

26th November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

This week we celebrated our first Careers drop-down day, with each year group following a bespoke programme of activity. The day was a huge success and more information about what the children got up to can be found on the school's Facebook and Twitter accounts. In the new year, this will be followed by a drop-down day for PSHE and RSE.

Below are a few things to draw your attention to:

Internet Safety Evening

On Thursday 2nd December, we will be holding an internet safety briefing for parents and carers here at school. The session starts at 6:00pm in the school hall and we aim to be finished by 7:30pm. The aim of the evening is to inform parents and carers about some of the issues and consequences our young people face and what you can do to help protect them and navigate this 'online' world. **We will be covering several adult themes in this session, so we ask that children do not attend this event.** There will also be a presentation by Richard Chisem from Kooth, a free online mental health and wellbeing service for children.

INSET

A reminder that school will be closed on Friday 3rd December for an INSET day.

End of Term

STM will close for the Christmas Holidays on Friday 17th December, closing to pupils at 12:30pm (Train departs at 12:58pm). We will contact you closer to the time to outline our plans for the final week, including Christmas Dinner arrangements.

Uniform and Equipment

Keeping your child/children ready for school is hard work and I applaud all parents and carers for supporting the school's policies. I believe our children look smart, are equipped ready to learn, and uphold the school's long held position for high standards. However, there are still a few pupils wearing trainers as part of their standard uniform. In the summer, we wrote to parents and carers to give guidance on uniform and equipment and in partnership with families, we gave a period of time to rectify any issues. From December 1st, this period of time comes to an end. The rules on uniform have not changed, they have always been there, and following feedback from parents and pupils, it is only fair that the rules are applied to all children, not just a few. Thank you to all those parents who support the school and understand the need for consistency across all our pupils. We provide, along with the St Ralph Sherwin Trust, a support fund for parents and carers who might need a little help towards uniform costs, details of which can be found on our website: <https://www.st->



thomasmore.derbyshire.sch.uk/page/?title=Educational+support+fund&pid=307 We are here to support our families, especially at this uncertain time as we continue to navigate the pandemic.

To support families, pupils are very welcome to bring a pair of trainers with them to school to change into for playing sport at break or lunch time, before changing back into their school shoes.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mr Redfern', written in a cursive style.

Mr Redfern
Headteacher