

March 2025 Newsletter

#### Contacts

www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk

General and office: <a href="mailto:info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk">info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk</a>

Safeguarding team: tacsafeguarding@thomas-s.co.uk

Reporting pupil absence: absent@academy.thomas-s.co.uk

SENDCo:

sendco@academy.thomas-s.co.uk

Requests for pupil absence - <u>click here</u>

Facebook: <u>Thomas's Academy</u>
TikToK: <u>thomass.academy</u>
Instagram: <u>thomassacademy</u>
X (formerly known as Twitter)

:@ThomassAcademy

#### **Contents**

Upcoming Dates
Head's Update
SEN Update
Attendance and Punctuality
School Notices
Class Pages
Lunch Menu
Wrap-Around Care
Safeguarding and medical information
Community Notices



# Upcoming Dates



(live version available on the website)

March 2025		
3rd	Adam from CFC working with classes Year 4 Brain Buddies session with MIND Year 5 - Safer Routes to School Project (Urbanwise)	
4th	Head Teacher's Coffee Morning for Years' 1, 2 and 3 Year 3 swimming Hand washing session in nursery	
5th	School Tour Explorer Ambassador Seminar Trip	
6th	World Book Day Year 5 trip to the Bank of England Nico from CFC working with KS2	
7th	Year 5 dress up for World Book Day Biggest Ever Football Session	
10th	Adam from CFC working with classes Year 4 Brain Buddies session with MIND Year 5 - Safer routes to school project (Urbanwise)	
11th	Year 3 swimming Year 5 Girls 'Inspire Her' CFC Foundation Project	
12th	Year 5 to London Museum School tour Thomas's London Day Schools Y5 visiting	
13th	Nico from CFC working with KS2 Basketball with All Saints	
14th	Year 5 Girls Inspire Her Football Festival Iftar Event	
17th - 21st	Neurodiversity Week	

March 2025 continued		
17th	Shamrocks wear a green accessory Adam from CFC working with classes Year 4 to British Museum Year 5 - Safer routes to school project (Urbanwise)	
18th	Year 3 swimming	
19th	Year 4 class assembly (9am) School Tour	
20th	Nico from CFC working with KS2	
21st	Year 3 Live Stream with Museum of London	
24th - 28th	Bikeability Sessions for Y5/6	
24th	Parents Meetings for parents of children in Y R - 6 Year 3&4 trip to Ronnie Scott's Year 5 Safer routes to school project (Urbanwise)	
25th	Year 3 swimming Year 5 Girls 'Inspire Her' CFC Foundation Project Parents Meetings for parents of children in Yr - 6	
26th	Year 3 assembly for parents School Tour	
27th	End of Spring term after school clubs Nico from CFC working with KS2	
28th	PTA Bake Sale	
31st	Adam from CFC foundation Year 4 Brain Buddies session with MIND	

Please ensure no holidays are booked during term-time!



# Upcoming Dates

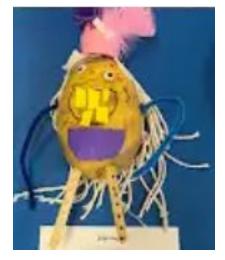
(live version available on the website)

April 2025		
1st	Year 3 swimming Spring music performance	
2nd	School Tour	
3rd	Easter Egg Hunt organised by the PTA	
4th	Last day of Spring Term - Children finish at 2pm	
7th - 21st	End of term 2 holidays - No school	
22nd	INSET day - school closed to pupils	
23rd	Children return to school Roses wear a red accessory School Tour Basketball tournament for Y5/Y6 Team at Fulham Cross	
28th	Summer term club programme commences Adam from CFC Foundation working with classes	
29th	Y3 swimming	
30th	Year 5 trip to Saatchi Gallery School tour	

Please ensure no holidays are booked during term-time!











# Head Teacher's Update



Dear Thomas's Academy Community,

The school has had a spruce up over the half term break - inside and out. We had a deep clean led by our wonderful cleaning company and a very successful volunteer day. The volunteers from the BBC painted, weeded, swept and so much more! This was again led by our gardener Pascale Rochefeuille who has recently achieved the accolade of 'Mentor of the Year' by PASEDA360. Huge congratulations to Pascale and a huge thanks to all those who have helped improve our school environment over half term break.

It has been lovely to continue with the Head Teacher's Coffee Mornings. I continue to be passionate about and work hard for the benefit of the children at Thomas's Academy and the community in general. The feedback I am receiving has been really useful and I look forward to the third coffee morning on 4th.

For those who aren't aware, I have been teaching Irish Dancing at Thomas's Academy for many years. The highlight is an annual performance at the Parson's Green Fair which we all get very excited about. This last year, we have begun participating in competitions and our second one was during the half term. The standard of the competition was extremely high and our dancers were not phased. I was so impressed with their commitment and good spirit. They were absolute ambassadors of the school - well done to them. They all came away with medals and were very proud. We look forward to the next competition where we hope to bring many more of our dancers.



We are busily preparing for the annual school residential for children in Years' 5 and 6. Thank you to The Bushcraft Company for hosting a virtual information session for parents earlier in the month. If any parents have any questions, please speak to Karen in the office.

There are many other things to look forward to this half term too including lots of trips, World Book Day, Football activities, cycling for Y5/6, parents meetings, a Spring music performance, an Easter Egg Hunt and neurodiversity week. I would like to thank those staff who work hard to make our primary school so interesting and so much fun.

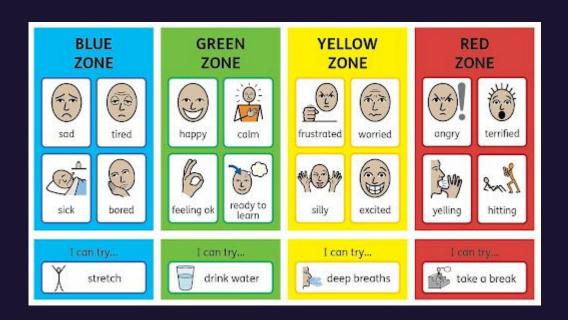
Miss Kelly



# Special Needs Update

Regulation is something everyone continually works on whether we are aware of it or not. We all encounter trying circumstances that can test our limits. If we can recognise when we are becoming less regulated, we are able to do something about it to manage our feelings and get ourselves to a healthy place. This comes more naturally for some, but for others it is a skill that needs more attention and practice. This is the goal of The Zones of Regulation.

We regularly use Zones of Regulation at school; some of you may wish to think about this at home too.







# February Attendance

Please check the <u>website</u> for our term dates to ensure that you can plan family holidays without interrupting your child's education.

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS



Congratulations to these classes, we are really proud of you.

Please note that we are obliged to contact the Local Authority if a pupil has unauthorised absences that equate to more than 10% within a ten-week period. This route will result in a Penalty Notice (PN) being issued or a referral to Family Services.



# **School Notices**

#### 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, X (formerly Twitter), Facebook and Instagram! Please follow us if you don't already!



#### **Ramadan**

If your child is in Years' 5 or 6 and wishes to fast, please ensure you have let the school know.

We will be offering a space to pray at lunch times.

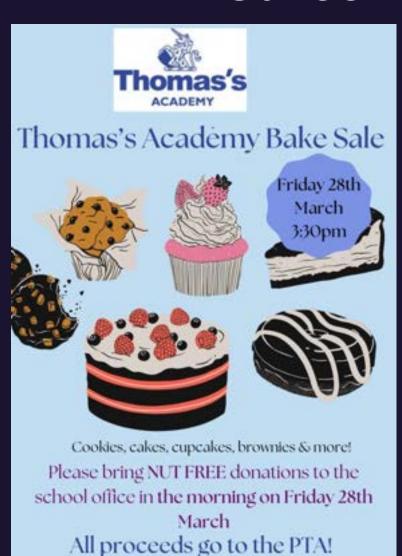
We will be having an Iftar celebration on 14th March everyone is invited.

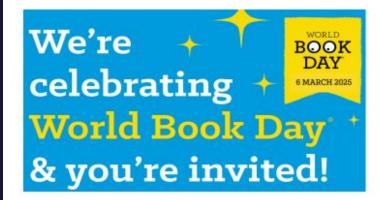


We are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for Thomas's Academy every time you shop online. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! Sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thomassacademyparents/?utm\_medium=ema\_il&utm\_campaign=pmc&utm\_content=gs-email1

# School Notices





#### Thomas's Academy Café!

Where: Top Floor

When:



6th March	10.30 - 11.15	Early Years
	11.15 - 12.00	Year 4
	12.00 - 12.45	Year 6
	13.15 - 14.00	Year 1
	14.00 - 14.45	Year 2
	14.45 - 15.30	Year 3
7th March	9.00 - 9.45	Year 5

We would be extremely grateful for donations of the following items:

- Cushions, bean bags, fairy lights and plants (to help create a cosy atmosphere)
- Cakes and biscuits (to share during the event)

Donations can be dropped off at the office between Monday 3rd and Wednesday 5th March.

## What have we been up to in Nursery?

In Nursery we have been learning all about Dinosaurs and our Colours! We enjoyed finding out facts about dinosaurs diet (meat eaters, plant eater or both!). We read the book Dinosaur Roar by Henrietta and Paul Stickland. We then drew our own dinosaurs adding long necks, spikes, horns etc.

We have had a big focus on our number writing to 5 in Maths and how to create pictures using different shapes.

The children have had a blast telling us all about what they did over the holidays. Thank you for uploading these on Tapestry. Please continue uploading your weekend news as well. We read The Colour Monster and focused understanding our feelings and why we feel them, with a big focus on love for Valentines Day!

We are reading The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt this week, learning all about different colours and what colours they become when we mix them. Can't wait to see what will take the children's interest next!













## What have we been up to in Reception?

In Reception, we have been reading, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We have been discussing the different types of food that the caterpillar ate and also learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. We painted our caterpillars and butterflies and we are looking forward to getting our own class caterpillars! In Maths, we have been learning how to write our numbers up to 10 and we beginning to learn about doubling. Nurse Polly came to visit us and showed us how to wash our hands properly to keep the germs away!











### What have we been up to in Year 1?

We've had a wonderful and busy term in Year 1, and we wanted to take a moment to share some of the exciting things your children have been up to!

In English: The children have been working hard on creating their own *Elmer the Elephant* characters! They've loved exploring the colorful world of Elmer and using their creativity to design their own unique elephants. We've also delved into the structure of a story, learning how to begin putting sentences together. This has been a fantastic way to develop their writing skills, and the children have started crafting their own versions of the Elmer story. We are so proud of their progress in storytelling!

In Maths: We've been focusing on key areas of numeracy. Our work with numbers up to 50 has been an exciting challenge, and the children are now confidently recognising and ordering numbers. In addition, we've been practicing addition and subtraction within 20, which has helped the children build strong arithmetic skills. We've also introduced fractions, exploring the concept of halves and quarters.

In Science: The children have been exploring the wonderful world of animals! We've been comparing and grouping different animals based on their features. The children had a lot of fun engaging in sorting activities, identifying common characteristics and learning more about the diverse creatures in our world.

In History: Our topic on *Toys Through Time* has been a real hit with the class! They've enjoyed making comparisons between toys from the past and those we play with today. It's been fascinating to see the children discuss how toys have changed and what they might look like in the future.



## What have we been up to in Year 2?

It's been another exciting month in Year 2, full of learning and fun!

In Maths, we've been exploring different ways to add and take away.

Now that we're in Year 2, we're working with numbers up to 100 and beyond! Soon, we'll be applying our skills to money – maybe we'll even go to the shops to practice!

In Writing, we've been learning all about non-chronological reports – it's a tricky word, but we've got it! We've been using headings, subheadings, and facts to share information about our favourite animals.

In Science, we've been investigating materials and their properties. Can you spot in the pictures that we're testing which material is the stretchiest? From this, we can decide what each material is best used for.

In History, our topic is 'Flight'. We had an amazing trip to the Science Museum where we learned all about the history of flight and the science behind it.

We were also thrilled to have family members join us for National Storytelling Week – it was so much fun! As you know, next month is World Book Day, and we can't wait to see all the fantastic costumes! You're also welcome to join us and read with the class during the celebrations.

Stay tuned for more updates on what we've been learning – there's always something exciting happening in Year 2!













## What have we been up to in Year 3?



Wow, what a busy month it has been for Year 3!

On the last day in January we enjoyed our trip to the Natural History Museum where we embedded our learning on Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Rocks. The children did exactly as we expected and were fantastic.

We enjoyed our author visit by Rebecca, who read some of her book with us and helped us complete some creative writing.

The school celebrated 'NSPCC Rocks' on 7th February where all pupils took to TTRS. Year 3 won the school competition for the most hours on TTRS learning our times tables!

We enjoyed our RE days learning about Islam. The class learned about the 6 key principles of Islam and the 5 pillars. We worked in groups to create our own beautiful mosques.

In History we finished off our learning about the Romans in Britain, by re-enacting a roman legion, as legionnaires. The children followed commands in latin from their 'legate' and performed a perfect 'Cuneum formate'- wedge formation.

Over half term the children produced the most wonderful Antarctica projects to prepare for this term's learning. Thank you to all of the parents that supported with this, they look beautiful and the children already know so much!

We have begun our new Writing topic called the 'The Papaya Who Spoke'. The children made 3D Papayas out of paper and got to sample Papaya too-delicious, but not the peppery seeds!

As usual we are looking forward to this month's learning, including:

- World Book Day and Reading Cafe- 6 Mar (parents are welcome to join us at the Reading cafe at 2.45pm)
- Museum of London virtual session- 21 Mar
- Our class assembly- 26 Mar @ 9.05am

## What have we been up to in Year 4?

It's been another fantastic month in Year 4, packed with exciting learning opportunities!

In Writing, we've been focusing on information reports. We started by exploring the Tudor Times in History to inspire our writing, before moving on to write about what life is like for children in England today. We've been using headings, subheadings, and facts to make our reports clear and informative.

In Science, we've been diving into the world of states of matter – solids, liquids, and gases – and exploring how water changes states through the water cycle. It's been great fun learning how this process happens all around us!

In Geography, we've been learning about where our food comes from. We researched the countries where some of our favourite foods are grown, and we even looked into how many Food Miles they travel to get to us here in the UK. We also had the chance to interview our lunch staff to discover how they source our food, how we are a sustainable school, and where our food waste goes. It was fascinating to see the journey of our food!

In Maths, we've been mastering fractions and time. We've learned how to convert improper fractions into mixed numbers and how to represent them in different shapes and groups. In our time lessons, we've been focusing on reading 24-hour time, which has been a real challenge but also really useful!

There's so much going on in Year 4, and we can't wait to keep learning and exploring new things next month! Stay tuned for more updates on our adventures in learning!



Character Curriculum - Funniest Potato Contest











## What have we been up to in Year 5?

Year 5 have had another fabulous month filled with lots of exciting learning!

In Writing, we have been crafting newspaper reports based on an alternative version of 'The Three Little Pigs'. We've worked hard to include features such as journalistic vocabulary, formal language and correctly punctuated quotes in our writing.

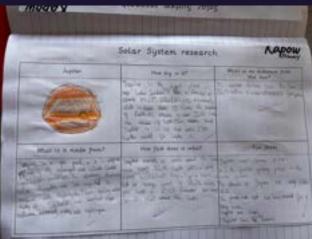
In Maths, as well as continuously sharpening our arithmetic skills, we have dived into fractions and decimals. We have learned how to represent, identify, name, write, order, and compare fractions (including improper fractions and mixed numbers) as well as explore decimal and fraction equivalence. We completed a challenging but fun improper/mixed number Tarsia puzzle! Do you think you could solve it?

In Geography, we have been exploring why oceans matter with a focus on the Great Barrier Reef. We've discovered how the ocean plays a crucial role in regulating the Earth's climate and temperature. Additionally, we've explored the human impact on oceans and discussed the consequences of pollution and climate change.

In Science, we've been captivated by the wonders of the solar system! We've researched each planet, uncovering fascinating facts about their unique features and conditions.

It's been a fantastic month of learning and we can't wait to see what next month brings!













## What have we been up to in Year 6?

Year Six have had a cracking start to the new half term!

We have been looking at Oliver in our writing lessons, looking at some of the description by Charles Dickens and beginning to plan and write our own retellings of some key scenes.

In maths, we have been focusing on consolidating reasoning skills. We have been practising questions on statistics, pictograms, and a range of skills learned across years five and six.

Perhaps most excitingly for us, we have begun leading singing assemblies! We have had a great time learning some classic pop songs (Blackbird by The Beatles and Bob Marley's Three Little Birds, to name a couple) and leading the whole school.

Over the next few weeks, we will be knuckling down in preparation for the upcoming end of year assessments. We are confident, optimistic, and ready to show off how much we know.









## What have we been up to in Art?

In **Art**, we had a wonderful month with lots of amazing artworks.

**Reception** have been investigating the use of dragons as a symbol in Chinese New Year and the drew their own dragons with oil pastels and colour them with watercolours.

**Year 1** have been having lots of fun doing design technology. This time they created bridges with spaghetti and blue tack and a table with their favourite dish.

**Year 2** have been learning how to make 3D shapes using clay and plasticine and join them together. They made such a lovely range of castles out of clay and plasticine.

**Year 3** have been learning how to take rubbings from objects found indoors and outdoors. They used their rubbings to create their own robot.

**Year 4** have been learning that patterns can be made through mosaic. They had a lovely lesson creating their own tile to make a collaborative piece of artwork.

**Year 5** have been learning how to make a running stitch and joined fabric with it. They made a cushion with their initials.

**Year 6** have been learning how to create a body out of string.



















Every Child is an Artist.



## Premier League Primary Stars Tournament London 2025

On 7th February, a group of Year 5 and Year 6 boys went to Southfields Academy to play in a football tournament.

As soon as we arrived, we saw a massive football pitch and did a quick warm up before our first game. We drew 1:1 on our first game and won a couple but lost a couple too. The weather was terrible! There was rain, wind and hail. But we didn't let the weather get us down.

Overall, we had a fun time. It was good to play with other schools and represent Thomas's Academy.

By Nasir and Yazan- Year 6

On 14th February, a group of Year 5 and Year 6 girls went to a football tournament at Southfields Academy.

When we arrived, we were told by a coach where to go and practise before our first game. We placed seven games with different schools and in every game one person was a sub, whole the other six were playing. It was our first time going to a football tournament and playing together as a team. We all tried different positions in each game.

We didn't win but we tried our best and we had lots of fun. I would love to do it again with some other schools!

By Zlata- Year 6





# School Lunches

## School Catering - Autumn Menu (November - March)



Making lunchtime the highlight of your day

Please visit the school website for full details here.

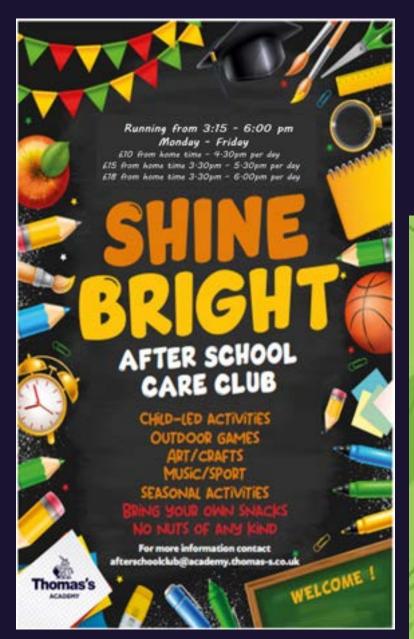
We will upload photos to the school blog <u>here</u>, throughout the term!



Making lunchtime the highlight of your day



# Wrap-Around Care at Thomas's Academy



Please book in advance so we can staff the wrap-around care appropriately.





# Safeguarding and Medical Information

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

To find our more about our approach to Safeguarding, you can read the Safeguarding policy, plus others, on our website: <a href="https://www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk/policies-outcomes/school-policies">https://www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk/policies-outcomes/school-policies</a>

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**

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.

#### Collection

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. All children should be collected from after-school clubs.



#### Medicines

If your child needs to have medication in school, please deliver it to the school office. There are forms that need to be completed for the medication to be administered. For the safety of everyone, please, at no point, should any medication be left in your child's bag. Thank you for your cooperation.



Community Notices

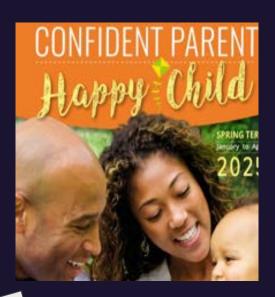




### Confident Parent Happy Child Project

... are excited to introduce their upcoming parenting support programmes for Spring 2025. These programmes are designed to empower parents with the confidence, knowledge, and skills they need on their parenting journey. Confident parents positively impact their children's school outcomes by providing support and school encouragement, leading better performance, behaviour, and attendance.

For more information please click on the current programme to view all of the programmes on offer:





# Community Notices

# EASTER KIDS CLUBS 2025



#### **SQUISHY CREATURES LAB**

7th - 8th April | 12pm - 4pm | ages 8 - 12 | 8 spots

Create your awn cuddly character in this hands on workshop! Kids will design and make their own soft, squistry creature while learning basic testile techniques like cutting, seeing, and stuffing. With expert guidance and all mutanists provided, everyone leaves with a unique, handinade squistry triend to take home!



#### TEENAGE TUFT RIOT

9th - 10th April | 12pm - 4pm | ages 13 - 16 | 6 spots

Get ready to fulf like a prof This hands-on workshop lata teem explore the exciting world of suffing, using professional fulfing gues and a choice of over 90 colours to create bold, textured designs whether a mini rug or a statement piece.



#### CREATIVE MENDING

14th - 15th April | 12pm - 4pm | ages 8 - 12 | 8 spots

in this fun-filled camp, young designers will transform old clother into unique, wearable art using stitching, patching, and embelfishing hichalgoes. With separt guidence, they'll experiment, create, and discover the art of sustainable menting?



Mepsitei

www.fulhamtextilestudio.com

# Stagecoach Performing Arts Batterson PERFORMING ARTS EASTER CAMP! 7 - 10 April 2025







ACTING

SINGING

DANCING

FOUR DAYS OF PERFORMING ARTS FUN FOR CHILDREN
AGED 4 - 6, 7 - 9, 10 - 12 AND 13 - 16! CLASSES IN DANCE
(HIP HOP, JAZZ & COMMERCIAL), SINGING AND ACTING.

COURSE TAKES PLACE AT HONEYWELL SCHOOL, SW11 6EF

4 - 6 YEARS: 9.30 - 12.30PM 7 - 16 YEARS: 9.30 - 3.30PM



LED BY KIND, EXPERIENCED INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS! NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED AND OPEN TO EVERYONE! CHILDCARE YOUCHERS ACCEPTED AND SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE!

WWW.STAGECOACH.CO.UK/BATTERSEA#WORKSHOPS

BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE, HAVE FUN, PERFORM, MAKE FRIENDS AND ENJOY FOUR DAYS OF PERFORMING ARTS JOY! 07956 288928



## PTA Announcements



A big thank you to everyone who baked and cooked delicious dishes and attended the **International Food Festival** in February. It was a lovely community event showcasing all the wonderful different cultures at our school and we raised more than £300 for school improvements.

We also raised more than £350 from the Brik real estate boards advertising Thomas's Academy events. Thank you to everyone who had a board put up in their front yard.

#### Upcoming events:

14 March: Iftar28 March: Cake sale3 April: Easter Egg Hunt

The **next PTA meeting** will be held on Friday 21st March (after drop off in the Welcome Room) to start planning the Summer Fair - all welcome!