

Dear Parents/Carers

As we reach the end of another very successful half-term I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of our school community including staff, students and parents/carers for all they do in helping to make our school an amazing place to work and study.

Our excellent exam performance year after year is testament to the high standards of teaching and learning that take place on a day to day basis in the school, and this wouldn't be possible without the exemplary behaviour of the students that is encouraged through the school behaviour policy and our high expectations. I am so grateful to all the staff in school who work so hard for the best interests of students. I must congratulate all our hard-working students who put their full efforts into their studies day after day to make the most of the opportunities that they have in school. Thank you as well to all our supportive parents and carers who always make sure their son/daughters are well-prepared for school by making sure they have completed homework, got enough sleep, and are using screen time sensibly, we are thankful for the trust you place in the school knowing that we always prioritise positive outcomes for our students.

Congratulations to everyone on a very successful half-term and I hope all our families and staff have a well-deserved rest during the holidays.

Reminder Uniform (pre-loved)

Students at our school who wear their uniform with pride look incredibly smart and this helps to contribute to our high standards that lead to our fantastic outcomes.

We are aware that the cost of school uniform can be a significant consideration for parents/carers so last year we reviewed our school uniform policy with affordability in mind, the updated policy is available on the school website policy documents page.

For parents/carers who are finding purchasing uniform challenging we can on occasion offer financial support, but each year we go further and seek to provide good quality second hand uniform for free or a small school fund donation.

If you do have any unwanted uniform at home that is in good condition then please do consider donating it to school for redistribution, we are especially interested in blazers, jumpers, ties and school PE Kit.

Any items for donation can be brought to the school office and over the summer we will arrange a pre-owned uniform collection event.

Thank you to all those that have already donated items of uniform.

Reminder: Half Term Holiday

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

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

Advance Notice Induction Evening and Induction Day

On Tuesday 2nd July we will be inviting parents and carers of our New Year 7 Pupils in September (current Year 6) into school at 6pm for our Parents/Carers Induction Evening. Then during the same week our New Year 7 Students will have the opportunity to spend the day in our school on Thursday

4th July. A letter with full details will be sent out in due course so I would ask parents/carers of our new Year 7s to read all the information carefully when you receive it.

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
Year 7 Total					
Aidan F 6000	Jacob B 6750	Abbie H 6310	Ellis P 5240	Eleanor L 5410	Erin L 5690
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Tom G 160	Zuzanna F 180	Abbie H 130	Ellis P 140	Charlotte L 130	Charlie M 210
Year 8 Total					
Miracle O 6220	Doreen A 6510	Maria B 6160	Florence S 6190	Carrie M 7940	Evie B 6060
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Lucy M 130	Jamie T Erin C 130	Lucas K 130	Evie S 150	Amelia C 170	Ole M 170
Year 9 Total					
Olivia K 5420	Sam A 5360	Dominik C 4870	Leyton W 5150	Alex D 4600	Anna R 5070
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Isla C 170	Sam A 150	Dominik C 110	Olivia M 180	Alice O'C 110	James H 150
Year 10 Total					
Eid A 5860	Luca H 4680	Ben F 5290	Daisy N 6350	David W 5800	Megan T 5520
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Eid A 150	Amy B 90	Meida K 150	Paige R 140	David W 200	Megan T 160

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

The last weekend of Premiership Football saw Manchester City Crowned Champions of the Premier League and in school it saw **Mr Turner win our school Fantasy Football Competition with 2476 points**. Congratulations to Mr Turner who finished the season very strongly and held off all challengers. **The top performing student was Ben F in Year 11 with 2388 points**, and Ben came second overall. **The top school player for game week 37 was Lucas K in Year 8 with 98 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 7th 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 10th June students can then revise for the small number of remaining exams at home.

On Friday 7th 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 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

Eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, guide us as we go out and follow your commandments.
Help us to become more effective witnesses of your love as we seek to serve our sisters and brothers experiencing hardship.

Grant us the grace to be tangible signs of hope for the world through our witness.

Amen.

Key Parent/Carer Dates

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

Event	Date
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