



TMC

Thomas More College

An Inspired Education



MORE TALK

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



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Weekly Scripture

A Father's Day Reflection...

Matthew 6:9 (ESV) "Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name..."

I have always been in awe of the fact that God, who is the creator of everything and sovereign over all, calls himself Father and reveals his Father-heart to us. One of the great declarations of the Bible is that God is our Father. His word tells us of the amazing closeness, intimacy, warmth and tender-heartedness of God, our Father. This truth gives amazing freedom and power in our lives as believers and as we grow spiritually, God's desire is that we increasingly know Him as Father and His Father-heart in our lives each day.

Jesus taught us to pray to God as Father; this is time spent in the presence of the Father. It is not only talking to Him but listening to His voice; it is a two-way conversation. Our Father wants us to spend time in His presence; praising, worshiping and communing with Him. He never ignores us, and He loves to hear your voice. David reminds us of this in Psalm 116:1-2: "I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live." (ESV)

One of the best known pictures of God as Father is seen in the parable of the prodigal son. (Luke 15:11-32) Here, the son runs away from his home and family, wasting his time and money in sinful rebellion. When he realises his foolishness, the son returns expecting shame and condemnation from his father. Instead, the father is shown to have been looking every day for his son to come back, and upon seeing him, runs to him, lavishing him with extravagant love and gifts. Never forget this picture of the Father's love for you: God will never forget you, reject you, and always desires that you will come home to Him.

Jesus and Paul both declared that God is not just Father, but Abba. Abba is an Aramaic word which has no simple explanation in English, but is often said to mean "daddy" (Mk. 14:36). God wants us to know the intimacy of Him like a small child does with their dad, but also to understand that our Dad is the Creator of the universe; he is the mighty, powerful, awesome, living God. Allow God to soften your heart so that you can call Him "Dad" and know that He looks upon you with favour and listens to your voice with delight.

Here is a link to Chris Tomlin's song, **Good Good Father**, for you to enjoy:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zImUxzi-p_Y



Barbara Robb
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News from the Editor

2nd Hand Stock Shop

The Stock Shop will be opening a 2nd Hand Store on 17 July from 7 – 8am. The shop will then be open on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 7-8am thereafter.

Wishing you and your family a well-deserved break and safe travels to those who are going away.

Kim Hooper
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News from High School Headmaster



As the many wonderful camp stories unfold here at school between the staff and pupils, I am reminded of the fundamental value of our children being exposed to the life lessons on offer on Grade Camps. Once removed from daily comfort zones and reference points, our young people are forced to navigate other – sometimes dormant – character traits of which they are possessed. Automatic responses shift when on camp as our children are exposed to

new realities; they discover their innate capacities for resilience, self-reflection and teamwork. Here, I must acknowledge my gratitude for our grade coordinators and the incredible thoughtfulness they accord to the planning of our camps. Also, I must thank them and all the staff who attended the camps for sacrificing their own family time and comforts to facilitate our children's growth through the camp experience.

We have traversed a semester of "firsts" as a high school. Doing things for the first time requires resilience (from all of us), creative energy and a modicum of faith. I must, in particular, pay tribute to our staff and parents. By not holding mid-year examinations, our long-held paradigm has been challenged; however, by acquiring more teaching time this way, it enables the Grade 10s and 11s a more well-spaced examination timetable at the end of the year, thereby removing that overwhelming sense of rush and anxiety from what has always been an overloaded examination timetable. By affording our Grade 10s and 11s more breathing space (as the Matrics receive in their finals), it will make for a more focused, manageable examination timetable. Similarly, the Elective Programme in Grade 8 and 9 has ushered in a space of deep, sustained and meaningful learning. Observing our staff and pupils stretching themselves beyond the confines of the curriculum has been most rewarding. I remain grateful and humbled to be a member of a learning community that is committed to inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders Today.

I am incredibly excited to announce that Mrs Nonto Mkize, our high school secretary, will be assuming the position of Academic Administrator for the College as of the beginning of next term. We are in the throes of receiving applications for the high school secretary position. I want to thank Mrs Mkize for the excellent work she has produced in the high school secretary's office. She has been an empathic ear for our young people, staff and parents, and has managed that space with grace and professionalism. I know you all join me in congratulating Mrs Mkize on her new position, as well as offering her our collective gratitude for the caring manner in which she attended to our collective requests, concerns and inquiries as high school secretary.

This term has demanded much from many. Our young people face many challenges and demands daily. The world constantly demands their attention via what is essentially an extra appendage: their cell phones. It is critical, therefore, that the constant values and dispositions we espouse prepares them to be Tomorrow's Leaders Today. Our staff constantly step into the fray to seek out opportunities to grow our young people, be it in the academic, cultural, sporting, outreach, leadership or social sphere. I couldn't be more proud and grateful of how the Thomas More College teachers commit to their pupils and their growth.

This week sees a dynamic staff development session on Tuesday afternoon (school closes at 12:00 on Tuesday 19 June for the high school pupils), as well as our Wellness Day on Wednesday 20 June (normal closing time). Thursday 21 June (normal closing time) plays host to our mid-year Awards

Ceremony in the evening, and we close school at 10:30 on Friday 22 June.

After what has been an immense semester across the gambit of school life and activities at Thomas More College, I wish all of our families a deeply and richly blessed holiday. May it be a time of rejuvenation and being blessed.

Dave Wiggett
HS Headmaster
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News from Primary School Headmistress



The Grade 6 and 7 Sunset Proms was a very special evening last Wednesday and highlighted the wealth of talent our pupils have and showcased a wide range of genres, from mime, drama, vocals, both solo and duets, and various musical instruments to various dance groups and styles. It was truly humbling to see what our pupils had produced, most of the time doing their own choreography and finding the time to have rehearsed. Many 21st century skills were prevalent, from communication, creativity, collaboration to problem solving and managing conflict and disagreements. In the end culture was the winner! To all those who auditioned – very well done- you are all stars to be able to have the confidence and ability to be able to perform. Thank you to those who supported on the evening and to the parents for taking children to rehearsals at each other's homes or at school. A special thank you too to Mrs Roberta Ramasamy, Mr Sherwin Ganasen and Mr Gary Balarin for their support, organisation and planning.

Thank you to Mrs Purdon and the teachers for organising a fun-filled Non Academic (NAD) Day today, which includes listening to a presentation on "Hooked on Books". A reminder that forms were sent out by our librarian, Mrs Sewchuran, should you wish to purchase any of the books from which the children will enjoy snippets.

A reminder that all of our Primary School pupils will be given their Parents' Council Country Fair raffle forms sometime this week to make it easier to get them filled in over the holidays.

This is an exciting, full last week of term. Our cultural pupils will be going on a two day trip on Wednesday and Thursday, performing in Howick and Winterton, and being given the opportunity to appreciate a performance by the Drakensberg Boys' choir in the afternoon and to have a workshop with them the following morning. We trust this well-deserved outing after a term of hard work and commitment is memorable and most enjoyable.

It is hard to believe that the holidays are already upon us after what has been a very hectic term. When we review what has been achieved, it is all credit to our dedicated, hard-working teachers, supportive parents and happy, contented and energetic pupils! I would like to take this opportunity to

express my heartfelt thanks to our staff. The commitment, energy and willingness to go the extra distance are appreciated! While teaching is very rewarding, it is also a very demanding profession! We have a very special team here at Thomas More and we are grateful to them for their loyalty and the high standards they set in all they do. We also appreciate all the support we receive from the admin staff who keep the cogs turning, and from our maintenance, cleaning, estate and kitchen staff who also do a superb job.

To our parents, thank you for your support and the contributions you make, whether being a loyal sports supporter, taxi to and from sport matches, on committees, as a class rep/ mom or reading mom, or just being there to support your child in all his/ her activities! Thank you too for sending in the extra sandwich for the 1000 Hills Outreach, winter woollies or that extra jar of peanut butter, or loaf of bread to assist the 1000 Hills Community over the holiday period and for the response to the Parents' Council request for tombola items for the Country Fair.

As I was writing report comments and visualizing our pupils and how they had fared during the term, I was thrilled in general at the progress made and the accomplishments of many. These reports will be available on line through the parent portal from 3pm on Friday.

Thank you to Mrs Lee Parfitt on her contribution to TMC. We wish her well in her new position as a Maths teacher at a private school in Surrey in the UK and wish her all the best on her relocation.

Friday is break-up day at 10:45 for the SP. Aftercare will be available until 15:00.

To those rehearsing for our SP play next term, or attending holiday sports clinics, may you have fun as well as improve your skills. Best wishes also to those pupils representing KZN in sports matches during the holidays.

We wish you a most enjoyable and safe holiday, and much quality family time, and shall see you all back at school on Monday 16 July.

Barbara Taljard
PS Headmistress
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News from the Foundation Phase Headmistress



There is much to be said for the ethos of our school and what we stand for as we aim to prepare our children for "the world out there". The things that lay good foundations for the future are embedded in bringing up children who are socially skilled and have a sound moral compass.

If we want children to be of sound character, be confident, have inner strength and be resilient we do need to let them face adversity. Whether they come out the other

side stronger or not, it's the learning journey that will make them more resilient and wiser in their life choices.

Facing adversity can mean something as devastating as failing a test or forgetting soccer kit for the match – both have consequences which make our hearts break for the child, but they learn nothing if we don't help them with the skills to cope with disappointments, but rather remove the obstacle for them. Life lessons that are hard to learn, but will make children of character in the end!

As we approach the end of our first six months, please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your support and help. The children are tired, teachers are tired and I am sure you are tired too! Rest well if you are able to during the forthcoming holiday and may you be blessed with some quality time with your children.

While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about ~ Angela Schwindt

Deni Hornsey
FP Headmistress
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1B	Khangisa Hlatshwayo – for her creative story writing and excellent vocabulary.
1R	Elia Naik – for the wonderful sentences she writes and for her kind, gentle nature.
1S	Kayleigh Chiba – for trying hard to improve the presentation of her tasks and her creative stories.
2D	Esethu Nene – for his beautiful neat work and consistent work ethic.
2R	Jamie Geysler – for his kind, gentle manner and the effort he makes in all his lessons.
2K	Cameron Pieterse – for always being well-mannered, trying his best at all tasks and consistently offering to help around the classroom.
3B	Luke Ramlakan – for his willingness to persevere and for his consistent offers to be of assistance.
3M	Naomi Easson – for working hard in the classroom and her dancing achievements.
3R	Peta Mazery – for consistently good effort to work hard every day.
4P	Gabrielle Rockey – for her growth in confidence, creativity and improved organization.

4D	Mishael Singh – for his helpful and positive nature.
4C	Lumka Ndaba – for her lovely manners and helpful nature.
5McG	Bjorn Bekker – for his cheerful nature and positive attitude towards his school day.
5M	Aphelele Mchunu – for always giving of her best and for always helping her teacher and peers.
5vL	Grace Brien – for her kind, thoughtful nature and for always being so cheerful.
6F	Travis Holmes – for his gentle, manly behavior and beautiful manners.
6L	Hugo Gildenhuys – for his polite manners and excellent work ethic.
6McC	Kiara Ganesh – for her hard work, positive attitude and commitment to school.
7M	Darian Maclean – for her kind and caring nature.
7H	Jasmine Curtis – for her lovely manners and kind nature.
7C	Aidan Brown – for his good manners, helpful nature and wonderful sense of humour.
7CH	Grace Carson – for her wonderful work ethic in the classroom.

SPORT & CULTURE RESULTS



Equestrian
 Congratulations to Reine Marshall (pictured in 1st place) who competed in the Nissan Winter Classic and achieved the following results on her horses: Rathmor Merlot – won JNR 1,20 Accumulator class as well as the 1,20 Precision and Speed class. Black Hawk won the JNR 1,10 Accumulator class. Reine and her pony Jelly Tot received 3rd place and went on to win the Open Pony Rider championships. Well done Reine.

Congratulations is also extended to Olivia van Rooyen (pictured above) who placed 3rd in the Open 1,20 Pony Championships and Accumulator class riding Vito 22. Well done Olivia.

Debating
 Congratulations to Justin Keep for being selected as a reserve for the Junior Provincial Debating Selections. Well done to our Grade 8 debating team who have made it through to the quarter finals of the League Debates which will be held next term.

U9 Rugby
 Well done to our U9 rugby boys who played in our TMC tournament last week. We had great results. Congratulations

to Nickus Breedt & Minenhle Mbonambi for being chosen as the 'players of the tournament' for TMC.
 vs Curro B Won 20-0
 vs Hillcrest A Drew 0-0
 vs Highbury D Won 15-5
 vs Hillcrest B Won 15-5
 vs Northdene A Won 15-0

QUICK LINKS

Academic Calendars

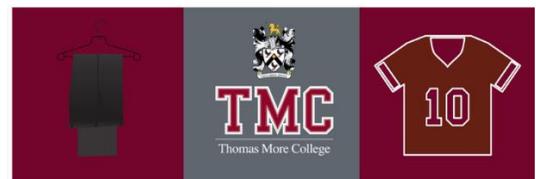


Sporting/Cultural Calendars



Portals

[Parent Portal](#)
[Student Portal](#)
[Alumni Portal](#)
[Staff Portal](#)
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**2ND HAND STOCK SHOP
 OPENS 17 JULY 2018**

(TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 7AM - 8AM)

