

Dear Parents/Carers

The students have done brilliantly this week in the first week back after the half-term holidays and it is noticeable to see how the students who are well rested having got enough sleep for the return to school can concentrate and learn so well in class which supports them to make great progress.

Assemblies this week have been about Anti-Bullying ahead of Anti-Bullying Week on 13<sup>th</sup> November to 17<sup>th</sup> November, the school will be taking part in odd socks day on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November when students are encouraged to wear odd socks to show everyone that our community takes a stance against all forms of bullying behaviour.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2023-make-noise-about-bullying/anti-bullying-week-2023-make-noise-about-bullying>

Students learnt in assembly that although Bullying is rare in our community that it can happen as students can fall out and be unkind to each other, the students heard though that staff are always vigilant in school and someone is always there to listen, even anonymously through the online whisper system. Each form also has student anti-bullying ambassadors that students can talk to and the ambassadors help promote the school's view that bullying is unacceptable in our school community. The school takes all matters related to bullying very seriously and has an excellent track record of dealing with issues effectively.

### **Year 11 Parents Evening**

Thank you to all the Parents/Carers who attended last night's Parents Evening, the event was very well attended and it was fantastic for the staff to be able to meet with families and pass on information on how well their sons/daughters are doing in school.

Last year's Year 11s did amazingly in their GCSE's and were one of the top performing groups in all Tameside Schools, the current Year 11 and indeed all year groups have the opportunity to do just as well in their GCSEs due to their hard work and the excellent teaching they receive but I know that none of this is possible without Parents/Carers supporting their sons/daughters to value education so they display a great attitude to learning and behaviour so they come into school every day ready to achieve.

The parent survey completed last night was extremely positive and thank you to the parent who sent in this lovely email this morning.

*I would like to thank you and all the staff for organising the y11 parents evening. It was again another great event.*

*The feedback provided by the teachers was very constructive and demonstrated their genuine desire for the children to do well.*

*I strongly believe that you, as a Headteacher as well as all your colleagues should be very proud of the work you do and the difference you make.*

*I cannot praise the school high enough and am very pleased that both my children are students at St Thomas More.*

*I would also like to compliment the students at the entrance hall who directed parents to the respective rooms. They were all extremely polite and helpful, particularly the exceptional student called Daisy.*

## **Year 8 Football.**

A special mention this week to the Year 8 Football team who played a thrilling football match against Alder High School on Thursday Evening.

Mr Sanderson said it was one of the best football games that he has ever seen during his time at our school. Alder won the game 5-4 with the last kick of the game after 4 minutes of added time but Mr Sanderson was hugely impressed with the Year 8 Team especially as they only had 10 players available for the match after some of the students were unavailable for selection.

Well done to the Year 8 Football Team for representing the school community of St Thomas More RC College in exactly the right way:

Josh W, Joe W, Ijah S (C), Tom G, Will H, Cole S, Ryan DH, Reon C, Luca S, and Joseph B

## **Reminder: Year 10 Parents/carers: Year 10 Information Evening Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 5pm to 6pm.**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> 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)

## **Year 7 Parents Evening Advance Notice**

Year 7 Parents Evening will take place in school on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 3:30pm to 6:30pm, letters with further details will be sent home with students in due course.

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

Well done to the following students that have the most achievement points in each year group.

As you can see we now have even more students who have reached the threshold of Bronze Award (1500) and these students will be receiving their badges and certificates next week in assembly. As a special reward these Bronze Award Students will be allowed to go straight to the front of the lunch queue on a Friday until further notice. Well done to all the students who are doing so well with their achievement point totals.

Year 7: **Abbie H** - 7O 1450 net points and **Ravin R** – 7T 1500 net points

Year 8: **Maria B** - 8O 1650 net points and **Carrie M** – 8A 1520 net points

Year 9: **Leyton W** - 9M 1340 net points and **Olivia K** – 9T 1300 net points

Year 10: **Daisy N** – 10M 1750 net points and **David W** – 10M 1580 net points

Year 11: **Annabel Mc** 11S 1310 net points and **Olivia T** – 11A 1310 net points

Calm, polite, purposeful and respectful behaviour is our school culture and we know that students that display this behaviour gain lots of achievement points and ultimately this gives them the best chance of being successful and making great progress in all areas of school life.

I would urge parents/carers who are not yet signed up Online for Satchel One to sign up as the website and app can provide you with daily updates of your child's behaviour and achievement points.

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

Two weeks of fantasy football to consider this week with the half term holidays and its another member of staff who tops the overall lead this week knocking me off the top on my Birthday!!

**Well done to Mr Turner with a massive 669 points!!**

And

The the winner for game week 9 (half-term) was

**Clayton L Year 7 -- 107 points**

And

The winner for game week 10 was

**Mr Turner -- 102 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](#) 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](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