

Dear Parents/Carers

Assemblies this week have focused on celebrating our students' successes including; high attendance, excellent attitude to learning, and their great performances in the recent tracking reports. All our hardworking students are doing so well in school at the moment it is fantastic to see.

Year 11 had their last assembly before their GCSE exams this morning and it was a lovely opportunity to pray for success in their exams and to look back on their five years of success in our school. Mrs McHugh started the assembly by reading the prayer "Footprints" which I have included at the end of my letter, this prayer had special significance as it was the first prayer that was read to the students when they started school in year 7 and is all about how the school has supported them in their education and how they have supported each other over the last 5 years.

I must say that I am incredibly proud of the young adults that Year 11 have become, they impress me every single day with their excellent attitude towards their studies and the way they embrace the spirit and ethos of the school to really enrich our community.

Every teacher I speak to remarks on the many qualities of year 11 and how successful we know they will be due to their amazing character and all their individual gifts and talents.

I know they will continue to work hard right through the exam period as they sit their examinations and continue to attend their final lessons to secure the opportunity for final key pieces of revision.

I know we will all want to wish Year 11 every success and good fortune in their exams and I know they will be grateful if we remember them in our prayers during the next few weeks.

Reminder: Bank Holiday Monday

May Bank Holiday is this Monday, 6th May which means school will be closed on this date.

Year 8 Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended an extremely positive Year 8 parents evening last night to hear about the amazing progress of their sons and daughters.

Thank you to the parents/carers who completed the school survey during the evening. We have completed a survey at each parent's evening so far this year and I am looking forward to sharing the results with you in due course as they are the most positive and affirming results that we have ever had as a school. Thank you so much for your ongoing support and honest evaluations.

Our Pass: Transport for School Leavers

I have been asked to share with you details of Our Pass that is aimed at Year 11 students as they leave school and move onto college or work.

Our Pass is a membership scheme for young people who live in Greater Manchester, and supports both school leavers and care leavers. Those eligible have the chance to become a member – and potentially enjoy two things:

First, free bus travel across Greater Manchester. For a one-off £10 fee, members can travel on most local buses, any day of the week, for free. No hassle, no fuss, no tickets: just a card that will get you where you want to go. Members can also get half-price off-peak 1 day and weekend travelcards on Metrolink.

Second, membership unlocks Our Pass Exclusives: A range of offers and experiences: discounts, special offers, free tickets, swimming and leisure passes, merchandise, taster sessions and much more.

Depending on age and eligibility, members can enjoy free bus travel and Exclusive offers until the end of August after they turn 18. or 21 for care leavers.

For more details please visit the following website: <https://ourpass.co.uk/about-our-pass/>

Top of the Achievement Points League

Well done to all our incredible students

T	H	O	M	A	S
Year 7 Total					
Aidan F 5510	Jacob B 6230	Abbie H 5760	Ellis P 4740	Eleanor L 4080	Erin L 5180
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Aiden F 380	Jacob B 440	Abbie H 380	Milena R Winter L 330	Charlotte L 310	Hugo S 380
Year 8 Total					
Miracle O 5840	Doreen A 6030	Maria B 5820	Florence S 5780	Carrie M 7330	Evie B 5400
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Lucy M 150	Jessica F 140	Maria B 80	Isabelle P 140	Carrie M 190	Joshua F Evie B William C 130
Year 9 Total					
Olivia K 4960	Sam A 4890	Dominik C 4510	Leyton W 4760	Alex D 4290	Anna R 4660
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Olivia K 420	Jack R 425	Georgia E 330	Leyton W 430	Alice O'C 405	Anna R 340
Year 10 Total					
Eid A 5150	Luca H 4220	Ben F 4790	Daisy N 5750	David W 5140	Megan T 4930
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Holly C 160	Luca H 90	Pippa SM 170	Poppy M 160	Akiel U Poppy C Grace R 110	Megan T 150
Year 11 Total					
Nathan V 4570	Harrison T 3090	Delano M 3160	Rory M 4330	Olivia T 4050	Annabel Mc 3580
Year 11 Weekly Winner					
Nathan V 180	Millie S 80	Amelia O'N Delano M 70	William P 140	Georgia M 180	Annabel Mc 140

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

It is still all to play for in the final weeks of the Fantasy League with lots of movement in the league standings.

Managers must remember that there is a premier league game tonight (Luton vs Everton) so any changes to squads must be submitted before 6:30pm tonight!

Mr Turner continues his spell at the top with a massive **2210 points!!**

The top school player for game week 35 was Frank CS with 90 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: 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.

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."

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.

Footprints Prayer

This Prayer was shared with year 11 this morning

One night I dreamed a dream.

As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.

Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.

For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,

One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,

I looked back at the footprints in the sand.

I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,

especially at the very lowest and saddest times,

there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,

You'd walk with me all the way.

But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,

there was only one set of footprints.

I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you

Never, ever, during your trials and testings.

When you saw only one set of footprints,

It was then that I carried you."

Key Parent/Carer Dates

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

Event	Date
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 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