



"Man, created in God's image, has been commissioned to master the earth and all it contains, and so rule the world in justice and holiness. He is to acknowledge God as the creator of all, and to see himself and the whole universe in relation to God, in order that all things may be subject to man, and God's name be an object of wonder and praise over all the earth."
(Gaudium et Spes)



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

DOUBTING THOMAS



The gospel this week focuses on the doubt of Thomas. Jesus has appeared to His disciples after his death. They had been afraid so He came to give them courage. Jesus did not have to knock. He did not even have to open the door. He simply was there. Which means that today in our life, Jesus can go where no one else can go. He comes when we cry out to him in our fear. He came right into the middle of their meeting. He gave them peace, joy, the Holy Spirit and with that, the power to forgive.

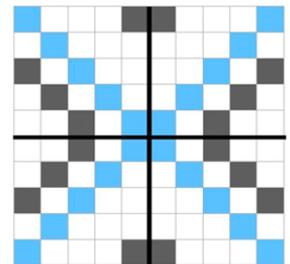
Thomas was not there. He was not able to believe. We know that Thomas had great faith yet he still needed evidence. Yet due to Thomas we were given the wonderful words of Jesus. Thomas, when he saw Jesus immediately, exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!"

HEADS UP

This week we interviewed two students from St Matthew. In English, they wrote a biography of Mrs Oster. During Maths, they did areas and perimeters. For their RE lesson they drew pictures of the road to Emmaus. In Art, they were doing symmetrical patterns. Finally, in music, they were learning a song and how to use the glockenspiel.



That's it for this week's heads up—come back next week for more!
Popular playground game: Hide and Seek



SEEKER OF THE MONTH

Gregory Tyler is from Winchester but is currently half way through his Novice year with the Augustinian Friars in Galway, a time when Candidates spend time in Discernment, testing their sense of vocation. Brother Gregory has many duties within his parish as well as spending time studying and praying. He's also been helping a group of children prepare for their First Holy Communion and has particularly enjoyed this part of his work. He asks that we pray for him and his brother Novices during this testing time in God's service.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 2nd	St Matthew and St Barnabas to Reading Museum
Wed 7th	EYFS Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park
Thurs 8th	VE Day Celebrations
Sat 10th	First Confessions
Mon 12th	SATs Week
Mon 12th	KS1 Trip to Windsor Castle
Sat 17th	First Holy Communion
Fri 23rd	Sports Day
Mon 26th–30th	HALF TERM

JUNE

Mon 2nd	YrR Hearing Screening
Tues 3rd	Class Photos
Mon 9th	International Day
Thurs 12th	Bikeability make up session
Tues 24th	Yr6 Leavers Mass at Douai Abbey
Fri 27th	Mass for the Feast of St Peter & St Paul
Fri 27th	School Disco (details to follow)

JULY

Mon 7th	Denefield/Little Heath and Theale Yr7 Transition Day
Sat 12th	Family Fun
Thurs 17th	Yr6 Leavers Party
Fri 18th	Yr6 Leavers Mass
Tues 22nd	End of Term 1pm

SPORTS DAY 23rd MAY

Over the next few weeks we are hoping that the weather will be kind to us so that we can advance our training and preparations for Sports' Day.

Sports Day will take place on **Friday 23rd May**

Junior events will take place in the morning, from 9.15am to 10.15am.

Infant & Early Years events will be 10.45am to 11.45am with junior long distance and relays at 11.45 to 12.15pm.

At 12.15pm parents are invited to bring a picnic lunch to share with their children on the field – don't forget folding chairs and blankets. Children whose parents are unable to join us for lunch will sit on the field with their lunchtime supervisor.

Presentations will take place at 1.15pm to 1.30pm, children will then return to their classrooms to change, have afternoon registration and parents will then be able to take their children home.

All parents, siblings, and grandparents are warmly invited to attend the entire Sports Day event.

If your child will be going home with someone other than their parent or guardian, please ensure you inform the school office in advance.



TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK



We are supporting 35 households with food, thanks to your donations. The number benefitting is increasing every month, so we appeal to your generosity for more donations. This week we are short of tinned hot dogs/meatballs/ham, pot noodles, cereal, long life juice, coffee, sugar, semi-skimmed milk, packet soup and toilet rolls. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Include as a reference, 'Your Surname, Foodbank'. Many thanks.

YEAR 3 SWIMMING

Year 3 pupils in **St Matthew's Class** will be commencing their Swimming lessons on **Wednesday 7th May** for 5 weeks. Please ensure that your child is equipped with a swimming costume, swimming cap and towel in a waterproof bag.

St Philip's Class will commence their swimming lessons on **Wednesday 18th June**.

CAFOD

The Yr 6 Charity Day and Easter Raffle raised £571.52 for CAFOD.

Thank you to everyone for your generosity!



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS—Mon—Thurs 8.00—3.30pm, Fri 8.00—8.15 and 8.35—3.30pm

Warm Weather Reminder

Please ensure that your child comes to school with a water bottle and a sun hat, and that sunscreen has been applied beforehand. P20 sunscreen provides protection for up to 10 hours. Children are welcome to reapply their own sunscreen during the day if needed.

Diocesan Building Fund

There is now an item in the ParentMail shop for any Parents to contribute towards the Diocesan Building Fund.