

Dear Parents/Carers

Assemblies this week have focused on the important message of being a good neighbour to each other with the focus on the scripture passage of "Love thy neighbour as thyself", the assembly explored the themes in the bible parable of the Good Samaritan that are so important for a healthy and happy community. In our school we believe that it is so important that all students treat others with patience, tolerance, respect and kindness.

Well done to all the year groups for listening so carefully in assembly and taking on board the important messages.

### **End of Term**

The last day of term is next Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December and school will close for students for a staggered early finish between 12:10 and 12:15, with all students having departed by 12:15.

The school buses will be available at this earlier departure time.

Students return to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

### **St Marys Food bank Appeal**

Thank you to all our families and students for your generosity in the foodbank appeal for St Mary's, as a community we have collected multiple shopping trolleys full of food for those in need of our help, we have had to call the foodbank and asked them to send a bigger van to collect all the donations. Well done to all the students, staff, our families and the Faith in Action team you have done a wonderful thing for so many people for Christmas, the wonderful response shows exactly what our community is about.

### **Reminder Christmas Activities**

*Christmas Dinner: On Wednesday 18th December, the only food available for lunch will be our famous St Thomas More Christmas dinner, tickets for which must be purchased in advance through Parent Pay or at the till in the dining room. Any child who does not purchase a ticket in advance will need to bring a packed lunch. Deadline for purchase is today Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.*

*The 18th December will also be our annual Christmas Jumper Day when students can wear a Christmas themed Jumper or Hoodie instead of their school uniform jumper. Please note that students must still wear full uniform if substituting their school jumper for a Christmas themed jumper.*

*On Christmas Jumper Day we are supporting the amazing Willow Wood Hospice Charity. If you are able please donate to this worthwhile charity through our parent pay website to support this amazing charity. Many thanks in advance for your generosity.*

<https://willowwood.org.uk/>

*The staff are also looking forward to a Christmas Music Recital and Dance Performance performed by the students next week in support of Willow Wood.*

### **Extra Curricular Activities**

Amazing news that St Thomas More RC College is going to be producing its own monthly podcast, it was great to see the students that have volunteered to get involved at their first meeting as they planned the first episodes due to be released after Christmas. Watch this space!

Great to see the numbers of students who are trying a new sport in Lacrosse club are growing each week, we are very lucky to have a current Great British Team Lacrosse player on our staff in Mr Pink and we are so grateful that he is putting his coaching skills to good use for the students.

There is an activity for everyone at St Thomas More and it was fantastic to hear the lovely melodies at ..... Monday Concert Band, Tuesday Ukulele club, Friday Rock Band and Morning Choir this week, well done to all the students involved and thank you to Mr Freeman for giving up so much of your time.

### **Year 11 Reward Trip**

Congratulations to the Year 11 students in overall positive More points who attended their Reward Trip at the end of last week, the students visited Hollywood Bowl for some games and food and had a fantastic time and were extremely well behaved, all the staff said it was a pleasure to be with them for the day. Well done Year 11.

### **Reminder: Additional GCSE Languages**

*If any Year 11 students can speak a second language such as Polish, Arabic, Chinese, Russian, or Italian, then please speak to Mrs Laycock in Room 29B at either break or lunchtime before the end of term. It is possible that you might be able to take an extra GCSE in a second language without any additional study.*

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

Mr Turner is getting quite a lead at the top of the fantasy football competition can anyone catch him this weekend!

Mr Turner continues on top spot in the League this week with 928 points

Frank CS in 8H was our in school winner with 83 points

There is still time to join the league as there are weekly winners for every gameweek and there is always the chance to win the whole league and take the trophy off reigning champion Mr Turner!

Once students have created a Premier League account and a team at [Fantasy Premier League](#), [Official Fantasy Football Game of the Premier League](#) they can join the school mini league named;

St Thomas More League

The league code is; v25n52

Alternatively, you can click on the link below to join the league.

<https://fantasy.premierleague.com/leagues/auto-join/v25n52>

### **Special Mentions**

Well done to Harry O'C Year 11 and Beth M Year 10

Harry and Beth starred in a pantomime production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at the Harper Theatre in Stockport last weekend. Some of our staff members went along to watch the performance and thought it was amazing! Well done Harry and Beth.

Well done to Lola McN Year 7

Lola and her Cheerleading team APEX competed at the United Kingdom Cheerleading Association Winter Championship last Saturday, we were so proud to hear that Lola and her team finished first

and won the competition, Well done Lola, keep training as we know you put lots of hours into your sport.

#### Well done Remia G Year 7

Remia plays football for Denton Youth FC and absolutely loves football, we were amazed to hear that at her recent Presentation Evening for the team she won 3 trophies, Squad Player, Parent's Player of the Year and Player's Player of the Year. Well done Remia on your fantastic achievement.

#### Well done to the AJ Studios and St Thomas More Dancers

We are so proud to hear that Izzie MH, Jessica K, Mia C, Isabella McM, Kalia D, Lily D, and Olivia B who dance with AJ Studios have been selected to represent England in the Dance World Cup in 2025 in Spain, the dancers competed for three different teams and placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> overall in England which is an incredible achievement. Well done Girls we are so proud of you.

#### **Year 11 Mock Exams**

Y11 Mock Exam Begins from Wednesday 8th Jan 2025 to Tuesday 21st Jan 2025, we wish all the students the best of luck in these assessments, we know they have been working really hard to revise and prepare.

The Y11 Mock Exam Timetable is available in the dining hall, on Satchel One and on our college website under parents' tab — Exam guidance.

Students will also receive a paper copy of the exam timetable and the exam seating plan will be given to students on the Tuesday 7th Jan 2025

Students must be in school for their exams and make their best efforts as the Mock Grades will be used to inform the estimated grades for students that will be sent to Colleges and Exam Boards on request. Please don't book appointments during the exams that will mean an absence from an exam.

#### **St Thomas More RC College Achievement Point League**

Another brilliant week of points collection well done to all the students in school on working so hard

*Please note: The achievement point list below is collated and calculated at approximately 11am each Friday. This can mean that sometimes students may have slightly different points totals by the end of the day on Friday which are not reflected in the figures printed. Please do rest assured though that the points total and students highlighted are accurate at the time of production of the list.*

T	H	O	M	A	S
<b>Year 7 Total</b>					
Valentina F 2820	Erin K 2700	Ella F 2400	Rohan G 3280	Abigail B 2580	Una L 2370
<b>Year 7 Weekly Winner</b>					
Valentina F 200	Erin K 190	Ella F Anna M 190	Elijah O 200	Gospel O 190	Cassie D 180
<b>Year 8 Total</b>					
Aiden F	Jacob B	Abbie H	Milena R	Charlotte L	Charlie M

3180	2030	3020	2660	3040	3020
<b>Year 8 Weekly Winner</b>					
Aiden F 180	Jacob B 120	Abbie H 1300	Franek S 220	Aerin L 210	Erin L 230
<b>Year 9 Total</b>					
Miracle O 3370	Chris M 2830	Thomas H 2770	Finlay D Oliver T 1760	Carrie M 2820	Ole M 2650
<b>Year 9 Weekly Winner</b>					
Brook D 270	Chris M 250	Thomas H 260	Iris L 170	Lily W 140	Isla N 150
<b>Year 10 Total</b>					
Olivia K 3310	Jack R 2100	Dominik C 2670	Kaitlyn F 3310	Harry C 3120	Reve MM 2130
<b>Year 10 Weekly Winner</b>					
Olivia K 170	Ava H 160	Valerie I 220	Kaitlyn F 270	Harry C 200	Jakub O Anna R 140
<b>Year 11 Total</b>					
Jess K 2420	Hope C 2050	Joshua McK 2530	Daisy N 2740	Mia Rose L 2130	Archie W 2140
<b>Year 11 Weekly Winner</b>					
Jess K 170	Ryan F 160	Tyler C 200	Freya W 150	Mia Rose L 130	Aditi K Archie W 120

### **Reminder: Year 10 Work Experience**

*A reminder that for Year 10 the deadline to complete their work experience paperwork is the last day of term in December. The work experience itself takes place in the Summer Term but the placements are arranged many weeks in advance, if your son/daughter needs any help or support in completing the paperwork then please see Mr Wright in room 42.*

### **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 Advent**

*God of hope, who brought love into this world,  
be the love that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought peace into this world,  
be the peace that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought joy into this world,  
be the joy that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, the rock we stand upon,  
be the centre, the focus of our lives  
always, and particularly this Advent time.*

**Amen.**