

This week

- Tue 22 Nov: Open morning for prospective parents/carers
- Wed 23 Nov: Consultation Evening
- Fri 25 Nov: Occasional day (school closed)

Dates further ahead

- Thu 1 Dec: Open morning for prospective parents/carers
- Sat 10 Dec: Friends of Thomas Coram Christmas Fair
- Wed 14 Dec: Year 3 Christmas Production, 2.00pm
- Thu 15 Dec: Year 3 Christmas Production, 6.30pm
- Tue 20 Dec: Christmas Lunch
- Wed 21 Dec: Christmas Service at St Peter's, 10.30am
- Wed 21 Dec: End of term, 1.00pm

[A full calendar is available on our website](#)

Notices and reminders

Please find attached the [dates for the academic year 2017-2018](#), which are also available on our website.

We are currently advertising [vacancies for support staff](#). On teachinherts, and via the vacancies page on our website, you will find adverts for: an administration assistant, a librarian, a teaching assistant and a cleaner. Please see the job descriptions and person specs; contact the school if you would like more information on any of these posts.

This week is [the last Big Write of this term](#). Look out for your Talk Homework which will be available to download from our website.

We warmly invite [all prospective parents/carers to our open mornings](#) on Tuesday 22 November and Thursday 1 December. There will be a presentation by the Headteacher at 9.00am, followed by a tour to see our school in action, accompanied by pupil guides.

Our [Christmas Lunch](#) will be on Tuesday 20 December. Please see the attached letter for details and payment. Christmas Lunch **must** be bought in advance as the kitchen has to order and prepare the food. No cash is taken and no biometric or Wisepay transactions take place on this day. If you do not want your child to take part in this festive occasion please supply a packed lunch.

Recent letters

Last week we sent out these letters which are also available on our website:

- Young Voices
- Supermarket Vouchers – December

This week's attachments

Today we're attaching:

- Dates for Academic Year 2017-2018
- Supermarket Vouchers – December
- Christmas Lunch
- FOTC Silent Auction

[Friends of Thomas Coram Update](#) - Thank you to 4BC who raised £79.50 from their cake sale. This will be the last cake and cookie sale until later next year. Last Friday's Quiz Night also raised ~£350 - thanks to all who attended. Finally the early silent auction lots are still open for bids - please see the attached flyer.

[This week at St Peter's](#) - there will be another name badge Sunday and drinks in church after the 9.30am service. It's a chance to get to know each other better. Fr John is taking the services at 8.00am and 9.30am. There will be no TSS this week, but it will be back at the new time of 4.00pm in January.



Swing Gate Infant School



The Thomas Coram CE School



Victoria CE Infant School

Academic Year 2017-2018

In 2017-2018, all schools have 5 Staff INSET Days and 6 Occasional Day Holidays on which to close the school. These are all taken during the school terms template issued by Hertfordshire County Council. Our extra Occasional Day Holidays are arranged in line with our local partner schools.

Autumn Term 2017

Wed 30 & Thurs 31 August	Occasional Day Holidays (school closed)
Friday 1 September	Staff INSET
Monday 4 September	Pupils return
Mon 23 – Fri 27 October	Half term break
Monday 30 October	Pupils return
Tuesday 19 December	End of term (early closure)

Spring Term 2018

Wednesday 3 January	Staff INSET
Thursday 4 January	Pupils return
Mon 12 – Fri 16 February	Half term break
Monday 19 February	Pupils return
Thursday 29 March	End of term (early closure)

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16 April	Staff INSET
Tuesday 17 April	Staff INSET
Wednesday 18 April	Pupils return
Monday 7 May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Mon 28 May – Fri 1 June	Half term break
Monday 4 June	Pupils return
Friday 20 July	End of term (early closure)
Monday 23 July	Staff INSET
Tues 24 – Fri 27 July	Occasional Day Holidays (school closed)



Supermarket Vouchers Orders – December

Orders to be returned no later than Friday 2 December

Thank you to all who ordered vouchers for November. The amount raised was £139.35 a little more than October, so hopefully it's on the increase !!! Please, please try the scheme it really is a worthwhile scheme to participate in as it is at no extra cost to you, but so very rewarding for our school.

With **Christmas** just around the corner presents and groceries will need to be purchased, so why not buy vouchers through the school? Don't forget to order any vouchers you may need for gifts - maybe instead of wine, chocolates or socks! A voucher would be a change for your employees, colleagues or friends.

Please, please keep ordering. It really is a worthwhile scheme to participate in as it is at no extra cost to you, but so very rewarding for our school.

WisePay Payments – you can pay for your vouchers, using your debit/credit card, through WisePay, Donations Manager (please follow the WisePay link via our school website). WisePay payments will be charged to your account on the day you process your transaction. You will still need to send in the completed form below to advise which vouchers you will require. Should you have any problems using Wise Pay please contact the school office. Cheques are still very much welcome, if that suits you. These will be banked on or after 19 December.

Voucher collection date is Monday 19 December.

REMEMBER, you have to purchase food/clothes so why not help your school at the same time?!!

Please indicate the number of vouchers you wish to order for **December**
To be returned to school by **Friday 2 December**.



	Tesco (Gift Card)	Sainsbury	John Lewis/ Waitrose (Gift Card)	
	£10 £	£10 £	£10 £	
	£20 £	£20 £	£25 £	
	N/A	N/A	£50 £	
	£50 £	N/A	£100 £	
Total	£	£	£	Total £

Cheques should be made payable to **The Thomas Coram CE School**

* I will personally collect the vouchers/I authorise my son/daughter to collect the vouchers

Please delete as applicable

Signed.....Parent/Carer

Child's Name.....Class.....



18 November 2016

Christmas Lunch

Although Christmas is still a few weeks away, it is time for us to organise and finalise numbers for our school Christmas Lunch which will take place this year on Tuesday 20 December. The meal will be a traditional Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings and ice cream for dessert. There will also be a seasonal vegetarian option available.

We hope all parents/carers will encourage their child/ren to join in with our festive lunch, which will **cost £2.50**.

Payment for the Christmas Lunch by credit/debit card can be made on-line using WisePay. Please visit www.thomascoram.herts.sch.uk for the WisePay link.

Alternatively, please complete the attached slip and return with the exact money in a named envelope and handed into your child's class teacher by **Tuesday 29 November** (cheques should be made payable to The Thomas Coram CE School).

Christmas Lunch **must** be ordered and paid for in advance as the kitchen has to order the food. No cash is taken and no biometric or Wisepay transactions take place on the day. If you do not want your child to take part in this festive occasion, you should supply a packed lunch.

Children entitled to a free school meal will automatically receive a Christmas Lunch. Check your eligibility or apply for Free School Meals at www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals.



Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 20 December

Please complete this reply slip and return in a named envelope with £2.50 and hand into your child's class teacher by **Tuesday 29 November**.

Vegetarian

Child's Name.....Class.....

Friends of Thomas Coram Silent Auction 'Christmas Crackers'

We have 4 great prizes being released prior to the 'Silent Auction' so you can pop the dates in your diary!

No.	Company	Item	RRP
A	Hemel Hempstead Theatre Company	A family ticket for 2 adults and 2 children to The Sleeping Beauty Pantomime at the Boxmoor Playhouse on Saturday 10 th December at 5.30pm	£39
B	Robin Ince	2 x Top Price tickets to the Christmas Compendium of Reason at the Hammersmith Apollo on Friday 16 th December at 7pm. Join Brian Cox and Robin Ince for a night of comedy, science & music. This year's line-up is top secret, but it includes a band who usually play venues which are far bigger than the Hammersmith Apollo, some very famous comedians and some of the UK's best known scientists. Last year included Alison Moyet, Bridget Christie, Dara O'Briain, The Cure and many more.	£70
C	Robin Ince	As above	£70
D	Nicola Everitt	2 Adult tickets and 2 Child tickets to Ripley's Believe it or Not, London – to be used in 2016	£49

HOW TO BID

1. Choose the prize that tickles your fancy.
2. Email your best bid to ThomasCoramChristmasFayre@outlook.com.
3. Bidding will end on **Thursday 24th November at 3.30pm** & the winner will be notified by email.

The main 'Silent Auction' will start on Friday 25th so keep your eyes peeled.