



Headteacher Article

Despite all the limitations on our freedoms and the boredom of lockdowns and the tragedy of lives lost in the pandemic, I am struck by how many people have remarked to me and asked me over the last few months - how would the country have managed even ten years ago without the technology we have recourse to now? Technology has made online learning a possibility; it has made face to face appointments for Parents' evenings possible; it has made all sorts of communication like this newsletter possible and I am sure many people will have used apps like Zoom or Houseparty to stay in touch with loved ones over the last twelve months.

I am sure each of us have sometimes felt at this time that there is too much screen time for our children and that even before the pandemic we may have questioned the impact of these technologies. I feel now we can be grateful for the technology that has, in many ways, allowed us to carry on.

Of course, on a national and international level, it is technology that has made the creation of the vaccine that gives us hope possible and all of this gives me hope for the future that the challenges of our world – of climate, food production and transport may in turn be solved by technology. So even in our darkest hour we can feel a hope for the future. That is of course at the heart of the Christian message too – that a light came into the world and the darkness could not overcome it. It does not deny there is darkness but it cannot overcome the light. I wish you a very peaceful and good break this half term.

More Laptops on the way

We are pleased to announce that our request for more laptops has been recognised and confirmed. We currently have a waiting list of pupils struggling to access on-line lessons and this extra quota will fulfil all of those requests. One device per household wasn't enough when there were siblings in different year groups accessing different timetables and the Government agreed with our argument and provided our shortfall. We work tirelessly at Thomas More to ensure our pupils are not disadvantaged in any way and are able to continue their education even in a Lockdown. Well done to all of our parents supporting their children's home schooling. You have risen to the occasion admirably. As a community, we are really coming together and getting on with business.

Thank you to Mrs Lerner for all of your hard work in securing devices for our pupils.





Hands. Face. Space
Protect the NHS and save lives

Senior Leader Article Lockdown Charter

Last week Wednesday we released the Lockdown charter to pupils in Years 7-10. The Lockdown charter is a series of tasks and challenges to complete, and pupils have the choice of how to do them. Once they have been completed, they need to take a photo or video or a written report and send to the designated email address.

After the first week from the official launch last Wednesday, 25 pupils have achieved their bronze certificates, 6 pupils their silver and the first person to obtain gold was Elfie M in Year 7, closely followed by Klareiss M Year 7.

Who is going to obtain Platinum first?

Take a look at some of the fantastic work from our pupils.



More information on Online Learning
<http://www.tmore.org.uk/2427/remote-blended-learning>



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TMI Other School News

PE Department

The following pupils have been recognised for their excellent contribution to virtual PE lessons. Well done!

Year 7 - Kevin S, Dennis T, Joshua H, Piotr K, Anomiga A, Nethmi M, Hilda K & Destiny S

Year 8 - Micah E, Jerome R, Sharon C, Nifemi G-T, Jay B, Carter G, Papa A-A, Michail K

Year 9 - Imani J, Oscar Q, Craig A, Ivan C, Jayda G-C, Vivian N,

Year 10 - Ilyas H, Tyra A-S, Hamza S, Upasana C, Aaliyah W, Darlene F

Pupils of the month - January

The PE department have chosen 2 pupils for the month of January. We are impressed with the hard work and dedication these pupils are making in both the practical and theoretical elements of their lessons. They have won a new football or basketball for their consistent effort and attainment.

Joseph N - Year 9

Ruthie M - Year 9

Step challenge results

Here are the winners of the student competition who all completed over 14k steps in a day

1. Elfie M - Year 7 (15784)
2. Amelle B - Year 8 (15694)
3. Jerome R - Year 8 (14987)
4. Kaylee A - Year 9 (14539)

The participation raffle winner is:

Rhys B - Year 10



Croydon Schools Virtual Sports Hall Athletics Competition

Last term, Year 7 & 8 pupils were focusing on Sports Hall athletics in PE lessons. The top results for each of the 5 events were entered into the Croydon Competition. Well done to the Year 8 girls who placed 5th and the Year 8 boys who placed 3rd in the borough. Well done!



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TMI Other School News



Year 10 virtual parents' evening

A big thank you to all of the parents that logged in virtually to meet with teachers. Due to current circumstances, we are unable to meet face to face. The school has invested in School-Cloud which is an online platform allowing parents and careers to meet with teachers virtually. The 5-minute meetings provided a good opportunity to catch up with teachers, to provide some welcomed feedback on work and engagement during the lockdown period. Thanks again to our Year 10 parents for making appointments.

Pupils' engagement & achievement in Spanish

Well done to the following pupils for hard work and engagement in their Spanish lessons. Miss Bishop want to give you all a shout out!

Year 7

Kacper D
Elfie M
Varusan S
Nethmi M
Hilda K
John N

Year 8

Carter G
Clayton K
Sharon C
Micah E
Aiyana L
Ari Khan
Nifemi G
Ayoob A

Year 9

Shakquille C
Sanjay Y
Imani N

Year 10

Samuel R
Afra I
Awura-A



Lockdown challenge, baking cup cakes

On Wednesday 3rd February our pupils were baking and decorating cupcakes. All the pupils approached the task with enthusiasm and produced some wonderful designs. All teachers were given the opportunity to vote their best design. The pupils with most votes received was Milan D. Well done Milan! Congratulation to all the pupils who took part.

Milan's cupcakes



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Whilst we're busy over half term putting together a leader board based on your amazing entries, here is something to keep you busy!

CHALLENGE 4

Find...

A) Two 2 digit numbers whose product is 1769.

B) Two 2 digit numbers whose quotient is 0.578125.

C) Two numbers with a sum of 100 and the product 2451

D) Three numbers with a sum of 100 and a product of 35964.

CHALLENGE 4

Hints...

Quotient

$$\div$$

Sum

$$+$$

Product

$$\times$$

Intermediate Maths Challenge

Last week a number of our students from Year 9, 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge, a national competition encouraging mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency

Here is one of our favourite questions from this year's challenge.

The day before the day before yesterday was two days after the day before my birthday. Today is Thursday. On what day was my birthday?

A Sunday

B Monday

C Tuesday

D Wednesday

E Friday

Spirituality Corner LAY CHAPLAIN



Prayer for the start of the school

God our Father,
Be with us Lord.
Be the patience when we are frustrated.
Be the endurance when we are tired.
Be the wisdom when we are uncertain.
Be the inspiration when we are out of ideas.
Be the comforter when we feel overwhelmed.
Be the energy when are feel weary.
Be the guide when we are confused.
Be the forgiver when we get it wrong.
Be with us Lord, in all we learn today.



Prayer for the end of the online

Lord, our lessons today are done,
Please God, bless us everyone.
Keep us safely through the night,
until we see the morning light.
When together we shall meet on time
for our teaching and learning online.
We pray together, just to say,
Thank you for your help today.

Amen.

