

Dear Parents/Carers

Assemblies this week have focused on one of the most famous lesson that we received from Jesus, The Beatitudes. Students in each year group in M forms told the story of The Beatitudes and reminded us that Pope Francis tells us that The Beatitudes are a road map for the way we can live our lives so that we are kind to each other and focused on making our community and world a better place. It was fantastic to hear the students linking the message of the assembly to the excellent culture of our school including our Charity and Social Justice work.

### **Confirmation of High Performing Status.**

The Department for Education has today published the final school performance tables for last year's exam results and the publication of the progress data confirms our position as a high performing school not just locally but also nationally when compared to all schools in England. Our Progress 8 score for all the examinations taken in school shows that students made above average progress at St Thomas More and that we are in the top 15% of schools for our progress and examination data across all schools in the country

Our tremendous success is down to many factors but in part it is because of our insistence on the highest standards and expectations for student's behaviour and attitude to learning so that teaching and learning is always prioritised so that all students can learn extremely well without distraction.

I must congratulate all our students who display consistently excellent behaviour and attitude under the guidance of their teachers, although our behaviour policy is extremely robust to foster a culture of excellent conduct in school it is always pleasing to know that the overwhelming majority of students in school have never had a negative comment or detention, choosing instead to work hard so they receive many, many achievement points and excellent outcomes.

I must also thank you as parents and carers for the fantastic way you are raising our committed students to be wonderful, polite and productive young men and women.

It does take a significant effort from all staff in school to ensure that we are keeping standards as high as possible and I would like to thank all the staff and you as parents/carers for your support.

### **Lost Property**

As we reach the mid-point of the year we have collected a large number of student items of lost property including a number of coats, trainers, PE kit and items of uniform.

If your child has lost anything since the start of the year in September, please ask them go to the main office next week. Anything not claimed will be donated to charity as appropriate over half term.

All the items in lost property appear not to be marked with student's names, if you are able to write your son/daughters name clearly on the labels of items of clothing that they are bringing to school we are usually able to return them to students very quickly if they are misplaced.

### **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

It is absolutely fantastic that of the 784 students who are members of our outstanding school community that 726 are on overall positive achievement points and that number is growing week by week.

Well done to the students in each year group who have achieved their Silver Badges this term, they are receiving the additional privilege of being allowed into the lunch queue first each Friday, it is brilliant that we have so many achievements to celebrate in our community.

T	H	O	M	A	S
<b>Year 7 Total</b>					
Charlotte H 3540	Albie N 3780	Abbie H 3610	Ellis P 3080	Eleanor L 3560	Erin L 3300
<b>Year 7 Weekly Winner</b>					
Charlotte H 200	Albie N 290	Freya B 230	Eliza B 240	Eleanor L 290	Maddie D Erin L Ruby W 200
<b>Year 8 Total</b>					
Miracle O 4000	Christopher M 3700	Rachel L 3670	Florence S 4090	Carrie M 4730	Evie B 3550
<b>Year 8 Weekly Winner</b>					
Miracle O 290	Archie G 150	Rachel L 270	Florence S 690	Carrie M 380	Evie B 200
<b>Year 9 Total</b>					
Olivia K 3290	Jack R 3055	Dominik C 3020	Leyton W 3070	Alexander D 2770	Anna R 3070
<b>Year 9 Weekly Winner</b>					
Isabella B 250	Jack R 250	Emma H 190	Amelia T 190	Francesca D 180	Anna R 100
<b>Year 10 Total</b>					
Eid A 3430	Luca H 2870	Ben F 3190	Daisy N 4010	David W 3390	Megan T 3110
<b>Year 10 Weekly Winner</b>					
Tymon N 130	Amy E 120	Ben F 170	Daisy N 160	David W 100	Megan T 140
<b>Year 11 Total</b>					
Nathan V 2790	Mia P 2090	Delano M 2250	Rory M 2790	Olivia T 2750	Annabel M 2370
<b>Year 11 Weekly Winner</b>					
Nathan V 150	Jessica B 110	Keira M 110	Anjola T 140	Ben F Libby T 80	Kai P 110

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

Don't forget to make any changes to your team before 11am tomorrow, before the early kick off between Everton and Spurs.

Midweek games this week saw the gap narrow at the top of the league but the chasing pack didn't have quite enough to overtake the consistent **League leader Mr Turner on 1316 points.**

**The top student players in school for gameweek 22 were Tom H and Ryan B with 72 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: 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>

*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.

### The Prayer of St Teresa of Avila

Christ has no body now but ours. No hands, no feet on earth but ours. Ours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world. Ours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Ours are the hands through which he blesses all the world

Spirit of Jesus, live in me and make present your loving action in the world today.

Amen.

## Key Parent/Carer Dates

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

Event	Date
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