



Dear Parents/Carers

As Year 11 have now started their GCSE exams and the hall is laid out with exams desks assemblies are taking place in form time. This week students have looked ahead to Mental Health Awareness Week which is the 13<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> of May and have considered strategies that can support their mental health and wellbeing.

We also prayed together as a Catholic Community on the Feast of the Ascension this week, which is the fortieth day after Easter Sunday, commemorating the Ascension of Christ into heaven, as described in the Gospels, I have included a prayer for the Ascension at the end of my letter.

### **Year 11 Exams and Arrangements**

Thank you for your continued prayers of success for our Year 11 Students, they have made a wonderful start to the exams.

School is now open to Year 11 students from 8:20am during the exam period so that they can have a relaxing breakfast in school before the day of exams ahead, it has been great to see so many students taking advantage of this and doing a few last minutes of revision too, it really does show how committed they are to their studies.

Year 11 will continue to attend all their lessons during these initial parts of the exam timetable, we have found through many years of experience that it is much better for students to continue to attend their lessons on days when they don't have exams as teachers are able to direct and support their revision.

We have carefully considered the exam timetable structure and concluded that on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June the first week back after half term that the majority of the exams will have been completed, after this date students will then only need to come into school for their exams or for lessons in which they still have an exam left to take, at other times from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June students can then revise for the small number of remaining exams at home.

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June students will be given the opportunity to sign shirts at the end of their Biology exam. There will be time for this to be completed before the bell for the end of the day but students will also be welcome to stay behind after school should they wish if they need additional time for this activity.

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

As year 11 exams have now started Year 11 won't always be in lessons at the same time to gain achievement points so it seems unfair to continue to publish the league for them as some students won't have had the opportunity to collect points some week.

I must say however I am hugely impressed with the Year 11 students and indeed all Year groups for their brilliant attitude to learning so far this year.

We have had a number of visitors to St Thomas More who are teachers from other schools during the past two weeks and they have all said that they can't believe how quiet and calm the school is and how hard the students are working in our community. I am so proud that our excellent school culture focuses on students being able to learn and allowing teachers to teach, as that means the students can make great progress.



T	H	O	M	A	S
<b>Year 7 Total</b>					
Aidan F 5640	Jacob B 6370	Abbie H 5860	Ellis P 4860	Eleanor L 5200	Erin L 5310
<b>Year 7 Weekly Winner</b>					
Aiden F Riley C 100	Heidi S 120	Georgie C 70	Ellis P Oscar S 100	Josh B 100	Erin L 110
<b>Year 8 Total</b>					
Miracle O 5990	Doreen A 6140	Maria B 5970	Florence S 6900	Carrie M 7540	Evie B 5590
<b>Year 8 Weekly Winner</b>					
Lucy M Evie A 130	Jessica F 120	Lucas K 140	Isabelle P 110	Carrie M 170	Evie B 140
<b>Year 9 Total</b>					
Olivia K 5100	Sam A 5060	Dominik C 4640	Leyton W 4780	Alex D 4400	Anna R 4830
<b>Year 9 Weekly Winner</b>					
Olivia K 140	Sam A 170	Hannah D Dominik C 100	Tayler G 100	Elizabeth O 110	James H Reve M 120
<b>Year 10 Total</b>					
Eid A 5490	Luca H 4440	Ben F 5050	Daisy N 6070	David W 5420	Megan T 5180
<b>Year 10 Weekly Winner</b>					
Eid A 170	Amy B 80	Ben F 100	Daisy N 150	Grace R 120	Rosin M 130

## St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

The last few games!!

Managers must remember that there is a premier league game tomorrow at 12:30 Fulham vs Man City so any team changes must be done by 11am tomorrow.

Mr Turner continues his spell at the top with a massive **2294 points!!**

**The top school player for game week 36 was Alex D with 104 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: 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/>*

## **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](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.

## **Prayer for the Feast of the Ascension**

Lord Jesus, you became man and came to live among us.

For love of us, you suffered and died for us.

Because you are God, you conquered death and rose on the third day.

At the ascension you returned to your Father and our Father,

but you promised to remain with us until the end of time,

and to send us the Holy Spirit.

We rejoice and thank you, Lord Jesus.



Come Holy Spirit, purify and transform us,  
kindle within us the fire of your love.

**Amen.**

## **Key Parent/Carer Dates**

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

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
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