

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a lovely first week of the Summer term in school and it has been a pleasure to welcome all the staff and students after the Easter Break. Thank you to our supportive parents/carers for ensuring that your children have returned to school, well rested, in full uniform and ready to learn as it makes a huge contribution to the excellent education that we are able to deliver in school by maintaining our high standards and expectations.

Over the last few weeks I have taken a number of visitors on tours around the school including Ms J Pearson, Head of Education in Tameside Local Authority and they have all been incredibly impressed with the calm, polite and respectful culture in the school that allows great learning to take place. Visitors have commented that the students are a credit to the school and their parents/carers.

Please keep our Year 11 students in your thoughts and prayers as they begin their final preparations for their GCSE exams, the students are working brilliantly in school and revising hard in the evening and weekends. There are only 2 full school weeks until the first written GCSE exams start.

### **Easter Services**

We have had lovely Easter Liturgies this morning in school prepared and delivered by the GIFT team and our talented school musicians. As a Catholic School we know that Easter is a key celebration in the Liturgical Calendar as we recall the miracle of Jesus rising again following his Crucifixion on Good Friday. The message of Easter is always Hope and it was fantastic that the students had time to think about this message of Hope and all the good that they had done for others in the charity fundraising we completed as a community in Lent. Thank you to all the students and staff that contributed and planned the reflective and joyful liturgies. Thank you as well to Father Peter Hapgood-Strickland who is coming into school next week to say mass for our Year 7 students.

### **Bank Holiday Monday**

Please be aware that the Early May Bank Holiday falls on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May which means school will be closed on this date.

### **Year 9 Pathways Evening**

Thank you to the huge number of Parents and Carers who attended the Year 9 Pathways Evening last night to hear about the different subjects that their child can study during Year 10 and Year 11. There are a huge range of different subjects that students will study for their GCSEs and Vocational qualifications and we are proud that we can offer such an ambitious and academic curriculum that will prepare students for future study and the world of work.

### **Tameside Local Authority Childcare Survey**

I have been asked to include in my letter by Tameside Council the following details about a childcare survey they are conducting for parents who have younger children who might need additional childcare now or in the future:

*“The Council want to hear parent’s views on wraparound childcare for primary school pupils - i.e. both before school and after school childcare - as we need to try to make sure that there are enough wraparound places to meet the demand in the Tameside locality.*

*The Council would be extremely grateful if you could complete this short survey before Friday, 3rd May, 2024.*

The survey can be found online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Tameside-WraparoundParentsSurvey>

If you have any questions about this survey, you can contact David Noble from Place Group, who have been commissioned to facilitate this survey.

Please contact: david.noble@place-group.com or telephone: 07711 518366, if you require further information or assistance to complete the survey.

### Top of the Achievement Points League

T	H	O	M	A	S
<b>Year 7 Total</b>					
Aidan F 4830	Jacob B 5490	Abbie H 5210	Ellis P 4210	Eleanor L 4600	Erin L 4630
<b>Year 7 Weekly Winner</b>					
Aiden F 200	Alex D Jacob B 180	Abbie H 200	Winter L 160	Kyle W Isla Y 160	James W 190
<b>Year 8 Total</b>					
Miracle O 5300	Christopher M 5440	Maria B 5290	Florence S 5410	Carrie M 6680	Evie B 4810
<b>Year 8 Weekly Winner</b>					
Chantelle N 170	Doreen A 300	Thomas H 190	Timmy S 170	Scarlett Y 210	Joshua F Cole S Seyi S Harmony W 190
<b>Year 9 Total</b>					
Olivia K 4360	Sam A 4330	Dominik C 3940	Leyton W 4160	Francesca D 3890	Anna R 4170
<b>Year 9 Weekly Winner</b>					
Olivia K 100	Sam A 130	Dominik C 170	Kaitlyn F 100	Patrick H 100	Reve MM 80
<b>Year 10 Total</b>					
Eid A 4780	Luca H 4020	Ben F 4520	Daisy N 5430	David W 4840	Megan T 4650
<b>Year 10 Weekly Winner</b>					
Paige G 440	Louis J 460	Max M 470	Daisy N 430	Jonjo C 370	Isiah P 420
<b>Year 11 Total</b>					
Nathan V 4210	Harrison T 2930	Kelsey P 2930	Rory M 3970	Olivia T 3850	Annabel Mc 3330
<b>Year 11 Weekly Winner</b>					
Nathan V 150	Harrison T 80	Kelsey P 100	Thomas W 130	Adam B 90	Abbie R 110

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

The Easter break has seen some huge changes in the standings in the school league with Mr Turner racing into a commanding lead with only a few weeks left to go

Another low scoring week for all the managers at due to a low number of matches week saw me continuing to just hold onto top spot with **2053 points! A lead of a huge 91 points!!**

### **The top school player for game week 33 was Clayton L with 112 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/) 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: 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 is now only 2 full weeks 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](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 Friday**

God of all people,

you have given us a reliable and caring guide,

in Jesus, our good shepherd.

May the message of his good news help us to hear his voice

speaking to us today.

May we recognise his voice in the cry of all those in need.

Amen.

### **Key Parent/Carer Dates**

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

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
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 11 Prom (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