

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy Friday, the first full week back has been incredibly successful and I have visited lots of classrooms this week and seen our dedicated students really focused on their learning and keeping themselves smart and professional in our school uniform.

I am so proud of the students, staff and the popularity of our high achieving academic school, after another year of receiving some of the best GCSE Exam results in Tameside and the North West, it is really pleasing to hear that we have had **489 applications** for Year 7 in September 2024 for just **160 places**, the oversubscribed nature of our community is one indicator of how successful the school is and how fortunate we should all feel to be a member of this community.

Well done to all our staff, students and families for making this such a wonderful community to study and work in and a special well done this week to Year 11 who have been working so hard during their GCSE Mock Exam week.

Tracking Reports

The term 1 tracking report for your child are in the post, and will arrive shortly. For parents/carers of pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9, we have made some changes to the design of the report to provide even more information about your child's progress.

The additional information shows your child's performance in assessments relative to the rest of the year group, with pupil assessment results summarised in a banding system.

An explanatory video explaining the additional information may be found by following the link:

 [Tracking and reporting Jan 2024 info for students.wmv](#)

Confirmation 2024 - ST ANNE'S, FAIRFIELD

The sacrament of Confirmation will again be celebrated in June this year at St Anne's in Fairfield. There will be an introductory meeting for any students in Year 8 or older from St Anne's Fairfield parish who are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, with their parents, on Monday 29th January at 6.30pm in St Anne's parish hall. The programme of preparation will be explained at the meeting.

If you wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation this year, please speak to Fr Chris or contact the parish office before the meeting, Email - stannesfairfield@gmail.com or Phone - 0161 370 1615. Candidates will be confirmed by Bishop John on 2nd or 5th June 2024.

Top of the Achievement Points League

Some outstanding achievement point totals this week with some of our first students crossing the threshold for their Silver Badge at 3000 points, well done to all the students who are collecting their points so diligently for their excellent attitude towards their education and their school community.

There are some big weekly totals for some forms this week as the achievement points for tracking data begin to be added with achievement points for ATL scores of 1 and 2, the remaining points will be added next week.

Year 11 are understandably a bit lower on their totals for the week as they have been in mock exams rather than lessons.

Brilliant effort from everyone at the start of 2024!!

T	H	O	M	A	S
Year 7 Total					
Charlotte H 2930	Albie N 3100	Abbie H 3020	Ellis P 2520	Eleanor L 2790	Erin L 2660
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Charlotte H 390 Aiden F 370	Jacob B 400 Zuzanna F 400	Abbie H 150 Steven C 110	Winter L 330	Eleanor L 110 Charlotte L 100	Charlie M 190
Year 8 Total					
Miracle O 3160	Christopher M 3340	Maria B 3190	Florence S 3110	Carrie M 3790	Evie B 2960
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Brooke D 360	Christopher M 430 Doreen A 400	Maria B 380 Oliver D 380	Xavier LH 390	Jake T 440	Isla N 380
Year 9 Total					
Olivia K 2910	Jack R 2345	Francesca W 2600	Leyton W 2610	Alex D 2330	Anna R 2660
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Paul K 620	Jack R 310 Sam A 310	Francesca W 380 Dominik C 370 Mia S 370	Olivia M 370	Harry C 360	Beth M 300
Year 10 Total					
Eid A 2980	Luca H 2380	Ben F 2620	Daisy N 3160	David W 2770	Rosin M 2530
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Eid A 190 Jess K 170	Luca H 160 Hope C 160	Shalom O 170	Daisy N 150 Paige R 130	Akiel U 130	Megan T 130
Year 11 Total					
Nathan V 2260	Mia P 1830	Abigail T 1900	Rory M 2290	Olivia T 2340	Annabel M 2070
Year 11 Weekly Winner					
James P 70	Alex D 60	Malina P 60	Thomas L 100	Abigail L 70 Libby T 70 Olivia T 70	Annabel M 90 Daisy D 50 Ben G 50 Georgia W 50

Reminder: 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.

The link to the online booking system is as follows but you will need the information from the letter that has been sent home to access the system to book your appointments:

<https://stmcollege.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Reminder: 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 student 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.

No change in the Fantasy Football League due to the FA Cup games last weekend.

Game week 21 is a two weekend game week due to the Premier league winter break but don't forget to make any changes to your team before 6pm tonight as there is a game between Burnley and Luton this evening.

Current League leader Mr Turner on 1217 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

H Brophy

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.

A Prayer for those affected by Conflict in the World

God of refuge, the rock in whom we trust,
watch over our sisters and brothers across the world.

Bring comfort to those who grieve,
shelter to those who are homeless,

and sustenance to those who hunger and thirst.

God of mercy, open our hearts to your grace,

so that we are filled with compassion and a generosity of spirit,

and inspire us to act to bring about Peace in the world.

Spirit of love, pour out your peace like a healing balm,

which brings hope in place of despair.

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