

Dear Parents/Carers

In advance of Holocaust Memorial Day which this year is on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January, school assemblies this week have remembered the millions of people that have been affected by genocide during the passage of human history. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) encourages remembrance on the 27<sup>th</sup> January in a world scarred by genocide. The trust promotes and supports Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) – so we can remember the 6 million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of people in other groups murdered under Nazi persecution and during more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

27 January is an important date as it marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp.

As always the students were incredibly respectful and well-mannered during our assemblies and it is so important that young people learn about the terrible mistakes of history so they can hopefully help build a world rooted in peace, love and kindness.

The Holocaust Memorial Day service can be viewed online at the following web address:

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/take-part-in-holocaust-memorial-day/ukhmd/>

### **Respect Me Tour**

On Thursday we have been incredibly fortunate to welcome the Respect Me tour into school to share vitally important and relevant messages with each year group on themes of health and safeguarding.

Each year group received a bespoke and age appropriate presentation from our guests on themes that included; Anti-Bullying, Self-Esteem, Positive Relationships, Sexting, and the dangers of risky or abusive behaviours. The representatives of the Respect Me tour told me how impressed they were with the excellent behaviour of the students during each session.

More information can be found at:

<https://respectme.co.uk/respectmetour/>

### **Year 10 Debate**

Well done to the Year 10 students who represented the school at the Debate Event organised by Loreto College this week, the students were very impressive and showed off their vocabulary and linguistic ability on a range of topics. Events like these are so important for our students as it prepares them for some of the demands of university applications and interviews and it is fantastic experience that they can draw on when they secure professional and aspirational careers.

### **Advance Notice: End of Half term**

The last day of the half term is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February with school finishing at normal time.

Students then return to school after the holiday on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Top of the Achievement Points League**

A brilliant effort from all our students who are collecting so many achievement points week by week, the totals are just incredible and shows what you can achieve by doing the simple things well and going the extra mile to be successful.

T	H	O	M	A	S
<b>Year 7 Total</b>					
Charlotte H 3320	Jacob B 3550	Abbie H 3410	Ellis P 2900	Eleanor L 3240	Erin L 3080
<b>Year 7 Weekly Winner</b>					
Sophia B 220	Jacob B 320	Abbie H Fern S 220	Ellis P 210	Eleanor L 270	Amelia F Erin L Mitchelle N Ruby W
<b>Year 8 Total</b>					
Miracle O 3680	Christopher M 3550	Maria B 3430	Florence S 3400	Carrie M 4340	Evie B 3290
<b>Year 8 Weekly Winner</b>					
Miracle O 270	Christopher M 120	Rachel L 240	Florence S 110	Carrie M 260	Alfred K Ole M 180
<b>Year 9 Total</b>					
Olivia K 3150	Jack R 2745	Dominik C 2880	Leyton W 2890	Alexander D 2610	Anna R 2940
<b>Year 9 Weekly Winner</b>					
Isla C 150	Jack R 150	Dominik C 190	Lauren L Amelia T 160	Francesca D 190	William T 160
<b>Year 10 Total</b>					
Eid A 3300	Luca H 2740	Ben F 3010	Daisy N 3830	David W 3210	Rosin M
<b>Year 10 Weekly Winner</b>					
Atlanta R 200	Hope C 110	Pippa S 120	Daisy N 360	David W 130	Charlie C 180
<b>Year 11 Total</b>					
Nathan V 2600	Mia P 2050	Delano M 2160	Rory M 2620	Olivia T 2650	Annabel M 2300
<b>Year 11 Weekly Winner</b>					
Nathan V 130	Alex D 50	Delano M Kelsey P 90	Grace B Thomas W 100	Olivia T Chris F 90	Daisy D 80

### St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

The long game week in the Premier League saw no change at the top of the St Thomas More League with **League leader remaining as Mr Turner on 1278 points**

**The top player in school for gameweek 21 was Brook D with 73 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>

### **Year 9 Booster Vaccinations SLB/MEN ACWY**

If your child is in year 9 please be aware they have been given a consent form for the SLB/MEN ACWY booster vaccinations.

The immunisation team will be coming into school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February until Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. If your child requires the booster vaccination please could you complete the forms and return to school by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Please see the attached information sheet for further details

### ***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 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>

*The Consultation now closes on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February, the deadline has been extended by request*

### **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](mailto: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 are provisional and subject to change.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Year 9 Science Trip Chester Zoo Trip	6 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Year 8 History Quarry Bank Mill Trip	8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Math Pi Day	14 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Year 9 Parents Evening	21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
Year 9 Pathways Evening (Options)	18 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
GCSE MFL Speaking Exams	18 <sup>th</sup> April to 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition	26 <sup>th</sup> April to 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
GCSE Art Exam (Over 3 Days)	29 <sup>th</sup> April to 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
Year 8 Parents Evening	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024

GCSE Exams Begin	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Year 10 London Trip	13 <sup>th</sup> June to 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
GCSE Exams End (Provisional)	19 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Year 10 Mock Exams	20 <sup>th</sup> June to 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Year 10 Geography Trip	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition	21 <sup>st</sup> June to 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024
Year 6 Induction Day	4 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Rewards Evening Year 10-7	11 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Sports Day Week	15 <sup>th</sup> July to 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Work Experience Week	15 <sup>th</sup> July to 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Celebration Day	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024
GCSE Results Day	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2024