

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been wonderful to welcome the students back to school for the last half term of the academic year, students looked very smart on their return to school and I am grateful for your support in ensuring that your sons/daughters are equipped and ready for school in full uniform as the high standards and expectations that we have at St Thomas More RC College are essential to the incredible progress, exam results and outcomes that we are able to deliver in our culture of calm, polite, purposeful and respectful behaviour.

Year 11

Year 11 students reach another milestone today as they start their study leave arrangements following the afternoon Science Exam. Year 11 will mark the occasion after the exam with signing shirts and books, we have also arranged for an Ice Cream van to visit school at the end of the day so the Year 11s can have a little treat for all their hard work to this point. I have included a prayer for Year 11 at the end of this week's letter.

Arrangements for Study Leave Year 11

From Monday the only lessons available to students in Year 11 to attend are those where there is still a forthcoming exam. Attendance to lessons is not compulsory during study leave however teachers will be available to pupils at this time. Year 11 students obviously need to be aware of their exam timetable for the week ahead and ensure that they attend any remaining exams.

For Year 11 students in school waiting in school for a lesson or an exam, there will be a revision room available for students on site. The room will be fully staffed and students will need to bring their own materials to complete quiet revision. A timetable of rooms available on each period will be posted on the window in the foyer

Students with a morning exam, or coming into school for lessons, or attending to revise, should go to form for registration in the usual way at the start of the day. Students attending school of course need to wear full uniform.

Charity Work

I have had a letter and a certificate this week from the Christie Cancer Charity thanking us for the money we raised during our Lenten Effort, the final total came in at £5,178.01 and I just want to thank all the members of the school community for your amazing efforts that made this possible.

Faith in Action

Congratulations to the students on the Faith in Action Team, they enrich the Catholic Life of the school and are a fantastic example to all members of our community. Yesterday they made their final presentations to the awarding organisation and we have been notified that they have all successfully achieved the Bronze and Silver Awards. An amazing achievement and the assessor was incredibly impressed with the students and the whole school. Very well done.

Year 11 Thanks

Many thanks to the Year 11 Parents/Carers who have sent in kind notes or gifts to the staff, it is incredibly thoughtful and I know that all colleagues are very grateful for your kind words.

Here are a couple of short extracts from two of the notes of the many I have already received.

All the incredible staff at STM. They say it takes a village to raise a child. The school is such an important part of our village! Our daughter has thrived at high school; she has loved every moment and that is thanks to each and every one of you. Your nurture, support and guidance has been amazing, and we are always grateful.

Thank you for everything you are a very special group of people.

"Can I please pass on to all the staff at STM my absolute thanks for the last 5 yrs of our daughter attending school. I never applied for any other school when considering high schools as I knew what a fabulous school St.Thomas More was and still is.

*I cannot believe we are here – their last full day at school. It's incredible. Thank you to everyone for always supporting our daughter, she's made some fabulous friends, she's made incredible memories and I'm so proud of her.
Thank you so much."*

Top of the Achievement Points League

Well done to all the students who are getting so may positive achievement points in school, fantastic effort!!

T	H	O	M	A	S
Year 7 Total					
Aidan F 6170	Jacob B 6880	Abbie H 6500	Ellis P 5340	Eleanor L 5540	Erin L 5810
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Aiden F 170	Zuzanna F 180	Abbie H 150	Ellis Franek S 110	Kyle W 150	Mitchelle N Hugo S 150
Year 8 Total					
Miracle O 6340	Doreen A 6810	Maria B 6350	Florence S 6280	Carrie M 8160	Evie B 6200
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Lucy M 130	Jamie T 170	Oliver D 90	Timmy S 170	Amelia C 100	Harmony W 160
Year 9 Total					
Olivia K 5680	Sam A 5500	Dominik C 5100	Leyton W 5260	Alex D 4680	Anna R 5150
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Olivia K 220	Jack R 160	Dominik C 200	Rehana K Tayler G 100	Ruby L Harry C 140	Beth M Reve MM Cody S 80
Year 10 Total					
Eid A 6050	Luca H 4820	Ben F 5440	Daisy N 6560	David W 6000	Megan T 5660
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Eid A 160	Luca H 100	Meida K 150	Daisy N 180	David W 110	Megan T Rosin M 160

Reminder: 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.

Reminder Uniform (pre-loved)

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-loved uniform collection event.

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

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 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 Year 11

God of Our lives.

You challenge us to follow you into the future, inviting us to
continue to learn, to accept new challenges, to discover new ways to care, and new ways
to touch the hearts of all.

When we are fearful of the unknown, give us courage.

When we worry that we are not up to the task, remind us that you would not call us
if you did not believe in us.

When we get tired or disappointed with the way things
are going, remind us that you can bring change and hope out of the most difficult
situations.

Bless, O Lord the doors we open, the thresholds we cross, the roads that lie
before us.

Go with us as we start the next phase of our journey.

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