your thoughts about EDI at Thomas's Academy to know what in your opinion works well and what we could do even better. To enable this, you are invited to join one of two drop-in meetings which will take place in the Welcome Room at 9am. The dates for these meetings are Tuesday 10th January 2023 and Friday 13th January 2023.

I do hope you will be able to join one of these sessions but if neither of these dates work for you, you are welcome to send me your thoughts on email [schand@thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:schand@thomas-s.co.uk)

I look forward to meeting you in the new year.



# Notices



Maya in Y3 is fundraising for Little Princess Trust, and she would really appreciate your support. When a child loses their hair to cancer or another condition, The Little Princess Trust is there to offer a free, real hair wig to help restore their confidence and identity. The charity also funds childhood cancer research seeking to find kinder and more effective treatments. The Little Princess Trust relies solely on the efforts of enthusiastic community fundraisers. We receive no formal funding.

You can donate to their JustGiving page by clicking here:

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Maya-Matlinsche?utm\\_source=Sharethis&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=Maya-Matlinsche&utm\\_campaign=pfp-email&utm\\_term=7941b2160ba0449096af2d866668d405](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Maya-Matlinsche?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=Maya-Matlinsche&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=7941b2160ba0449096af2d866668d405).

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to Little Princess Trust, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity. Well done Maya.



# Notices

## Behaviour in School

We have recently updated our School Behaviour and Relationships Policy. This can be viewed on our [school website](#). Included in the changes are our new Golden Rules. Here they are for your information.



## Our Golden Rules

1. We are kind  
(we don't hurt people's feelings) 
2. We are gentle  
(we don't hurt others) 
3. We listen  
(we don't interrupt or refuse) 
4. We are honest  
(we don't cover up the truth) 
5. We look after property  
(we don't waste or damage things) 





# Notices



The poster features a green background with a wooden sign at the top that reads "Breakfast Club" in white, bold letters. To the right of the sign is the Thomas's Academy logo. Below the sign are two yellow rounded rectangular boxes. The left box is titled "Food" and lists the menu for each day of the week. The right box is titled "Activities" and lists the activities for each day. At the bottom right, there is a yellow rounded rectangular box titled "When" which specifies the time and location. At the bottom of the poster, there is a white text box with contact information.

**Breakfast Club**  
Thomas's ACADEMY

**Food**

**Monday**  
Cereals, toast, and fruit

**Tuesday**  
Cereals, scrambled eggs with soldiers and fruit

**Wednesday**  
Cereals, bagels and fruit

**Thursday**  
Cereals, beans on toast and fruit

**Friday**  
Coco pops or toast and chocolate spread/jam (Friday only) and fruit

**Activities**

**Monday**  
Games and Small World

**Tuesday**  
Colouring and Crafts

**Wednesday**  
Games and Small World Puzzles and Lego

**Thursday**  
Train Set and Games

**Friday**  
iPads (Friday only)

**When** 8am  
Lower Hall

For further information email [info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk)

## New Price

In order to cover rising costs, we will be increasing the daily price of the breakfast club to £3.50 per day. This change will commence from January 2023.



# Safeguarding

Miss Kelly, Head Teacher, is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Deputies (DDSL) are Mr Chester, Mrs James, Miss Wood, Ms Moss and Miss Shen.

To find out more about our approach to Safeguarding, you can read the Safeguarding policy, plus others, on our website:

<https://www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk/policies-outcomes/school-policies>

At Thomas's Academy, Safeguarding is our top priority. Please let one of the safeguarding leads know if you have any safeguarding concerns. Confidentiality is important so we encourage speaking to these adults directly or to Children's Services directly.

## Covid

We are continuing to work to reduce the risk of catching and spreading COVID-19 but have to face the reality that it is in our community. We ask that if someone in your family is presenting with symptoms, you test for COVID. If a child tests positive, please let the office know and keep your child home for **5 days** please. We appreciate your cooperation with this. Unfortunately, we do not have COVID tests at school, they will need to be purchased from stores.

Please let the office know on [info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk) if you change any personal details such as your email address or phone number in order that you receive all our communications. Also, please let us know if someone different is collecting your child. These are important measures to keep your children safe.



# Attendance and Punctuality

Our children's education has been disrupted for 3 years and their academic progress will have suffered. Therefore, every school day counts. Please do not book holidays, family events or celebrations during term time. This absence will not be authorised and may be liable to fines. The attendance rate for the children at Thomas's Academy has always been high because you value your child's education and you know each day is important. Let's work together to make sure that ambition remains.



Please note that we are obliged to contact Hammersmith and Fulham Initial Consultation and Advice Team (ICAT), part of Children's Services, if a pupil has unauthorised absences that equate to more than 10% within a six-week period.

If there is a reason for your child to be absent, for example sickness or medical appointments, please email [absent@academy.thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:absent@academy.thomas-s.co.uk). For absence requests, a form can be collected from the school office for Miss Kelly to consider.

**Punctuality is also incredibly important.** The gates open at 8.45am at which point children can enter and engage with learning activities - these tend to be maths revision and challenges to support children's retention of maths learning. The register is taken at 8.55am after which point children need to enter through the main entrance and are marked late. Children who are regularly late miss this vital learning including phonics and reading.



# Reading at Thomas's Academy

'Reading for pleasure is the single most important thing that will make a child successful in life.' UNESCO, 2011

## Recommended Reads

Who better to get book recommendations from, than the children themselves!

Here are some links to their favourites so far:

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)



More to come next month!



Thomas's Academy  
Reading Award for  
pupils

5



To receive an award, you need to read 5, 15 or 25 *chapter books!*

15



We can't wait to hear your recommendations!

25



## Reading Records

All pupils, from **Reception to Year 6**, have a Reading Record where all home reading is recorded. Reading Records, along with a child's reading book must be brought into school **daily**, to facilitate writing and any extra reading that takes place.

Reception and KS1 – comments to be made by an adult

KS2 – comments to be made by the child

Pupils are expected to record **at least 5 times a week.**

## Parent and Carer Story Time

Each class now has a 15 minute time slot, where parents and carers can come in and read to their child's class.

If you would like to take part, please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

## Volunteer Readers

If you can spare an hour or so a week during school hours, please contact:

[vritchie@thomassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:vritchie@thomassfoundation.org.uk)

No experience is needed.

You will receive training and a DBS check will be organised for you.



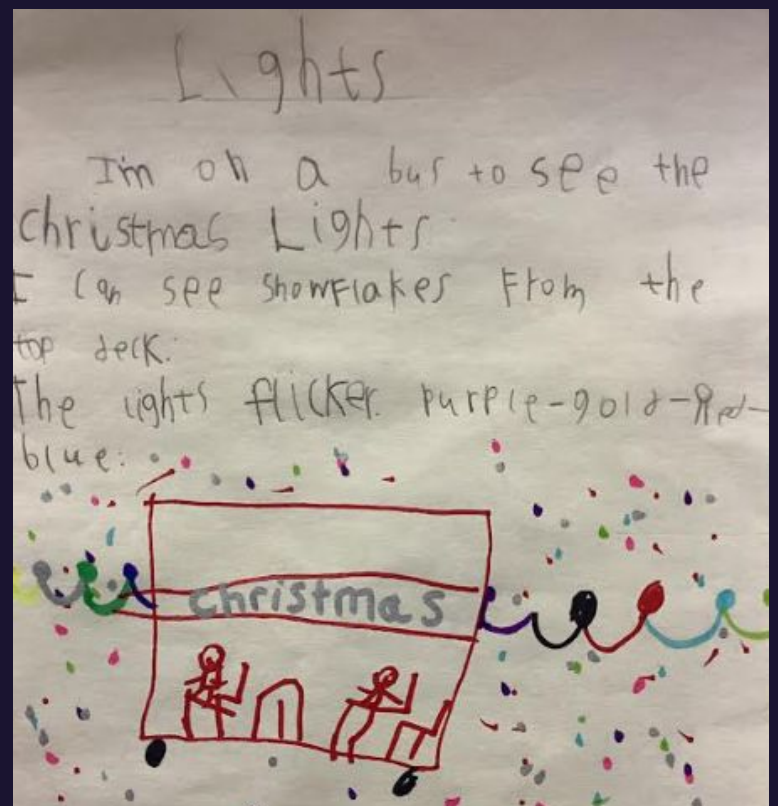
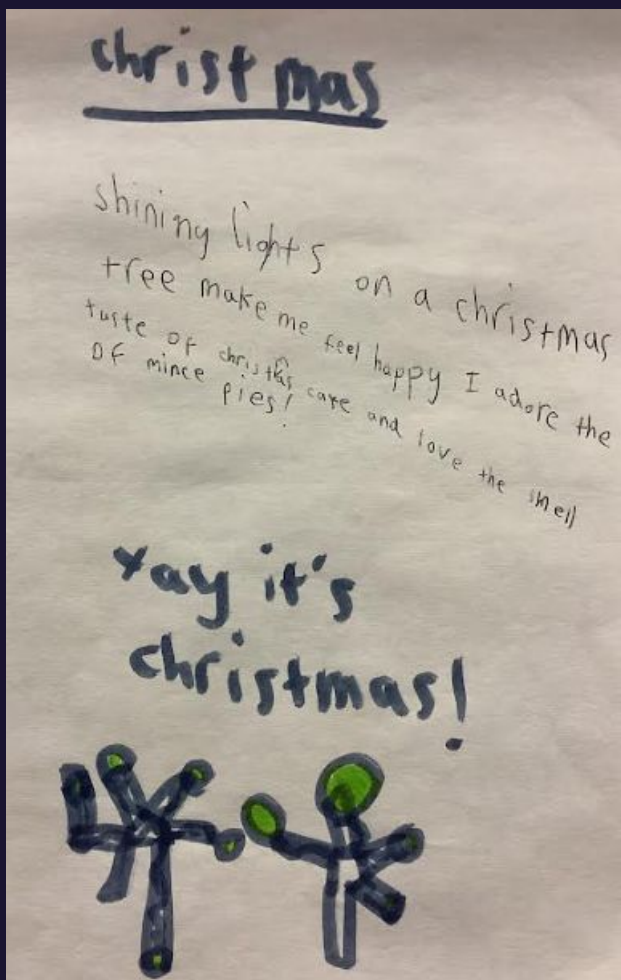
# Writing at Thomas's Academy

## Could you be next month's Writer of the Month?

**Year 1 to 6**, if you **love to write**, and choose to do so in your own time, make sure you post your writing into our 'writer's box' that now sits in the school library. It can be any type of writing, from a poem to a short story to a nonfiction piece.

Every month, Miss Wood will collect the entries. Winners will receive a certificate and have their work displayed proudly in our newsletter for all to admire!

## NOVEMBER'S WRITERS OF THE MONTH





# Writing at Thomas's Academy

## NOVEMBER'S WRITERS OF THE MONTH

### Light in the darkness

One gloomy cold night it was pitch black.

I could see a tiny gleaming light.

It passed like a lightning.

I suddenly realized it was a shooting star.

As little as a rain drop falling from the sky.

It made me smile.

So now I know that even when it is dark.

I will always have some hope in me.

By Zaira, Y4

Light is always bright. Light will always lead you through the way in the dark.

Light will bring Santa to your house. Light will bring you hope.

Lights in the streets will make you smile. Lights is always there for you.

Light will always shine when Christmas carols play. Light will always be your guide in the dark.

Light will always light up your day.

### MY EDUCATION

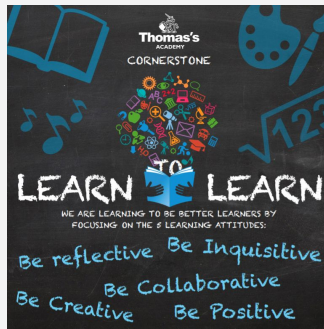
You're my light in the dark, you're my guide in the path of life, you're my desire, my dream, you're the one I redeem. Sacrifices I have made, times that I have stayed led to you and my destiny, for you're my heart's content. The knowledge that I share is the one full of despair, you're the one I fear and the one I share. You're mine and no one can take you from me, the only thing that will be of use to me, the thing that will take high and allow me to touch the sky.

Yasmin Year 5



# Learn to Learn

We are continuing to focus is **BE POSITIVE**. We want our pupils to be confident enough to attempt difficult tasks, resilient enough to persevere and willing to fail to learn effectively. This learning behaviour is fundamental to the success of all of the others. We look forward to celebrating children's successes in Friday's assemblies.



# Digital Learning

## Y3 get Googly

Y3 have received their own Google Workspace for Education accounts!

Now **all children from Y3 - Y6** have access to applications such as Google Classroom, Google Slides and Google Docs.

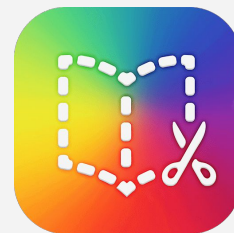
They will use these tools both in computing and across other areas of the curriculum.



## Digital Learning at Thomas's Academy

We have been using the app Book Creator to document children's learning.

Prior to publishing these online, we require parent/carer permission. Please complete **this form** to indicate your choice.



# Local Activities

Adult learning and skills service 

## Saturday Family Learning

FREE activities for 5-15 year olds accompanied by parents or guardians

To enrol: call 020 8753 3600 or email [alssinfo@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:alssinfo@lbhf.gov.uk)

Queen's Club Foundation provides free, after-school (4-5pm) tennis lessons to children in Years' 2 and 3 at Bishops Park. If you wish for your child to take part, please click below:

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/QCFCCommunityClub>

## NETSTARS FULHAM

JOIN OUR ACTION-PACKED NETBALL CLASSES FOR 5-11 YEAR OLDS



**BACK TO SCHOOL OFFER!**

**FREE TRIAL PLUS 20% OFF**

USE BOOKING CODE L5C853



Learn great skills, make friends and have lots of fun with Netstars!

Join us now on Saturdays at Fulham Cross Girls School at 9:30-10:30am

Gear Up - years 1, 2 & 3  
Aim High - years 4, 5 & 6

SEE [www.netstarsnetball.com](http://www.netstarsnetball.com) FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT DETAILS AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE




**WRITE a SONG for CHRISTMAS**

Dec 19th - Dec 21st  
10.00 am - 4.00 pm  
Parsons Green

 [upbeatlondon](https://www.instagram.com/upbeatlondon)

**Write it      Record it      Perform it**

This three day course will include elements of songwriting, recording and sound production, electric guitar and drum-work, band rehearsals, dance AND performance! (And arts and crafts for our little ones).

Children will be divided into age appropriate groups to write their songs and will cover elements of lyric writing, song structure, melody and chords.

Upbeat courses are planned around **your** child and are designed to provide a unique experience, where their individual creativity and musicality is harnessed and developed. No prior experience is required.

**Age** 5 - 12yrs  
Children will work in age appropriate groups.  
**Cost** £175  
Price includes MP3s of all tracks and your very own Upbeat flashdrive.

**BOOK online at**  
[bookwhen.com/upbeatmusic](http://bookwhen.com/upbeatmusic)



**07816 901396    [upbeatmusiccourses@gmail.com](mailto:upbeatmusiccourses@gmail.com)**  
**[www.upbeatmusiccourses.co.uk](http://www.upbeatmusiccourses.co.uk)**

## Christmas Trees for Sale



Thank you to the Christmas Tree Sellers at St Dionis Church. They have kindly gifted Thomas's Academy with a tree this year. Please consider using this seller if you are getting a Christmas Tree - 07930441451. They offer free local delivery.





# Local Activities



**GROWING SPACE**  
Eco-Friendly Christmas  
**Crafts & Ornaments**  
Family Workshop

*Celebrate Christmas with joy!*

Come and enjoy making some  
*Christmas Decorations & Ornaments with your whole family!*

**Saturday 10 December 2022**

At Thomas's Academy School  
New King's Road, SW6 4LY

*Nature crafts & Christmas music. Garden Sensory experiences.  
Herb tea tasting. Christmas nibbles for all!*



TO BOOK YOUR SPOT, SCAN ME

Hurry! Only 2 morning slots are available. Places are limited.

Visit our website: <http://www.growingspace.london/>  
Or call on 0748084468 for more information



TRANSFORM THE WORLD

PRESENTS...

**INSPIRATION WORKS**

IN PERSON EVENT



STEPHEN AKINSANYA



KOFI DPPONG



HAMEED ADIGUN



DEMANI  
JULES-CARBON



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FOUNDER, 1000 BLACK BOYS

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(WHITE CITY PLACE),  
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LONDON,  
W12 7FQ  
(WHITE CITY)**

@1000BLACKBOYS

**SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER, 2022, 12PM | REGISTER FREE VIA EVENTBRITE**  
**1000BLACKBOYS.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK**

