

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for all your support over this very successful half-term, we have packed so much into the last seven weeks and it has been wonderful to see so many students taking a really active part in their learning and other aspects of school life. I hope that all our students, staff and families have a well-deserved rest during the half-term holidays.

It continues to be a privilege to be Headteacher in this fantastic school community.

School Performance Tables: Incredible GCSE Achievement and Progress

On Thursday the Government released the GCSE School Performance League Tables for all schools in Tameside and England.

I am very proud to say that our school is once again a leading school in Tameside and the Country with a progress 8 score of +0.29 which means in simple terms that the progress that students make in our school is above average when compared to all other schools.

It is very satisfying to know that our students have achieved a significantly high progress figure and high achievement figures of 76% of students with grade 4 or above in both Maths and English.

This high level of achievement gives our students the opportunity to use this great education to be highly successful in their future lives and it is down the expertise of our staff, the hard-work/attitude of our students and the support that they receive from their families.

The important message in these results is if students concentrate on their learning and follow the advice and instructions of our brilliant staff then they can achieve outstanding outcomes as they complete their GCSEs and Vocational Studies.

London Trip: Year 9 Residential

It has been lovely to see the photos on the school Facebook page of the students who have been on the residential maths trip to London. The students have visited the sites of our capital and enjoyed many activities including a trip to the musical Wicked. I am told that the students have all behaved superbly and represented our community superbly.

Thank you so much to the staff who have spent time away from their own lives and families to supervise and organise this great opportunity for the students.

St Thomas More RC College: The Talent Show

The Talent Show on Thursday evening was an incredible success and showcased our confident and gifted performers. There was a real range of different acts including dance, musicians, singers and much more. Congratulations to the winners on the night and all the students who took part including every act that attended the initial auditions.

Thank you as well to the staff who put in so much time and effort to organise this superb event but especially Mrs Kirkman and Mrs Doran.

Top of the Achievement Points League

Amazing news!!

We already have our first Bronze Badge Award Winner for 2023/2024 and it is Maria B in 8O with 1520 net points, Well done Maria you will be awarded you badge after the half term holidays.

Year 7: **Abbie H** - 7O 1240 net points and **Ravin R** – 7T 1210 net points

Year 8: **Maria B** - 8O 1520 net points and **Isla M** – 8O 1330 net points

Year 9: **Leyton W** - 9M 1200 net points and **Alexander D** – 9A 1130 net points

Year 10: **Daisy N** – 10M 1400 net points and **David W** – 10M 1350 net points

Year 11: **Olivia T** – 11A 1190 net points and **Annabel Mc** 11S 1160 net points

Year 7 and 8 Readathon

Year 7 & 8 should have received their letter home about the Readathon which starts on the 1st of November. This fundraising event is a great opportunity for our students to read a variety of non-fiction texts during Non-Fiction November & raise some money for a great cause by getting sponsored to read. Improving reading ability and literacy is one of the most important things a young person can do to help them be successful in school and in the future. We encourage all our students to read regularly at home and we know that parents/carers support their sons/daughters in this because it has such a hugely positive impact.

Read more for success!!

Reminder: End of half-term

The half-term ends today Friday 20th October at the normal end of the school day 2:45pm

All students should return to school at normal time on Monday 30th October.

Reminder: Year 10 Parents/carers: Year 10 Information Evening Monday 6th November 5pm to 6pm.

On Monday 6th November we would like to invite all Year 10 Parents/Carers to an information evening that will help support your child through the next two years of school, Year 10 students are welcome to attend with parents/carers but student attendance is not compulsory as we will be able to give students many messages through assemblies.

(Tea and Coffee will be available from 4:30pm in the dining hall and Mr de la Hoyde, Head of Year 10, will also be available at this time to answer any questions you may have)

Reminder: Year 11 Parents/Carers Evening

The letter for Year 11 Parents Evening has already been sent home to families.

This very important event takes place on Thursday 2nd November 3:30pm to 6:30pm, students in Year 11 should have begun to make appointments for the evening with their class teachers.

Reminder: All parents/carers evenings will take place in school face to face with teachers, the events are no longer online/virtual following parent/carer feedback.

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

No changes to the fantasy league this week as there were no football games due to the international break. Don't forget that players need to make any changes to their team before the early kick off on Saturday between Liverpool and Everton at 12:30.

There is still time for students or staff to join the league, especially as there is a weekly winner as well as an overall leader.

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>

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