

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to all our staff, students, families and everyone connected to the community of St Thomas More RC College, I wish all of us a successful and happy 2024, and I hope everybody had a restful, joyful and peaceful Christmas Holiday.

It has been a real pleasure to welcome the students back this week and our sensible students have made a great start to their learning for the new term and the short week gives everyone the opportunity to get back into their normal routines ahead of the first full week of the term on Monday.

Advance Notice Year 10 Parents Evening

Year 10 Parents Evening will be held in school on Thursday 18th January 3:30pm to 6:30pm for all Year 10 Parents and Carers. The event is an invaluable opportunity to gain really important information about your child's progress during this crucial first year of their GCSE and vocational qualifications, please look out for the letter that will be sent out next week that will allow Year 10 Parents/Carers to book their appointment times.

Resource Base Consultation: School Website

Following discussions with Tameside Local Authority the School Governors have taken the decision to launch a consultation on a proposal to admit no more students to the ASD Resource Base from September 2024 onwards. This would eventually result in no additional students being placed in the Resource Base by the Local Authority, the consultation proposal spells out that this would mean the eventual closure of the resource base after five years.

Please note: As the resource base will stay open for students currently on roll, all current students within the Resource Base would finish their Education at St Thomas More RC College.

The consultation document is being shared widely and we are seeking to encourage as many people as possible to make their views/comments known. Full details of the consultation proposal and all additional information including on how you can make your views known are available on the school website at the following link.

<https://www.stmcollege.org.uk/resource-base-consultation>

(This link will be activated before Monday 8th January when the consultation period begins)

The Consultation closes on Monday 5th February

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

With lots of Premiership games over the Christmas Break there has been a lot of movement in the St Thomas More League with a new leader at the top!!!

League leader position is now handed back to Mr Turner on 1217 Points.

Game week 20 winner was

Ryan F Year 10 with a huge 96 Points!!

There is still time for students or staff to join the league to win the weekly award.

Students just need to create a Premier League account and a team at [Fantasy Premier League, Official Fantasy Football Game of the Premier League](#) then they can join the school mini league named;

St Thomas More League

The league code is; wojosv

Alternatively, you can click on the link below to automatically join the league.

<https://fantasy.premierleague.com/leagues/auto-join/wojosv>

Reminder: Year 10 Work Experience

Our work experience provider called “Our Futures” have now launched our work experience programme for year 10 students. The work experience placements will take place at the end of the summer term.

Further information is now available online on Satchel: One pupils have been given paper copies of the forms to complete. The deadline for the return of these forms is Friday 19th January 2024.

Mr Wright is available each day afterschool in room 42 to support pupils with any questions or tips on how to source placements, as students are advised to arrange their own placements in their chosen area of interest to make the experience as worthwhile as possible.

Finally

Please remember that you can contact school each weekday Monday to Friday either by calling 0161 336 2743 or emailing admin@stmcollege.org.uk during normal school hours, if you do want to visit school to talk to a member of staff that can of course be arranged but do please contact school prior to your journey so that mutually convenient time and date can be arranged for an appointment.

God bless

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2024 Year of Prayer

As you may be aware in the Catholic Church 2025 has been designated as a Jubilee Year by Pope Francis with ‘Pilgrims of Hope’ as the theme.

The Holy Father has therefore asked that 2024 be year of prayer, as a preparatory year for the Jubilee.

As a start to the year of prayer there can be no more fitting prayer to use than the Our Father to look forward to a successful, happy and prayerful year ahead.

Our Father

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name;
 Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done
 on earth as it is in Heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

Key Parent/Carer Dates

Please note some dates particularly trips may be provisional and subject to change.

Event	Date
Year 11 Mock Exams	8 th January to 19 th January 2024
Year 10 Parents Evening	18 th January 2024
Year 9 Science Trip Chester Zoo Trip	6 th February 2024
Year 8 History Quarry Bank Mill Trip	8 th February 2024
Math Pi Day	14 th March 2024
Year 9 Parents Evening	21 st March 2024
Year 9 Pathways Evening (Options)	18 th April 2024
GCSE MFL Speaking Exams	18 th April to 3 rd May 2024
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition	26 th April to 28 th April 2024
GCSE Art Exam (Over 3 Days)	29 th April to 1 st May 2024
Year 8 Parents Evening	2 nd May 2024
GCSE Exams Begin	7 th May 2024
Year 10 London Trip	13 th June to 15 th June 2024
GCSE Exams End (Provisional)	19 th June 2024
Year 10 Mock Exams	20 th June to 27 th June 2024
Year 10 Geography Trip	28 th June 2024
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition	21 st June to 23 rd June 2024
Year 6 Induction Day	4 th July 2024
Rewards Evening Year 10-7	11 th July 2024
Sports Day Week	15 th July to 19 th July 2024
Work Experience Week	15 th July to 19 th July 2024
Celebration Day	22 nd July 2024
GCSE Results Day	22 nd August 2024