



13 September 2017

Dear Pupils,

As you will be aware, at Thomas Coram we have a House system. This means all children are linked to a House and collect points (for themselves and their House) by working hard in class, producing really good quality work, being polite and courteous, helping each other and by setting a good example. Everyone's individual points are added up every Friday and the House gaining the largest number of points that week is announced and celebrated.

Since Thomas Coram opened as a middle school in 1989, our Houses have been named after famous sailors, making a seafaring link with Captain Thomas Coram. Our four Houses and their identifying colour are: Cook (yellow), Drake (blue), Frobisher (red) and Nelson (green). More information about our current Houses can be read here www.thomascoram.herts.sch.uk/house-system.

During 2016-17, we decided to review our House names, as they are all white British men, which we was felt to be unrepresentative of the multi-cultural, equal society in which we now live. The governors discussed with the school council, made up of pupil representatives of each class, what they thought about their Houses and a decision was made that the school should look to review the House names this academic year.

This means we need your help!

The school council decided that our House names should maintain a link with Thomas Coram, albeit not the seafaring connection, and instead focus on his perseverance to give others better chances. As you may know, Thomas Coram campaigned tirelessly for 17 years until, at the age of 71, he finally persuaded King George II to sign a Royal Charter to establish a home for abandoned children. It was said to be the world's first incorporated charity and it's work still continues today. You can find out more about Thomas Coram himself here www.thomascoram.herts.sch.uk/thomas-coram.

Today we are launching a competition for YOU to suggest a person, either from history or the current day, who you believe, like Thomas Coram had (or has) a strong sense of perseverance and care to improve the lives of others.

You should submit your ideas – as many as you like – on the accompanying form and make sure they are back at school by Friday 6 October.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Cutler
Head of School

New House names for The Thomas Coram Church of England School

You can submit as many entries as you wish. Use a separate sheet for each entry.

Your name		Your class	
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The person I would like to suggest is

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This is because:

(What did they do that shows a strong sense of perseverance and care to improve the lives of others?)

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Thank you!

Your suggestions must be in by Friday 6 October.