

Dear Parents/Carers

Assemblies this week have been about the high standards and expectations that we insist on in school so that all students can learn effectively in lessons without distraction so that we can continue to achieve high academic standards for students through our rigorous curriculum so they are prepared for the next steps in their careers.

Heads of Year discussed with students the 5 simple things that they can be to make sure that they learn well and that our community is a nice place for everyone and they are:

Being: - Prompt, Prepared, Patient, Productive, and Polite

Year 7s and Year 8s were also very fortunate to have extended assemblies this week about the importance of safety on the railway that was delivered by Network Rail.

Pi Day

The Maths department created a wonderful set of activities on Thursday to raise the profile of Numeracy across the school as they celebrated Pi Day. There were lots of circles and numbers and the day culminated in the Pi competition where students tried to remember as many digits of Pi as they could, the feats of recall were amazing and it was clear that our talented students had worked really hard to memorise as much of the number as possible.

I am told that the Guinness World Record for the recall of Pi was achieved by Rajveer Meena (India) at the VIT University, Vellore, India, on 21 March 2015 and he was able to recall 70,000 digits of Pi which took him 10 hours, who knows it might be that one day in the future one of our students eventually breaks that long standing world record!

There have also been higher unofficial world records in the competitive discipline of Pi recall but the 2015 attempt is the only one recognised by Guinness World Records.

Careers Fair

Many thanks to the representatives of Colleges and Local Businesses who attended the school on Wednesday for our annual Key Stage 4 Careers Fair. Both Year 10 and Year 11 got the opportunity to visit as many stalls as possible to learn about exciting and aspirational careers after school.

The representatives were very impressed by our polite, well behaved and intelligent students.

Thank you to Mr Wright for organising this important event.

Special Mention to Georgia O Year 7

Well done to Georgia in Year 7, who has been performing with the English Youth Ballet and has been chosen to play the role of Cinderella in the performance of Hollywood.

Exceptional Georgia, very well done!!

Faith in Action and Gift Teams

A representative from Christie's Hospital visited the Faith in Action Teams and Gift Teams this week to explain how the many thousands of pounds that the school has raised during the Lenten Effort over many years has been used to advance Cancer treatment and research.

Well done to all the students and staff who have been doing such brilliant fundraising during Lent, well done to Harry C in Year 9 who raised £300 with a 7 mile cycle!!

Satchel One

Please remember that as a parent/carer you can obtain a log in from school to access your child's Satchel one account that will show you all their achievement and behaviour points so that you can monitor how successful they are being in school. Satchel One often informs us of the really positive impact that it has on student progress when parents/carers are regularly checking their child's account so if you don't already have a log in then please contact Mr M Smith, Assistant Headteacher in school to receive the details you need to have a big impact on your child's progress.

Top of the Achievement Points League

T	H	O	M	A	S
Year 7 Total					
Aidan F 4330	Jacob B 4850	Abbie H 4690	Ellis P 3850	Eleanor L 4280	Erin L 4180
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Aidan F 170	Zuzanna F 190	Alfie D 150	Ethan B 230	Charlotte L 150	Erin L 220
Year 8 Total					
Miracle O 4890	Christopher M 4810	Maria B 4710	Florence S 5060	Carrie M 6050	Evie B 4160
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Brokke D 150	Chris M Lucja S 160	Maria B 220	Xavier LH Isabelle P Florence S 150	Carrie M Jake T 230	Alfred K 140
Year 9 Total					
Olivia K 3960	Sam A 3920	Dominik C 3580	Leyton W 3770	Francesca D 3490	Anna R 3850
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Paul K 190	Sam A 230	Conor D 160	Olivia M 220	Francesca D 210	Anna R 180
Year 10 Total					
Eid A 4100	Luca H 3530	Ben F 3930	Daisy N 4770	David W 4220	Megan T 4080
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Tymon N 200	Amy E 150	Pippa SM 120	Paige R 150	Jonjo C 170	Megan T 180
Year 11 Total					
Nathan V 3800	Harrison T 2640	Delano M 2720	Rory M 3610	Olivia T 3480	Annabel M 2990
Year 11 Weekly Winner					
Nathan V 200	Charlie NK 90	Amelia O'N 110	Thomas W Rory Mc 160	George NK 160	Georgia W 120

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

Don't forget that managers need to make any changes to their team before 13:30 tomorrow in advance of the 3pm kick-offs and remember that team changes will be essential this week due to blank game weeks for most teams due to the FA Cup.

A low scoring week for most managers at St Thomas More due to some strange results in a double game week saw me continuing to hold onto top spot with **1750 points!!!**

The top school players for game week 26 was Aiden M with 74 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](https://fantasy.premierleague.com/leagues/auto-join/wojosv) 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 Parents Evening

Year 9 Parents Evening takes place on Thursday 21st March in school 3:30pm to 6:30pm.

All Year 9 parents/carers should have received a letter with further details on how you can schedule appointments for a conversation with your child's teachers on the evening, if you haven't received a letter then please contact school for further details.

End of term

Please be aware that the school term ends on Thursday 28th March at the normal time, school is closed on the Good Friday Bank Holiday on Friday 29th March.

School reopens for students on Tuesday 16th April at the normal time.

Reminder: Faith in Action in the Parish

Father Joseph Gee from our parish St Mary and St John Fisher has asked me to share with you the following important message about the youth Faith in Action group that is a wonderful opportunity for our young people.

"Dear Parents/carers of students in St Thomas More RC College, as I am sure you are aware from the weekly Parish newsletter, the children's Faith in Action Masses are now becoming embedded at St Mary's and take place on the fourth Sunday of each month at 11am Mass. These are Masses for young people created and led by young people. The only time this will change is if one of the Feast Day Masses falls on a different Sunday/day to this. These are Christ the King, Christmas Eve Vigil and

Palm Sunday. We look forward to seeing as many young people as possible at these wonderful celebrations."

Reminder Year 11: Revision

Year 11 are impressing all the teachers in school at the moment with their dedication to their studies and their performance in the recent mock examinations.

The final summer GCSE exams will be here before they know it and as they start in May there are only 2 full months in school before they begin. I know the vast majority of Year 11 have already started their revision for the exams in earnest but it is now really important that all Year 11 students are completing revision every week because there is no substitute for hard-work in preparation for these important exams. We do know that revision can be challenging for students to complete so sometimes they might need a little nudge or support at home to get going, please always remember that staff are available in school for your child to talk to about what they need to revise and the best strategies for effective revision. We know they have had this information already about how to revise in-form time and assemblies but staff are more than happy to go through it with them again if needed so please remind them to ask for help if it is required.

Please note the provisional date for the Year 11 Prom Is 19th June 2024

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.

This week's prayer was shared by CAFOD as part of their weekly reflection.

Prayer

God of sacrifices, help us to follow you and to serve you. Lead us to new life with you,
and work through us so that we may better reflect
your kingdom of peace here on earth.

Amen.

Key Parent/Carer Dates

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

Event	Date
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 11 Prom (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 Days	4 th & 5 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