

### FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear All

What an eventful week it has been and thankfully the heavy snow which was forecasted has not materialised at Thomas Becket! However, just for your information, if the school does have to close at any time this information will be sent out as follows:-

- Text and e-mail to all parent/carers – please ensure the office has your most up to date contact details
- On the school website at [www.thomasbecket.org.uk](http://www.thomasbecket.org.uk)
- Notice on our school face book page

In previous years all schools would notify the Local Authority of any closures, who would then publish the information on their website, however this facility is no longer available so please check on the above for any confirmation.

This week we have seen a significant improvement in the quality of work in students' books. I would like to thank all those parents who are checking their children's books and working with us to ensure the best possible education for our students. Additionally there has been a significant increase in the quality of homework being produced. Now 100% of students have accessed Show My Homework, all homework has been set on it and 50% of parents have accessed it. I would strongly recommend downloading the Show My Homework App as there are a number of features that will be of interest such as being given notification of the homework your son/daughter has to hand in on the next day and in future, notification that the homework has been handed in.

I would like to say thank you to those parents/carers who attended my Headteacher Induction Mass which was held at St. Gregory The Great Church on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019. I was totally overwhelmed by the attendance of parents/carers and staff, it was a truly touching evening. The children in the choir not only from Thomas Becket but also our MAT Primary schools, were absolutely amazing. They totally made the evening very special! Thank you also to those parents/carers who enabled their children to attend and collected them on a very cold and snowy evening – thank you.

A group of talented students performed at the Holocaust Memorial Day Performance on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January at the Deco Theatre in Northampton. The event was an astounding success and the pupils, as always, were an absolute credit to us and to themselves. The praise the group received for their intricate and touching performance was a joy to see. Our children just love these types of opportunities and the reward for us is the beaming smiles on their faces! Huge thank you to Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Hayes to all those who took part in organising this – to find time to organise and attend such an historical event at the standard they gave is all credit to those involved.

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Thank you to all the Parents/Carers who attended the Parent Forum yesterday, I am so grateful to have you all on board as we continue together on our journey in moving the school forward. Thank you. As always it was a great mix of positive and constructive feedback and it is great to be able to share the ways we are listening, learning and trying to improve the quality of education for your children.

Our Year 8 Parents Evening is being held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February in the Activities Hall from 4pm to 6.30pm. Children should attend in full school uniform. Appointments can now be made on-line and it will be great to see you. Please contact the office at [reception@thomasbecket.org.uk](mailto:reception@thomasbecket.org.uk) if you would like to make an appointment.

Dates for the Diary: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 Year 8 Subject Parents Evening  
4pm – 6.30pm

As we go into the last two weeks of the first term in 2019 I can honestly say I am extremely proud to be the new Headteacher of Thomas Becket Catholic School.

Have a great weekend – stay warm!

God bless.

St Thomas, pray for us.

Mark McLaughlin

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## ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Outstanding attendance at TBCS gives your child the very best chance of success.

We place a high value on attending school regularly at TBCS due to the impact that absence has on learning.

Research shows how much education can be lost by having just a handful of days absent each year.

We track all students’ attendance and intervention is given when a student drops below 95%, our school target. Some students last year dropped below our minimum expectation of 90% and are being tracked more closely with intervention being put in place.

We do understand that all students get ill from time to time, but as that you think very carefully before allowing your child to stay at home in the event of illness. In the case of sickness, please note that we do not follow the 48 hour policy.

If you have any queries regarding attendance please contact our Attendance Officer, Mrs McMahon on 01604 493211 ext 337 or email [attendance@thomasbecket.org.uk](mailto:attendance@thomasbecket.org.uk)

Excellent	<p><b>Your attendance is above 98%</b> (Absences fewer than 5 days in the year)</p> <p>You have the best chance of success in your learning at school</p>
Good	<p><b>Your attendance is between 96% and 98%</b> (absences fewer than 8 days in the year)</p> <p>Your attendance is good and you must continue to attend school every day to ensure you achieve your best</p>
Satisfactory	<p><b>Your attendance is 95%</b> (absence fewer than 10 days in the year)</p> <p>Your attendance is starting to cause concern. You must work hard to improve it by not missing anymore days this year. You will have support from your class teacher to ensure you don’t fall behind.</p>
<p>Unsatisfactory <i>Below the national government threshold</i></p>	<p><b>Your attendance is between 90 and 95%</b> (you have missed 18 school days in the year)</p> <p>You have missed a lot of school. It might be difficult for you to achieve your best. You must work hard to come to school every day for the rest of the school year.</p>
<p>Concern <i>Persistent Absentee</i></p>	<p><b>Your attendance is between 85 and 90%</b> (missing over 19 school days per year)</p> <p>You are missing so much school that it will be difficult for you to keep up with your lessons and work. Your teacher will give you extra support to help you catch up.</p>
<p>Serious Concern <i>Persistent Absentee</i></p>	<p><b>Your attendance is below 85%</b></p> <p>Your absence is stopping you from achieving your best in school. There will be a lot of catching up to ensure you can achieve your best. If you have more days off this year, your learning will be affected.</p>

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**ACCELERATED READER**

**REWARDS**



**Each Lesson**

**80% or above on quiz**

3 Epraise points

**Every 100% on quiz**

Raffle ticket for draw at end of term

Apple to put on reward tree display for year group

**Each Term**

**Raffle for 100% on quizzes**

3 raffle tickets drawn from each year group. These students win a prize and name displayed on the rewards board for the whole term.

**Most read words**

The 3 students with the most amount of words read on Accelerated Reader from each year group win a prize and are put on the rewards board for the whole term, plus 15 Epraise points.

**Class rewards**

The class with the most read words for the term will receive a class prize and 5 Epraise points for every member of their class. The students will also have their class displayed on the rewards board for the whole term.

**Students can come to the library at break, lunch and after school to quiz, as well as in their library lessons.**

**Every student who gets named on the rewards board each term will have their name printed in the parent's newsletter.**

**The results for the last terms accelerated reader quizzes have been analysed:**

**Most words read**

**Year 7**

**Gold-** Alexander Wheatley

**Silver-** Fynn Raphael

**Bronze-** Max Brailsford

**Year 8**

**Gold-** Sofja Sachonenko

**Silver-** Roger Pasternak

**Bronze-** Alexander Rate

**Most quizzes past Top classes**

**Year 7** - 7Y1 96

**Year 8**- 8Y1 68

Prizes will be given out by Miss Gough.

Well done to all students and keep up the good effort.

Miss Hooker

**100% quiz raffle**

**Year 7**

Marco Ghuizan, Favour Adedeji and Chardonay Cripps

**Year 8**

Prithika Kavitha, Joshua Tompkins and Zuzanna Klimek

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## Science Poster Competition

See Mrs Thomas- Brown for further details

**The 5 best posters will be selected for entry into the  
British Science Association Competition**

**The theme for the 2019 poster competition is  
'journeys'**

### Rules

- Entries must be 2D and submitted on one side of A4 or A3 paper only.
- Work must be original and created by the student(s)
- Posters must include the following information on the back of the poster: entrant first name (all names if a team) and entrant age (all ages if a team)

A chance for you to win an array of prizes including a special **Guinness World Records** prize

**SCIENCE  
CLUB**

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## **Performing Arts**

On Monday 28th January some of our fantastic performing arts students performed for the Northampton Holocaust Remembrance event at the Deco Theatre in Northampton. For many, it was their very first experience of performance on a professional stage; under the lights and with an audience full of strangers. The performance was outstanding; our students confidently communicated their moving message in their imaginative dramatisation.

A resounding success. Well Done to all.



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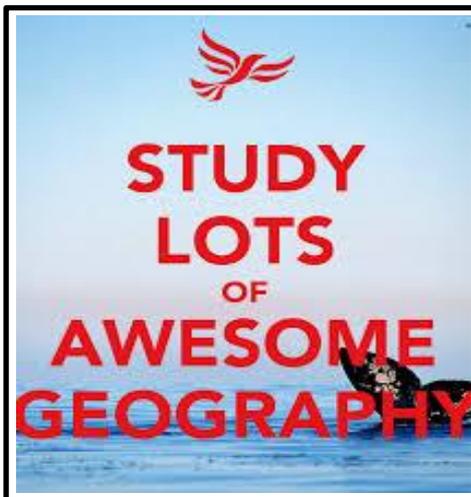
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## Cooking Club

Cooking Club Sausage Roll Practical....



## Geography



  
**STUDY  
LOTS  
OF  
AWESOME  
GEOGRAPHY**

**Grasp it!**

- Mondays 4.00 to 4.30pm
- Pixl grasp it sessions on subject content.

**Exam Technique Tutorial**

- Thursdays 4.00 to 4.30pm

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## **Sports News**

### **Fantastic Leaders:**

Congratulations to Kessiwah and Bridget who were commended by multiple staff from our Trust Primary Schools whilst leading at the Year 1/2 CAT Competition. The leaders were teaching the young children how to play Sitting Volleyball which is a growing disability sport. Well done the girls who demonstrated all of our core values and showed great pride in representing the school in the leadership academy!



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**EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS TIMETABLE**

Day	Club	Year	Teacher
<b>Monday</b>	Rugby <i>(Boys &amp; Girls)</i>	ALL	Mr Binczyk Miss Beasley
	Badminton	ALL	PE Department
	Creative Writing	ALL	Miss Gough (Library)
	Dance Club	ALL	Miss Moore (Auditorium)
	Cookery Club	ALL	Ms Niikoi (DT3)
	Fitness Club	ALL	PE Department
<b>Tuesday</b>	Basketball	ALL	Mr Walsh
	Netball	ALL	Miss Perry Miss Beasley
<b>Thursday</b>	Handball	ALL	Miss Perry Miss Beasley
	Boys Football	7/8/9	Mr Binczyk Mr Jones
	Beauty Club (Week 1 ONLY)	ALL	Miss Moore (H2)
	Science Club	7 & 8	Science (S1)
	Drama Club	ALL	Expressive Arts

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## GCSE REVISION GUIDES

At Thomas Becket we have a range of GCSE revision guides and workbooks to support students with extra revision at home. Please see below the prices for these. If you would like to purchase them please come to reception.

<b>Maths</b>	
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) flash cards Foundation/ Higher - Pearson	£7.50
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) <b>Revision workbooks Higher</b> - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) <b>Revision work books Foundation</b> - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) <b>Revision guide higher</b> - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) <b>Revision Guide Foundation</b> - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Practice Papers (foundation/ higher) Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Number and Algebra – Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Shapes and Statistics – Pearson	£3.00
Calculator	£7.50
<b>English</b>	
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS GCSE 9 -1 <b>Workbook</b> Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS GCSE 9 -1 <b>Revision Guide</b> Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS CPG <b>“The Workbook”</b> Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS CPG <b>Revision Guide</b> Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS English literature revision guides ( Macbeth , Dr Jeckyll and Mr Hyde, An inspector calls and poetry anthology)	£3.00 Each
<b>Humanities</b>	
History Revision Books	£3.50
RS – AQA GCSE CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY BOOK	£6.00
Geography Book	£5.00
<b>Science</b>	
Single science rev cards (Chemistry, Physics and Biology)	£4.00 Each
Combined science Revision cards (Chemistry, Physics and Biology)	£3.00 Each
Combined Trilogy revision guide or workbook ( Pearson)	£4.20 Each
Single science revision guide or workbook (Pearson)	£2.50 Each
<b>Other subjects</b>	
OCR Computer Science Revision Workbook	£5.00
OCR GCSE computer Science Revision notes	£8.00
Spanish GCSE and French KS3 (Each)	£4.00



GCSE Combined Science revision cards (CPG)

Great for quick revision sessions

£3.00 each



GCSE Single Science revision cards (CPG)

Use these to test your knowledge!

£4.00 each

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## **EXAMS**



With the examination season creeping towards us, can we remind parents and students to ensure they read a copy of the schools guidance for the examination season. Parents can request a copy via email. Year 11 & P16 students will be given a hard copy of this document, and copies are on the Examinations notice board in the main corridor. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us. Our Exams Manager is Miss Hewitt and our Exams Assistant is Mr Curtis. You can email the Exams Office via [exams@thomasbecket.org.uk](mailto:exams@thomasbecket.org.uk) or give us a call. We are here to help.

**Please Note that GCSE Mock examinations will commence on the 4<sup>th</sup> March to 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

### **Word of the Week!**

**Affable:** An adjective to describe someone who is well liked, kind and easy to talk to.

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## **NON-NEGOTIABLES**

1. Arrive on time
2. Wear full uniform with pride, ready to learn and fully equipped
3. Listen to one another. Never talk over a member of staff or your peers; if you wish to contribute to a lesson, raise your hand and wait to be selected by a member of staff, never shout out.
4. Respect the learning community by doing as you are asked by members of staff immediately; you will never be asked to do something unreasonable. No such thing as saying 'No' to a teacher
5. Walk around school safely and calmly

## **PARENTPAY**

**Please note: We run a CASHLESS canteen and no longer accept any cash payments.**

We are asking parents/carers to set up their ParentPay account to reduce the amount of cash taken on site. You are able to pay for trips, PE kit, Canteen and lots of other items such as revision books using the ParentPay system. If you have not yet already activated your account please email [reception@thomasbecket.org.uk](mailto:reception@thomasbecket.org.uk) or telephone 01604 493211 to request a copy of your activation letter giving you a secure login and password.

Using this system will reduce the canteen queueing time for students, and make all transactions secure when paying for PE kit, upcoming trips etc. Thank you for your support.

## **SAFEGUARDING/FAMILY SUPPORT**

Mrs Tracey Palmer is one of our safeguarding officers and also Student & Family Welfare. She is always available to contact via email or telephone for any worries or concerns you may have about your child's welfare or you are more than welcome to make an appointment for a face to face discussion with her.

## **HEAD OF YEAR 9**

Miss Turnbull is available every day for drop in appointments from 3.30pm to 4.00pm to discuss anything in respect of Year 9 students. You can also email [TurnbullJ@thomasbecket.org.uk](mailto:TurnbullJ@thomasbecket.org.uk) – or just pop in and say hello!!

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## **LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE**

Our Learning Resource Centre is open from 8.00am and we close at 4.30pm daily. This is for pupils to access computers and complete any homework and associated tasks. 2 ePraise points will be awarded each time a pupil obtains 100% on their library book quiz!!

### **Donations**

If you have any old books or board games that are looking for a new home, we at the library are always grateful of donations. Our library is not just for reading!!

Don't forget to follow us on twitter @becketcs and like and follow our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ThomasBecketCatholicSchool>



## **Join our Choir!**



We are always looking for students to join our school choir  
Practice takes place every Monday after school 3.15 – 4.15pm

Everyone is welcome!

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**Gospel Reflection - Challenging Words**

In this Gospel we are told that God’s love is for everyone, not just His chosen people. This message was not very well received by the people of Jesus’ hometown. This is because He challenged them to change and to think differently.



Sometimes we can be like the people of Nazareth; we don’t want to trust Jesus’ message because we find his words challenging. It is a message that asks us to begin building the kingdom of justice, peace and love, starting with our own community –in our homes and in our school.

**Let us pray**

Father God, help us to know that you love each one of us and that everyone is equal in your eyes. Inspire us to follow your example and treat those around us with love. Let us always be generous, gentle and tolerant with each other as we strive to build your kingdom here on earth. We ask this in Jesus’ name, Amen



**Gospel - 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year C**

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue: ‘This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’ And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, ‘This is Joseph’s son, surely?’ Jesus replied, ‘**I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.**’

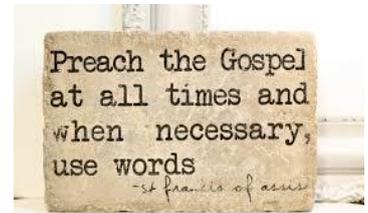
‘There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah’s day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow in Sidon. And in the prophet Elisha’s time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.’

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away. Lk4:21-30

God knows each one of us and He loves each one of us equally with a love which has no limits. If we turn to God, He will always reach out to us with His love.

It is in the little things that we have big opportunities to grow in faith. Living out your personal mission right now means living in a way where you are a positive example, a light in this world of darkness. Others are watching, whether you recognize it or not.

**The way you live and the daily decisions you make can make a difference**



**Choose wisely!**

When Saint Teresa, was asked how to change the world, she didn’t tell us to pray more or spread the Gospel message, she said, “Go home, and love your families.”



**Post-it challenge:**

**What can you do this week to make a positive difference to your family?**



**"LET NO ONE EVER COME TO YOU WITHOUT LEAVING BETTER & HAPPIER."**

**"BE THE LIVING EXPRESSION OF GOD'S KINDNESS:**

**KINDNESS IN YOUR FACE, KINDNESS IN YOUR EYES, KINDNESS IN YOUR SMILE."**

**BLESSED MOTHER TERESA**