

## September 2024 Newsletter

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## Head's Welcome

Dear Thomas's Academy Community,

Welcome back to a new academic year and an especially big welcome to all the new families joining our community. We also have lots of new staff. Please see the staffing list below:

#### Leadership Team:

Suzanne Kelly	Head Teacher DSL
Clare James	Deputy Head Teacher PSHE and RE lead DDSL
James Merel	Assistant Head Teacher Wider Curriculum Lead Maths Lead
Clare Wood	Assistant Head Teacher English, phonics and metacognition Lead DDSL
Faith Simpson	SENDCO
Olufunmilayo Dairo	Assessment Lead KS2 lead DDSL
Aurelia Redmond and Ayishat Ajikobi	School Business Managers
Charlotte Buyson	Early Years Lead

We have lots to be proud of at Thomas's Academy and we continuously look for ways in which we can improve the offer for pupils.

The leadership team have formulated 5 priorities for the school year. These are:

- **Develop a People Strategy** to ensure processes are in place to enable the best staff to teach and support to the best of their ability
- Ensure the reading offer enables children to meet their potential
- Develop the Wider Curriculum by embedding schemes and making adaptations to this for a number of wider curriculum subjects.
- Our SEND provision needs to be a focus to ensure all children with SEND have their needs met
- Improvements to outdoor areas are required



# Head's Report

#### Teaching Team:

Nursery	Yasmin Mohammed Faith Connett Sengul Djemal Jo Greengross
Reception	Charlotte Buyson Asher Sylvester-Philips Jamie Parent
Year 1	Helena Pownall Mia Amon Gigi O-Halloran
Year 2	Clare Wood James Peters Veronica Otero Gonzalez
Year 3	Joann Felix Clare James Femi Coker-Harrison Gigi O'Halloran Anas Ahmadzai
Year 4	Claire Campbell Mia Amon
Year 5	Olufunmilayo Dairo Sofia Baretto Yolanda Garcia
Year 6	James Merel Lydia Najjar Yolanda Garcia

#### Specialist Teachers:

P.E	Joann Felix
Spanish	Yolanda Garcia
Art	Yasemin Crouch Sofia Baretto
Music	TBC

#### Other Staff:

School Business Management	Aurelia Redmond Ayishat Ajikobi
Administration	Karen Carpenter
Site Care	Pascale Rochefeuille Hamdane Bouzid
Cleaning Team	Westgate Cleaning Services Limited
Lunch Team	The Lunchtime Company
School Nurse	Polly Mattia
SEN focus	Ali Hopkinson

I wanted to thank those staff and volunteers who helped with the outdoor improvements - we are very pleased with what has been achieved in so little time. We have many exciting things planned for the year ahead and are excited to settle in quickly.

I am usually in the playground before and after school, please feel free to chat to me, about positive things as well as any concerns you have.

Miss Kelly

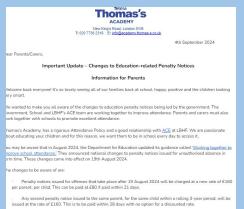
# DfE's new guidance on Education Penalty Notices

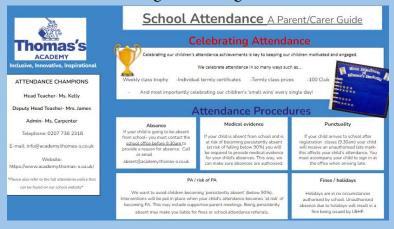
#### Welcome back!

During the summer, the DfE released updated guidance about Penalty Notice fines for parents whose children take unauthorised holidays during term time or have amounted several unauthorised absences.

Click on the images below to view our recent letter describing the changes in detail and our

Attendance Guidance Brochure.





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

**Punctuality is also incredibly important**. The classrooms open at 8.45am at which point children 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 are marked late. School doors close at this time and children will only be able to enter via the front office.

**Late children** should be brought into the school (not left at the gate) so parents/carers can sign children in late. This is to ensure that children are safely handed over.

Children should be collected promptly at the end of their school day. Any parent collecting after being 10 minutes late, their child will be sent to Shine Bright Club and parents/carers may be charged a minimum fee of £10.

#### Social Media

Did you know you can subscribe to the school blog to be notified when the school posts about something that is happening? To subscribe to the blog, either follow the link: <a href="https://thomassacademy.wordpress.com/">https://thomassacademy.wordpress.com/</a>

or click on the subscribe button on the top right corner of our blog homepage. Did you know we are also on TikTok, Facebook and Instagram! Please follow us if you don't already!



### New Baby!

Congratulations to Ms Crouch who gave birth to beautiful baby Zayn on 30th August. They are both doing very well. We are promised a visit soon.



## Cargo Bike session- 20th September 2024

## Have you considered purchasing a cargo bike?

Through the Hammersmith and Fulham council <a href="Parcels Not Pollution">Parcels Not Pollution</a> scheme, families have the opportunity to switch to using cargo bikes for daily trips, including the school run and going to the shops by taking advantage of Hammersmith and Fulham council's subsidy. <a href="#">H&F Families</a> can claim 50% off (up to £2,000) the purchase price of a cargo bike and can use MP Smarter Travel free expert advice to help find them the right model.



In partnership with LBHF and London Green Cycles, we will be hosting a cargo bike trial session for parents on Cristowe Road on Friday 20th

September 2024 from 3pm-5pm to allow our families to consider taking up the council's cargo bike subsidy. The council are planning to close the road to traffic for this event.

## 'School Play Street' with London Play 20th September 2024

We are combining our cargo bike session with a School Play Street in **Cristowe Road.** 

School Play Streets are a great opportunity for the children to play freely and safely in a space currently reserved for cars.

With Car Free Day on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, the Play Street can also spark conversations with the children about the importance of walking, cycling or scooting to school where possible.

As part of the Play Street offering, the council will provide marshals, barriers, and activities.

Play streets will run from **3.30pm-5pm**. There will be a separate cordoned off area for cargo bike trials to ensure children's safety whilst playing.

Children must be supervised by a parent/carer during the School Play Street.

## School play streets





## PARENT WORKSHOPS

# 1. Sleep Workshop: How to Develop a Positive Bedtime Routine

Date: Friday, 20th September 2024

O Time: 9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

• Welcome Room @ Thomas's Academy





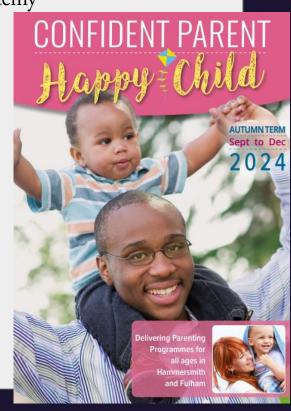
### 2. Positive Routine for School Mornings

O Date: Friday, 4th October 2024

o Time: 9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

• Welcome Room @ Thomas's Academy

We are so happy to be working alongside the Urban Partnership Group, who enable parenting programmes across the borough. Both of these courses are featured in this terms 'Confident Parent- Happy Child Publication'. All parents/carers are welcome to attend. This is a supportive parent session led by Maria, Parenting Project Manager for LBHF.



## School Catering - Summer Menu (April - October)



Celery (C), Egg (E), Fish (F), Gluten (G), Lupin (L), Mülk (MK), Mustard (MU), Sesame Seeds (SE), Soya (SO).

Making lunchtime the highlight of your day

Please visit the school

website for full details

We will upload photos to

the school blog here,

**LUNCH**TIME CO

**MAIN MEAL** 

**DESSERTS** 

throughout the week!

here.



**MEAT FREE** LUNCHTIME LUNCHBOX

Allergen symbols are provided as guide only and daily allergen information is available via the school kitchen
Allergen Key: Barley (B), Colery (C), Egg (E), Pish (P), Gluten (O), Lupin (I), Milk (MK), Mustard (MI), Seanne Seeds (SK), Saya (SO), Sulphites (SU), Wheat (W)

Making lunchtime the highlight of your day

**WEEK 3 MENU** 







## **Autumn Term Clubs**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are pleased to announce that After School Extra-Curricular Clubs will be running for the Summer Term from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Please see a list below of all the clubs we will be running this term and the days of the week they will be on. All clubs will run from 3,30pm – 4,30pm.

Please note children who are not picked up at 4.30pm promptly, will be sent directly to Shine Bright which will incur the £15/£18 fee for this.

Club	Days	Location	Staff Member	Year Groups	Price per term	Min places	Max places
Ballet Club	Monday	Upper Hall	Rose Ballet School	Rec - Y2	£102.00	8	20
Basketball Club	Monday	Back Playground	Super Star Sport	Y3 - Y6	£102.00	10	20
Food/Cooking Prep Club	Monday	KS2 Intervention Room	Ms Jamie	Y4-Y5	£108.00	6	8
Mini Coders Club	Monday	Computing Room	Blue Shift Coding	Y1 - Y2	£108.00	8	18
Spanish Games Club	Monday	Spanish Room	Ms Garcia	Y4-Y5	£60.00	6	8
Lego Club	Monday	Reception Classroom	Ms Veronica & Ms Mia	Rec- Y5	£60.00	12	24
Singing Stars	Monday	Music Room	Ms James	Y3-6	£48.00	15	30
Chess Club	Tuesday	Sunshine Room	Southwest Chess	Y3 - Y6	£90.00	10	16
Soft Archery Club	Tuesday	Lower Hall	Super Star Sport	Y1 - Y6	£102.00	10	20
Arts & Crafts Club	Wednesday	Art room	Ms Sofia	Rec - Y2	£60.00	8	10
Coding with Minecraft Club	Wednesday	Computing Room	Blue Shift Coding	Y3 - Y4	£108.00	8	18
Football Club	Wednesday	Front/Back Playground	Super Star Sport	Y1 - Y3	£102.00	10	20
Street Dance Club	Wednesday	Upper Hall	Rose Ballet School	Rec - Y6	£102.00	8	20
Athletics Club	Thursday	Front Playground	Super Star Sport	Rec - Y1	£102.00	10	20
Irish Dancing Club	Thursday	Upper Hall	Ms Kelly	Rec - Y6	£48.00	8	20

Please register and pay for your required club through your Teacher2Parents app, going to the Payments Tab within your app/account.

Payments/bookings will open from 10am Friday 6th which are offered on a first come basis and the deadline for payments/bookings will be closed at 9am on Thursday 12th September.

Please remember you must pay to confirm your booking as places are limited for each club.

If the above minimum numbers have not been met by the closing date/time, you will be notified of the club cancellation before the end of the day on Thursday 12th September.

Thank you to the staff running these clubs in order to provide wonderful experiences for pupils at Thomas's Academy.

Kind regards, Thomas's Academy







# Wrap-Around Care at Thomas's Academy









# Safeguarding

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

To find our 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

We have a Safeguarding email address should you wish to contact the Safeguarding Team at school. It's <a href="mailto:tacsafeguarding@academy.thomas-s.co.uk">tacsafeguarding@academy.thomas-s.co.uk</a>.

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.

#### **Contacts and Collection**

Please let the office know on <a href="mailto:info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk">info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk</a> if you change any personal details such as your email address or phone number in order that you receive all our communications. We require at least two contacts for all children. Also, please let us know if someone different is collecting your child or after school arrangements have changed. These are important measures to keep your children safe. For your information, only children in Year 6 are permitted to leave school at 3.30pm unaccompanied.



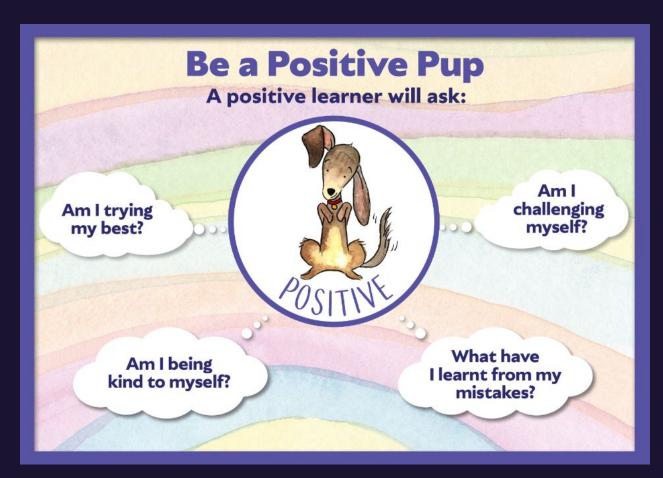


# Learn to Learn

Our focus for this half term is **BE POSITIVE**.



Pupils need to be confident enough to attempt a difficult task, resilient enough to persevere and willing to fail to learn effectively. This learning behaviour is fundamental to the success of all of the others.





# Reading

Reading is one of the most important life skills.

At Thomas's Academy, we do everything we can to help your child read and develop a love of reading. You can help your child by encouraging them to read at home.

Every child has a Reading Folder containing their Reading Record and at least one book. They must bring this to school with them every day.

They should be recording their reading every time they read.

KS1 – comments to be made by an adult KS2 – comments to be made by the child/adult

Example:

Date	Book Name	Comments
16/4	The BFG	pg 1-9 pg 9-16
1714	((	pg 16-24 pg 24-32

Their reading records will be checked weekly and achievements will be celebrated!

Have they told you about our Reading Record Challenge yet?!





# Digital Learning

Our new lead for digital learning is Yasmin Mohammed, our nursery teacher.

We are committed to keeping children safe online and supporting parents with ways to embed these strategies at home. Our PSHE and computing curriculum teaches children how to use the internet safely and what to do if things go wrong. If you are concerned about anything related to this, please speak to a member of staff.

Please use the links below for any necessary support.

## Parental Support

'Things change so fast online, it's hard to keep up with what my child is doing'

'My child keeps asking to play a game, or download an app that I don't know about, what can I do?'

'My child is asking for a new device and I'm not sure they're ready for one'

'My child is keen to share content and make a change online. How can I help them achieve this safely?'

'How to make a report online'





# Community Notices







# Community Notices







Save the Date

The Daisy Trust Fair 2024

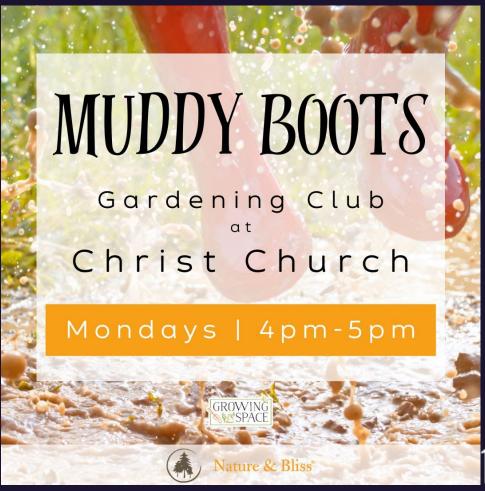
Monday 7th October

9am-5pm

at St Dionis Church & CAS Halls SW6 4UH

Click here or visit www.daisytrust.org for tickets







# Upcoming Dates



(live version available on the website)

September 2024		
2nd and 3rd	Staff INSET days	
4th	Reception - Year 6 return to school Home Visits for new nursery children	
5th	Home Visits for new nursery children	
6th	Home Visits for new nursery children	
9th	Nursery opens	
10th	Year 5 Trip - The Library of Plants	
11th	School Tour	
12th	Reception - Year 6 Class Presentations for parents/carers	
16th	Ciara from CFC in to work with various classes Extra-Curricular Clubs begin today	
17th	Year 4 swimming Gardening session	
20th	Cargo Bike session after school Sleep workshop for parents - 9.15am Gardening session with Pascale	
23rd	Ciara from CFC in to work with various classes	
24th	Year 4 swimming	
25th	Fire Brigade sessions for Y2 and Y5 School Tour	
30th	Ciara from CFC in to work with various classes	

Please ensure no holidays are booked during term-time!





# Upcoming Dates



(live version available on the website)

	October 2024
1st	Year 4 swimming Gardening session with Pascale
2nd	School Tour
4th	9.15am - Parent workshop - Positive Routine for School Mornings Gardening session
7th	Ciara from CFC working with various classes
8th	Year 4 swimming Gardening session with Pascale
9th	School Tour
11th	Gardening session with Pascale
14th	Ciara from CFC working with various classes
15th	Year 4 swimming Gardening session with Pascale
16th	School Tour
18th	Gardening session with Pascale
21st	Ciara from CFC working with various classes
22nd	Year 4 swimming Gardening session with Pascale
23rd	School Tour
25th	INSET day - no school for children
28th	Half-Term - children return on 4th November

Please ensure no holidays are booked during term-time!



