

Dear Parents/Carers

We are supporting Mental Health Awareness Week in St Thomas More RC College on the theme of "Move for your Mental Health". The PE department supported by all the staff in school have delivered a number of sessions including through form time assembly on the importance of physical activity, exercise and sleep on good mental health. We all know that there are normal stresses and anxiety in all our everyday lives but good strategies and exercise can help everyone to be healthy and resilient so we are well equipped to deal with the challenges that we might face as we move through life.

### **Stewards: Catholic Life of the School**

Well done to the Stewards Team who boosted the school's environmental contribution by carefully planting a range of flowering plants in the nature garden to attract and support insect pollinators that are so important for our ecosystems.

Well done to the Stewards for living out the Pope's and the Bishop's Catholic Mission to look after our common home.

### **Half Term Holiday**

Please be aware that the school closes for the half term holiday on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May next week at normal time of 2:45pm, staggered from 2:40pm

School then reopens on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. We hope all our families have a lovely half-term break.

### **Tameside Weekend Activities**

Tameside Council have asked all schools to promote two different fun family activities this weekend.

The first is a Street Art event on Saturday morning:

<https://www.stmcollege.org.uk/ckfinder/userfiles/files/News/Headteachers%20Letters/Attachments/Ashton%20Street%20Art%20Paint%20Jam.jpg>

The second is a Cycling Family Fun Day, on Saturday afternoon:

<https://www.stmcollege.org.uk/ckfinder/userfiles/files/News/Headteachers%20Letters/Attachments/J006274%20Mayoral%20Family%20Fun%20Cycling%20Day%20Poster3.jpg>

More details can be found on the posters that are available on the school website at the above links.

### **Special Mention Artistic Swimming**

Well done to Ruby L in Year 9 who has been selected for the England's Youth Development Squad for artistic swimming. Ruby will be attending the England training camp over the next few weeks and is very excited by this amazing opportunity.

Well done Ruby we are very proud of you.

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

Well done to all the students who are getting so many positive achievement points in school, we are seeing some incredible totals this year and it is extra-ordinary how many students have got to Platinum and Gold badges this year.

T	H	O	M	A	S
<b>Year 7 Total</b>					
Aidan F 5780	Jacob B 6650	Abbie H 6120	Ellis P 5010	Eleanor L 5290	Erin L 5490
<b>Year 7 Weekly Winner</b>					
Charlotte H Sophia B Aiden F 170	Jacob B 150	Abbie H 250	Lucy T-R 140	Kyle W Aerin L 110	Hugo S 220
<b>Year 8 Total</b>					
Miracle O 6090	Doreen A 6360	Maria B 6090	Florence S 6100	Carrie M 7730	Evie B 5910
<b>Year 8 Weekly Winner</b>					
Jamie W 130	Doreen A 190	Oliver D Thomas H 170	James G James L 190	Carrie M Owen M Scarlett Y 170	Evie B Ole M 140
<b>Year 9 Total</b>					
Olivia K 5250	Sam A 5200	Dominik C 4750	Leyton W 5000	Alex D 4470	Anna R 4930
<b>Year 9 Weekly Winner</b>					
Olivia K Isabella B 140	Harley M 200	Georgia E 110	Faye H Rehana K Olivia M Annabel S 130	Patrick H 100	Jakub K Beth M 120
<b>Year 10 Total</b>					
Eid A 5670	Luca H 4550	Ben F 5160	Daisy N 6200	David W 5530	Megan T 5320
<b>Year 10 Weekly Winner</b>					
Eid A 140	Amy B 120	Ben F 130	Paige R Tija R 140	Chris S 170	Aditi K Megan T 150

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

The last weekend of Premiership Football will see the St Thomas More RC College, Fantasy Football Manager crowned on Sunday, as the league draws to a close I must say thank you to all the staff and students that have taken part.

Managers don't forget to make any last changes before Sunday 14:30

Mr Turner is 73 points in the lead as we enter the last weekend with **2400 points!!**

**The top school player for game week 37 was Noah D Year 8 with 137 points**

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

*Thank you for your continued prayers of success for our Year 11 Students*

*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.*

*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. Depending on the timing of this exam there may be limited time for shirt signing to be completed before the bell for the end of the day but students will be welcome to stay behind after school to continue signing shirts*

### **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

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### **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 Pentecost Sunday**

Breath of God,  
Spirit who appeared like a driving wind,  
blow away our prejudice  
and teach us to value all people.

Spirit of God,  
who appeared like tongues of flame,  
burn in us as a passion for justice  
and a commitment to change.

Spirit of life,  
who caused the disciples to speak in tongues,  
speak through us,  
and fill us with the courage to proclaim your love.

Spirit of truth,

who fills us with wonder and awe,  
inspire us to work for a better world  
and a future where injustice is swept away.

**Amen.**

**Key Parent/Carer Dates**

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

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