



Thomas's

ACADEMY

July 2023
Newsletter

Contacts

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Upcoming Dates

(live version available
on the website)



July

3rd	Reception and Year 4 Outdoor Learning
3rd - 6th	Year 5 and Year 6 Residential Trip to Stonewall in Kent
4th	Year 5 and 6 Outdoor Learning Year 3 swimming
5th	School Tour Year 2 and 3 Outdoor Learning Year 5 to Hurlingham Club Year 4 closed due to strike action
6th	Year 1 Outdoor Learning
7th	Nursery - Year 4 closed due to strike action
10th	Announcement of Staff placement for next academic year Pupil Transition Day where children spend time with their new teacher
11th	Year 3 swimming Year 5 on trip to the Hayward Gallery Year 2 and 3 music concert
12th	School Tour Year 5 to Hurlingham Club Year 3 on a trip to Tate Modern
13th	Hearing & Vision checks in Reception
14th	Summer Fayre 3.30 - 5pm
18th	Year 3 swimming Heights and Weights measurements in Reception
19th	School Tour Year 5 to Hurlingham Club Year 6 Evening Event
21st	Last Day of the academic year - <u>2pm finish</u>



Upcoming Dates

(live version available
on the website)



September

4th, 5th	INSET days - school closed to children
6th	First day for pupils
6th - 8th	Home visits for new nursery children
11th	Nursery opens to children (previous cohort only at first)
12th	Year 4 swimming New nursery children over the next 2 weeks.
20th	School Tour
26th	Year 4 swimming
27th	School Tour



Attendance and Punctuality

The attendance rate for the children at Thomas's Academy has historically been high because you value your child's education and you know each day is important. However this academic year, our attendance figures have fallen below national average for the first time.

This is incredibly disappointing, as I'm sure you'll agree. Illness has certainly played a big factor in this, especially at the tail end of the Autumn term. Spring term attendance was similar to Autumn. Let's work together to make sure the ambition remains for excellent attendance during the Summer term.

Attendance during June was ok, not as good as May though. Well done and thank you to those of you who brought your children into school daily during June.

Reception to Year 6 (average attendance is 96.5%)

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Average attendance
93.6%	92.4%	94.6%	96.2%	89.1%	93.8%	90.7%	92.9%

Class attendance for the month of June 2023. Nursery is not statutory, therefore data is not included here.

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

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. 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 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 are marked late. School doors close at this time and children will only be able to enter via the front office.

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



The Mayor of London funding Free School Meals 2023-24

The Mayor of London has announced funding for all pupils from Reception to Year 6 to be provided Free School Meals in 2023-24, this is an extension to the Universal Free School Meals currently offered to pupils from Reception to Year 2 and is currently being offered for the next academic year.

From September 2023, the school will be operating a compulsory school meal policy to ensure all children receive a free and healthy hot meal each school day which will be free to children from Reception to Year 6.

A link to the school meals offered at Thomas's Academy can be found [here](#).

We still urge all families who think they may be eligible to benefits-related Free School Meal (FSM) to make an application through the Local Authority as the above is separate from the Pupil Premium funding we receive for pupils entitled to benefits-related FSM's.

For children entitled to benefits-related FSM's, you will also be provided with a one-off clothes grant (from the Local Authority) and currently will be provided with retail vouchers for over the holiday periods (from the School).

For every pupil entitled to benefits-related FSM, the school receives additional funding from the central government in the amount of £1,455 per student. This money funds valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.

If you believe you may be entitled to benefits related FSM, please visit the Hammersmith & Fulham website and for further information regarding eligibility and to make an application;

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/benefits/student-benefits-and-grants>

Please note that applications must be made individually for each child, if you already have a child attending school who is entitled to FSM, this entitlement does not automatically transfer to siblings.

If you have any queries or require any support from the school, please contact the school office via email at info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk or call on 020 7736 2318.

Foodbank

If you require a referral to the Foodbank, please let us know.



Local Authority Support for FSM Families

Message from Esther Harris - Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency Lead, H&F Council

Dear Residents,

My name is Esther and I work at Hammersmith & Fulham Council in our Climate Team, supporting residents with energy bills, energy efficiency and other energy related issues.

I am reaching out to let you know about a fantastic **opportunity for households in receipt of Free School Meals to get FREE home improvements through the Energy Company Obligation**, also known as ECO. ECO is a scheme that gives funding to energy suppliers to install energy-saving measures, such as loft insulation, wall insulation, heating upgrades and draught-proofing.

With energy prices remaining high, this is a great chance to get ready for Winter 2023. Installing energy-saving measures can have huge benefits to you and your household, including:

- **Reduced energy bills:** Loft insulation in a terraced house, for example, can save a household over £300 a year on their energy bills.
- **Reduced risk from cold-related illness:** There is a strong relationship between cold temperatures and a variety of different illnesses, and energy saving measures can help reduce this risk at home.
- **Improved comfort at home:** Installing energy-saving measures can reduce draughts and improve warmth at home, making you and your family more comfortable through winter.

A link to a recording of the information session held in May can be found [here](#).

If you want to find out more about the scheme, details can be found [here](#).

All the

Best,
Esther Harris
Esther.harris@lbhf.gov.uk



School Notices

Thinking about next academic year....

We understand this can be an anxious time for children and parents. To support a smooth transition, on 10th July, we are having our annual Transition Day activities. On this day, parents and children will find out which staff will be working in their child's class in the following academic year. Also on this day, children will get to spend time with their new teacher in their new classroom, and, at the end of the school day, staff will be out in the playground to mingle with parents also.

For those children joining our nursery and reception classes, they will be invited to their new class with their parents at 2pm. At 3pm, these parents will have a short presentation in the lower hall to hear from our Head Teacher, Early Years Lead, Inclusion Lead and the teachers.

Please remember that if your child is joining Year 5, they have a change in their school uniform. See [here](#) for information on our uniform.

Staff will work closely to share relevant information with new teachers to aid a smooth transition.

Sports Day

Thank you to everyone who made sports day a success this year. It was strongly felt that this sports day was the best to date.

In particular, a big thank you to Mr Freeman, our wonderful P.E. teacher. Well done also to all the participating adults.

Photos are coming soon!

Music Tuition

We have a great offer of 1 to 1 and small group musical tuition sessions for Piano, Violin, Drums and Guitar on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday lead by our Talent Musicians.

Please contact the school office for information on how to apply: info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk

Parsons Green Fair

Well done to all the Irish Dancers at the Parsons Green Fair. Despite the nerves, they did an amazing job performing to such a huge audience. Thank you also to all the supporters who cheered on the group. It was a lovely day.



School Notices

Sickness

It is important to minimise the spread of infection in schools as much as possible. **If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.** We will be asking parents to collect children who are unwell. At school, we will be helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene and practicing regular handwashing. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading which we will be encouraging.

We ask that if someone in your family is presenting with symptoms of COVID, 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.

If your child has sickness or diarrhea, they should remain at home for 48 hours after the last episode. Thank you for your cooperation to help stop the spread of sickness in our community.

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

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.

<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



School Notices

School Residential

36 children across Years' 5 and 6 are looking forward to the school residential booked for 3 - 6th July. If you want to see what they are looking forward to, click [here](#).

We would like to thank The Daisy Trust for their donation of £1000 towards the Year 5/6 residential. This has resulted in a decrease in costs for the children going.



We would also like to thank Mrs James, Ms Gigi and Ms Carpenter for volunteering to go on this trip.



School Notices

TIMES: 3.15 PM TO 6 PM

PRICES: £10 UNTIL 5 PM

£15 UNTIL 6 PM

SHINE BRIGHT

AFTER SCHOOL CARE CLUB

CHILD-LED ACTIVITIES

OUTDOOR GAMES

ART/CRAFTS

MUSIC/SPORT

SEASONAL ACTIVITIES

BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS

NO NUTS OF ANY KIND

For more information contact

afterschoolclub@academy.thomas-s.co.uk


Thomas's
ACADEMY

WELCOME !



School Notices

Breakfast Club



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



Safeguarding

Miss Kelly, Head Teacher, is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Deputies (DDSL) 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>

We have a new Safeguarding email address should you wish to contact the Safeguarding Team at school. It's tacsafeguarding@academy.thomas-s.co.uk.

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.

Contact Details

Please let the office know on 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. **We require at least two contacts for all children.** Also, please let us know if someone different is collecting your child. These are important measures to keep your children safe.



Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

TOKENS ON SALE NOW

Thomas's
ACADEMY

JOIN US FOR OUR 2023
SUMMER FAIR

FRIDAY 14TH JULY
3.30 PM- 5 PM

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
BOUNCY CASTLE- TATTOOS-
FOOD STALLS- GAMES- TOMBOLA AND MORE

BUY YOUR TOKENS VIA THE TEACHERS PARENTS APP TO AVOID QUEUES



Inclusion



HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM
SEND
LOCAL OFFER

INFORMATION ON LOCAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (AGE 0-25) WITH SPECIAL
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES, AND THEIR FAMILIES

The parent carer forum 'Parentsactive' will be hosting
Coffee mornings, information and training sessions: Jan - Mar 2023
FREE to attend

Parentsactive conference

Transitioning into the right care, at the right time, in the right place
Monday 26 June, West London College

The **Stephen Wiltshire Centre** provide activities, advice and support for
children and young people with SEND, and their families.
The duty line 020 8753 4443 is open Mon–Fri, 9.30am – 12.30pm

SEND WHO'S WHO A GUIDE



AUTISM



Inclusion



Stepping Stones Triple P

Positive Parenting Programme for parents/ carers of children with additional needs or a disability

Stepping Stones Triple P can help you:

- manage problem behaviour and developmental issues common in children with additional needs and disabilities
 - encourage behaviour you like
 - cope with stress
- develop a close relationship with your child
 - teach your child new skills



The group is FREE,
Booking is essential

Mondays

20.02.2023—26.03.2023

9.30 am -12.00 pm

**The Stephen Wiltshire Centre
Queensmill Road SW6 6JR**

For more information or to book a place please contact
Marina Kopanja on 07740752679 or email marina@upg.org.uk



Inclusion

contact For families
with disabled children

NHS
West London
NHS Trust

Contact Helping Hand Project

(Empowering Parents Embracing Neurodiversity)



**Family Support for parents of children on the waiting lists for CAMHS
NDTs and Child Development Services in Ealing, Hounslow and
Hammersmith & Fulham**

Is your child on a waiting list for an assessment for ADHD or Autism? Are you confused about what it all means and how you can support your child while you wait?

Join our Parent Support Group meetings on topics such as:

Encouraging positive behaviour / Support for your child in school or college / How to support your child with positive communication / Wellbeing for parent carers / Coping with anxiety / Understanding and supporting your child's sensory needs and other topics

- **Topics will be chosen by you and the other parents in the group in session 1.**
- **Group sessions 1-5 are held online (via zoom), different morning or evening slots are available to choose from.**
- **Group session 6 will offer an opportunity to meet face to face.**
- **Individual (one to one) parent support and advice outside of the group sessions is also available.**

If you would like our support, please complete the form below and send it to:
nwlcontactfsp@contact.org.uk or call us on **07529 222724**.



Inclusion Top Tips: Addressing Anxiety



Create a Worry Box – [Worry boxes](#) are containers which children can ‘post’ their anxious thoughts. They can help by giving children a physical way to get rid of their worries, and it encourages them to not keep their worries to themselves.



Activities to Reduce Anxiety– Talk to your child about what could help combat the anxiety they feel. For example, this may be doing exercise, drawing or painting, writing in a journal, watching a favourite film, talking to friends or cooking and baking. These kinds of activities can help them to feel calmer.



Develop your Understanding of Anxiety– Anxiety is complex, and sometimes difficult to understand. Check out [MyMindTV](#) to learn more about anxiety, and how you can support your child.

The Mental Health Support Team supports school staff, children and parents/carers to think about mental health and wellbeing.



We provide a **telephone drop in service** where you can speak to one of our team about your child’s mental health and wellbeing.
Please note, this is not a counselling service

Click the link below or scan the code to schedule a call:
[Mental Health Support Team Telephone Drop In Service](#)

For blog posts, and to learn more about the support we offer, visit our websites: www.hfehmind.org.uk



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:



You'll also find some great recommendations for all ages [here](#).

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.

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**.

Volunteer Readers

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

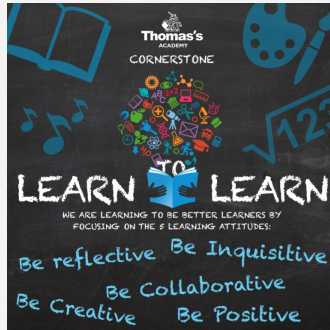
vritchie@thomassfoundation.org.uk

No experience is needed.

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

Learn to Learn

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



Children need to be able to work effectively as part of a team. Further, competence in this area allows children to complete more challenging tasks than they would be able to do independently. Learning to communicate with others, assume different roles and plan an order of work are key.

Be a Collaborative Bee

A collaborative learner will ask:

• Are we being kind to one another?

• What should we do next?



• Are we being good listeners?

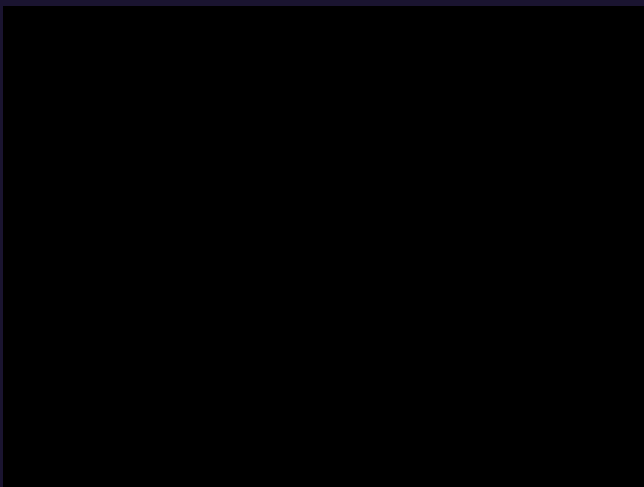
• Who is going to what?



Digital Learning

Y2 & Y3 being collaborative!

Both Year 3 and Year 2 have been learning to code using Scratch Junior. They worked collaboratively to create an animation about the seasons!



Local Activities

5-12 yrs

 [upbeatlondon](#)

UPBEAT[★] SUMMER CAMP

SING DANCE GUITARS DRUMS PLAY RECORD PERFORM



POP & ROCK Summer Camp

Mon 24th - Fri 28th July
10.00 - 4.00 each day
Parsons Green/Fulham

BRING a FRIEND OFFER

Introduce a friend to Upbeat and receive **20% off** your course fees.
Email us for discount code.

BOOK your place at:
bookwhen.com/upbeatmusic



For more info contact: upbeatmusiccourses@gmail.com 07816 901396

www.upbeatmusiccourses.co.uk

CHILDRENS SUMMER CAMP

Bop Stars

Performing Arts
Creativity Focused Camp

Ages 4-9



07596 851 374



info@bopstars.co.uk



www.bopstars.co.uk



[bopstarsclub](#)



Fulham Palace
Bishop's Avenue
SW6 6EA



Make Friends

Grow In Confidence

Learn New Skills



Week 1 - 07/08/23 - 11/08/23

Week 2 - 21/08/23 - 25/08/23

★ SINGING ★ CIRCUS SKILLS

★ DANCING ★ ARTS & CRAFTS

★ ACTING ★ OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

a place where kids can be kids

To advertise here, please contact the office on info@academy.thomas-s.co.uk

