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Headteacher: Mr M Rayner BA(Hons) NPQH

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parent / Carers,

First and foremost, I hope and pray that you are all still keeping safe and well. Today marks the end of a term like no other; we continue to pray for, and support each other, at this challenging time.

Despite the severe challenges of the last fortnight, we should still remember the wonderful achievements of our students this term. All of our students have worked so hard in academic subjects, extra-curricular activities, competitions, sport and music. I know in time they will be back showing their incredible talents but in the meantime we reflect on all that has been achieved this term. A newsletter will be produced covering all these events in due course so that we can share some of the many reasons why we are so proud of our students.

The work for the week after Easter has been uploaded to our website:

<https://www.stmca.org.uk/key-information/closure-guidance/>

In addition, weekly newsletters with key information and advice have been sent to each year group by the Heads of Year and Student Support. The Easter holidays are a great opportunity to build cultural capital and learn different things, and so to support with this we have uploaded some suggested tasks that you can do for free from home.

As per Government instruction, school has continued to remain closed this week for most pupils. Childcare has been provided for a handful of children of key worker and vulnerable children. This provision will continue for children of key workers over the Easter holidays; please contact the school office if you have any queries regarding this.

The FSM voucher scheme has also now been implemented. As a multi academy we have taken the decision to provide vouchers over the Easter holidays to our FSM families, which will be distributed through the Wonde system. However, as the government has now released a national system for vouchers through Edenred, we will therefore be moving onto this system after Easter. Further details will be sent directly.

Attached to this letter is a helpline information sheet providing signposts for help and guidance, should you require this at this challenging time. We understand that this is a very challenging situation for us all and that it can leave us feeling anxious or isolated. Therefore, the helpline information will hopefully help to reassure you that there are many avenues of support, should you need them.





# St Thomas More Catholic Academy

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May I take this final opportunity to wish you a happy and holy Easter, and to hope and pray that you stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Rayner  
Headteacher



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