



Thomas's

ACADEMY

October 2022
Newsletter

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Upcoming

Dates (also available on the website)



October

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 3rd | Black History Month - Breaking the October Barrier Nurse Polly in Y1 - handwashing |
| 4th | Year 4 swimming |
| 5th | Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club |
| 6th | National Poetry Day - The Environment Year 5 - Say No to Hate led by Chelsea FC Year 5 and 6: Author Workshop |
| 7th | Children may wear their own clothes in return for bringing in an item from the Harvest List Y1 and Y3 Gardening |
| 11th | Year 4 swimming |
| 12th | Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club |
| 13th: | Year 5 - Say No to Hate led by Chelsea FC Presentation to parents at 5pm (new date) |
| 14th | Year 2 and 4 Gardening Year 5 and 6: Author Workshop (rescheduled from 30th September) |
| 17th | RIBA architect Ambassadors WW11 Project for Y5 and Y6 Parents/Carers Face to Face Meetings - YR - Y6 |
| 18th | Year 4 swimming |
| 19th | Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club |
| 21st | Year 5 and Y6 Gardening |
| 24th - 28th | Half-Term (school closed to pupils) |
| 31st | Halloween Dress-up and parties RIBA architect ambassadors Project (Y5 and Y6) |



Upcoming Dates (also available on the website)



November

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1st | Year 4 swimming |
| 2nd | Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club |
| 8th | Year 5 trip to The National Gallery |
| 8th - 10th | Individual Pupil Photographs |
| 9th | Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club |
| 11th | Year 1 and Year 3 Gardening |
| 15th | Year 4 swimming |
| 16th: | Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club |
| 18th | Child in Need - Children may wear a Child in Need Accessory Year 2 and Year 4 Gardening |
| 22nd | Year 4 swimming |
| 23rd | Year 5 and 6 to Hurlingham Club |
| 25th | INSET Day - School closed to pupils |
| 29th | Year 4 swimming |
| 30th | St Andrew's Day - Children in Thistle House may wear an additional blue accessory |



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

Images Permission

Please take the time to consider and complete the images permission form. This informs the school as to how we can use images for your child. Any questions, please speak to the school office or a member of the school leadership team.

<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



RACE DAY: 09 OCTOBER 2022



Thank you to all those who have offered their words of support to Miss Kelly who is running the Royal Parks Half-Marathon on 9th October.

She is hoping for lots of Thomas's Academy support on the day. Her bib number is 13314. The route for the run can be found on this website:

<https://royalparkshalf.com/route-map/>

If you are able, please consider sponsoring her. All money raised will go towards improvements to the outdoor areas of the school including Early Years.

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/suzanne-kelly-1?utm_term=9vPk6je8r



Notices

Children aged 1-9 are now being offered a dose of **polio vaccine**. If your child is 1-4 years old, your GP will be in touch. If your child is 5-9 years old, you can book a free appointment at the H&F Council Offices at 145 King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9XY. You can go to the following website for more information:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/articles/news/2022/09/free-polio-boosters-children-seven-days-week-hammersmith>

Harvest Festival

During the period **Monday 3rd - Friday 7th October**, we ask that all of our school community work together and be 'Harvest Heroes' to donate food and drink items to help others. Throughout the week we'll be accepting donations. There will be a crate in each class for the children to add their items to and the class with the most donations will receive a little treat!

In addition, to aim to make this the most successful Harvest Collection to date, we'll be offering for the children to wear their own clothes on Friday 7th October, in exchange for bringing in at least one from the list during that week.

Presentation for Parents

On 13th October at 5pm, parents are invited to school to learn more about our aims, plans and practices. Sadly, we will not be able to accommodate children on this occasion. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Secondary School Transfer

If your child was born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012, they should be transferring to secondary school in September 2023. The application for this process opened on 1 September 2022 and closes on 31 October 2022.

The annual '[Moving on Up](#)' brochure contains detailed information about the process and the summarised admission criteria for all states schools in Hammersmith and Fulham. The National offer date is 1 March 2023. If you require any help with this process, please see a member of staff as soon as possible. We recommend that parents of children in Year 5, begin to attend school tours of secondary schools in preparation for next year.

HARVEST APPEAL

Help by donating an item or two from our shopping list to support people facing hardship.

**SHOPPING LIST
TOP TEN ITEMS**

- Long-life Milk
- Squash / Long-life Juice
- Tinned Fish
- Nappies (sizes 3 to 6)
- Coffee / Hot Chocolate
- Toiletries (eg, shampoo, soap)
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Fruit
- Jams & Spreads
- Breakfast Cereal

*Don't forget -
You can help transform more lives
with a financial donation too.*

foodbank
Hammersmith & Fulham Foodbank
hammersmithfulham.foodbank.org.uk
020 7721 3693
info@hammersmithfulham.foodbank.org.uk
Registered Charity in England & Wales 1148358



Attendance and Punctuality

Once your child is in reception, they must attend school every day. Long COVID, self-isolation periods and lockdowns feel like a thing of the past but the repercussions of that awful period of time were still felt last academic year, in terms of attendance. Many previously cancelled holidays, weddings and family events were rescheduled and families needed to make new arrangements during term time. This should no longer be an issue and **you must now aim for your child to have full attendance this year.** 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. If there is another reason for potential absence, please email me directly so we can discuss this further head@academy.thomas-s.co.uk

Punctuality is also incredibly important. The gates open at 8.45am at which point children can enter and engage with 'soft start' learning activities. The register is taken at 8.55am after which point children are marked late. Lessons start promptly and children who are regularly late miss this vital learning. We will provide the stationery they need so please do not pack pencil cases or any other materials.



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 recommendations so far:

[Year 2](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

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 do this, 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 could you contact: 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 child Writer of the Month?

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. Writer's of the Month will then be chosen and work will be displayed proudly in our school library, for all to admire!

SEPTEMBER'S WRITERS OF THE MONTH

The Rabbit

Once upon time there was a little rabbit called Rosie. She liked to eat cupcake. One day there was a spayrocket. The rabbit went inside the rocket. there end

by cremmi

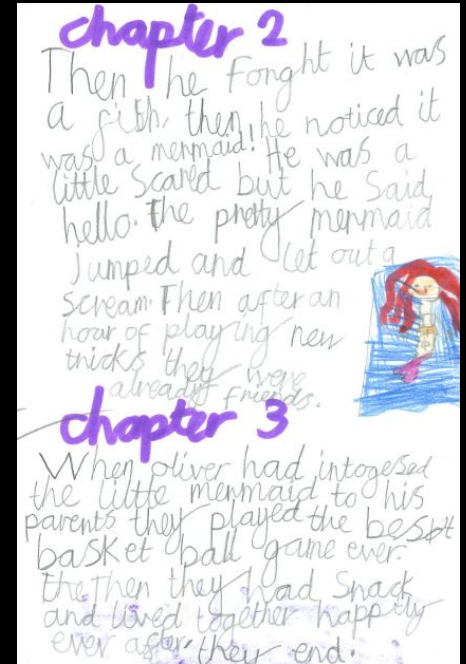
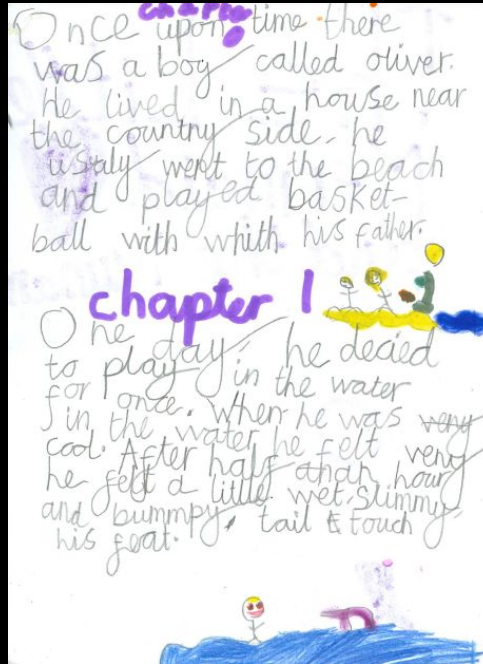
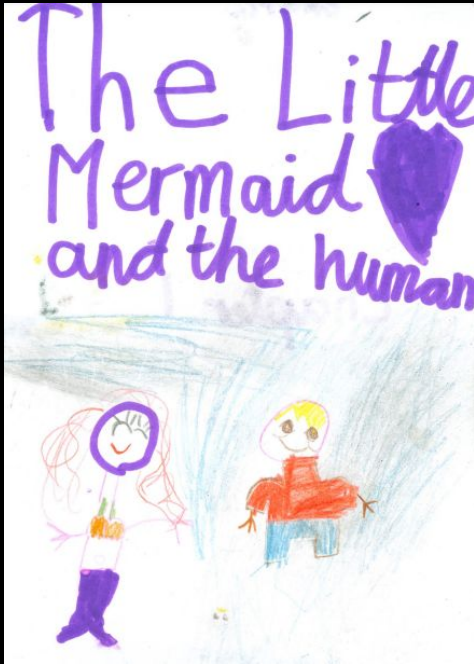
In Autumn, the leaves fall from the trees, as quiet as a mouse. I love jumping in the leaves, but first we haft to gather all and the leaves and put them in a pile. The leaves turn orange, yellow and brown. It makey leaves abl colourful. It is winter now.

by Zaina year 4



Writing at Thomas's Academy

SEPTEMBER'S WRITERS OF THE MONTH



The Plant

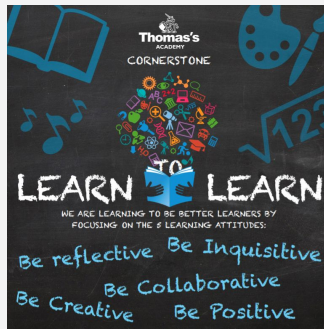
A plant is big,
A plant is small,
They may be different,
But we should love them all!
Some are red,
Some are blue,

Some are different,
Just like you.
Some are filled with beauty,
Some are filled with colour,
but just like humans,
we should treat them like any other.
By Ella, Sagal and Ridwan



Learn to Learn

This half-term's 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

ICT Acceptable Use Policy

All staff, students and families need to be aware of the expectations surrounding using technology at school. This month we have been discussing these in class. Please could parents make sure their child / children click the link below to access this. Please assist with completing the **Acceptable Use Policy** form.

[KS1 \(Y1, Y2\)](#)

[KS2 \(Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6\)](#)

Digital Learning at Thomas's Academy

Children have access to a range of digital technologies and applications. All of these undergo a rigorous process, to determine their suitability under Data Protection guidelines. Further information can be found on our school website [here](#). We also have a firewall in place, to ensure pupils only have access to appropriate websites.



Safeguarding

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



Award Winners

Congratulations to Makava, Giulia and Marcel for their winning entries in a poetry competition led by The WILDE Foundation. Each child won a £30 Westfield voucher and a selection of books. They enjoyed the praise they received in the school assemblies. Here are some winning poems for you to enjoy:

I can and I will

I come to school to learn and grow,
There is so much I want to know.

I can write, I can read,
I will love to do it free.

I can leap, I can skip,
I will learn to do a flip.

I can dance, I can sing,
I will learn to do a song.

I can swim like a fish,
I will learn more of this.

I can do the splits,
And if at first, I don't succeed,

I will try, try again.

I can and I will

I can go on a rocket and get a star,
I will choose the best one of them all.

I can touch the sun with my hand,
I will see the sunshine lighting fire.

I can jump on the moon
and bring a moon rock back with
me,

I will go around the moon jumping
happily.

I can fly to Mars and build a skate
park,
I will explore the red land.

I can and I will

Every morning when the sun breaks,
I wake up feeling brill.
'Cause in my heart I know one thing:
I can and I will.

I can and I will,
Get better at Maths.
While prime numbers remain a problem,
I'll find new paths.

I can and I will,
Get over my stage fright.
Practise reading and acting,
Till everything's alright.

I can and I will,
Get past fears of failing.
Stumbling's part of the plan,
It's never clear sailing.

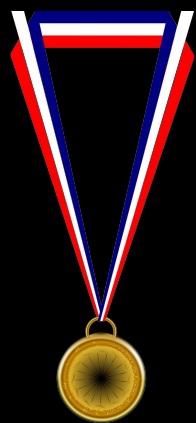
I can and I will,
Find the right words when I need 'em.
Move the panic aside;
Create order from mayhem.

I can and I will,
Try not to forget tasks.
Keep better focus,
And hope concentration lasts.

I can and I will,
Keep enjoying my tennis.
Though I should probably warn you-
On the court I'm a menace!

I can and I will,
Continue to be helpful.
It doesn't matter who they are-
Lend a hand when its stressful.

So...Each evening when the sun sets,
I put my head down and chill.
'Cause in my heart I know one thing:
I can and I will.



Local Activities

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>

Adult learning and skills service

h&f
hammerhead & tuban

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

LONDON
LITS
Kids' Book Club

SAT 8 OCT 2022



Escape Room by Christopher Edge

www.barneskidslitfest.org/litsoc

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 LSC853



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 FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT DETAILS AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

FULHAM FC
JUNIOR LILLIES
SOCCER SKILLS SESSION

Ages: 4 - 12

All abilities

FREE

Contact fulhamlillies@gmail.com to register your interest

BISHOP'S PARK, FULHAM
SATURDAY
1ST OCTOBER 2022
AT
9.00 - 11.30am

GET READY, GET SET, READ!

Is it a book? Or is it a game? Escape Room is an adventure, a mystery and a game all in one book. It's the latest mind-blowing, mind-stretching thriller by multi-award winning author Christopher Edge and it's our next read for our mega monthly book club on Saturday afternoon 8 October.

Twelve year old Ami can't wait to get started when she arrives at The Escape room. She loves puzzles, riddles and all things brain-bending and she's sure she can finish it with her new team mates, Adjoa, Ibrahim, Oscar and Min.

But as the door locks, they realise this is no ordinary escape room and that the fate of the world is in their hands. From translating hieroglyphics in an ancient Mayan tomb, reading books in a vanishing library, hiding from prehistoric beasts in a shopping mall and commanding a spaceship heading to Mars, the perils of The Escape seem endless. Can Ami and her friends work together and beat the clock before it's too late?

Explore the rooms of The Escape, solve the puzzles and challenges you find there and help him save the world!
Suitable for ages 9+

If you fancy joining in the fun then you can book right [here](http://www.barneskidslitfest.org/litsoc).

See you soon, the Barnes Children's Literature Festival XO
www.barneskidslitfest.org/litsoc

