

Dear Parents/Carers

Assemblies this week have focused on the importance of making good choices in school and in life so that we can make the most of the opportunities that are presented to us. We discussed that some choices such as staying up late, using social media, or playing computer games can often be for short term gain and can affect our ability to do well in school if we are tired the next day or we become distracted from homework and revision. We talked about the benefit of making good choices in life and in school such as, having high attendance, being punctual, trying our best in lessons, completing our homework, and getting enough sleep and exercise, as all these things prepare us for a future that is not yet written and the education that students receive at school can be a foundation for unbelievable success if they do their part and ensure they do their best each and every day.

It was an absolute pleasure to lead the assemblies this week and the students were fantastically well behaved as usual.

Year 9 Mass

Thank you to Father Peter Hapgood-Strickland and Sister Dolores who visited school on Thursday to celebrate Mass with Year 9 to mark the start of the Jubilee Year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope". I am also grateful to the student readers, the GIFT team and the RE department for preparing and supporting in the celebration of Mass. Father Peter commented at the end how well behaved the whole of Year 9 were during Mass and I was incredibly proud of all of them for representing the school so well.

Year 9 Theatre Trip Animal Farm

Well done to the Year 9 students who visited the Bolton Octagon theatre this week to watch a fantastic performance of "Animal Farm", the students represented the schools superbly and had a fantastic time watching a really excellent adaptation of George Orwell's famous book.

The Stewards team have provided each form with a pet plant to take care of over the next few weeks so that it can be eventually planted in the prayer garden, the project is to emphasise the importance of caring for our community and the environment, it is wonderful that the Stewards have found a way to make sure each form is actively involved in Caring for our Common Home.

Reminder: St Thomas More Alumni

We are inviting former St Thomas More RC College students to get in touch and join our alumni programme so they can share the stories of their careers and success to inspire the next generation! If you would be happy for us to celebrate your successes on social media or even are willing to come into school to talk to our current students then please get in touch on the following email address.

alumni@stmcollege.org.uk

Year 9 Booster Vaccinations SLB/MEN ACWY

If your child is in year 9 please be aware they have been given a consent form for the SLB/MEN ACWY booster vaccinations.

The immunisation team will be coming into school on Monday 24th February and Tuesday 25th February. Please could you complete the forms and return to school by Monday 10th February.

Year 7 Badminton Team and Extra Curricular Activities

Well done to the Year 7 Badminton team who competed superbly in a badminton tournament at Copley High School this week, the team did very well especially considering that this was their first competitive fixture.

Thank you to all the staff and students that are involved in the high number of extra-curricular activities and trips and visits that are running at the moment, it is wonderful to see so many members of the school community taking an active role in opportunities outside of lessons.

Please remember that further information about the wide range of activities on offer is regularly updated on the school's facebook page.

www.facebook.com/StThomasMoreRCCollege

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

Thomas H in Year 9 and Mr Turner are now neck and neck at the top of the league with both players on 1432 points!!!

Mrs Halligan wins Week 23 scoring a huge 90 points with her team Halogen FC

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>

St Thomas More RC College Achievement Point League

I can't believe how many points are being collected this academic year by our incredible students and the huge totals being collected by the vast majority of students show how much staff want to celebrate the success of our hardworking students. Well done everyone

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
Year 7 Total					
Valentina F 3750	Erin K 3640	Ella F 3200	Rohan G 4290	Abigail B 3390	Connor M 3240
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Valentina F Isabelle McM 110	Darcie K 210	Ella F 190	Maya L 190	Daisy S Gospel O 140	Isabel D 240
Year 8 Total					
Aiden F 4280	Albie N 3050	Abbie H 3980	Milena R 3760	Charlotte L 4260	Erin L 4110
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Charlotte H 180	Albie N 190	Abbie H 120	Milena R 190	Charlotte L Evie S 220	Erin L 200
Year 9 Total					
Alex S 4740	Chris M 3810	Thomas H 3870	Evelyn SH 2610	Carrie M 3800	Ole M 3570
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Brooke D 330	Chris M 160	Oliver D 210	Timmy S 180	Carrie M Leon P Jessica M 170	Alfred K 170
Year 10 Total					
Olivia K 4650	Jack R 3270	Dominik C 3730	Kaitlyn F 4420	Harry C 4870	Reve MM 3180
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Paul K 190	Laura P Oliver H 140	Valerie I 180	Lauren L 140	Harry C 310	Gracie M 160
Year 11 Total					
Eid A 3060	Hope C 2550	Joshua McK 3180	Daisy N 4050	Mia Rose L 3030	Megan T 2740
Year 11 Weekly Winner					
Eid A 200	Caitlyn McC 140	Kaci Lea D Meida K Joshua McK 70	Daisy N 250	Sara K 220	Roisin G Julie A 110

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.

Please Note: If you have an appointment to meet with a member of staff in school, then please ensure that you are on time to the meeting, on the rare occasion a parent/carer is more than 15 minutes late to a meeting then due to the busy nature of schools the meeting will be cancelled and will need to be rearranged at another time and/or date.

If you are offered an appointment time for a meeting with a member of staff in school, then please ensure that you have confirm your attendance at the meeting in advance either verbally or in writing to prevent the meeting time being rebooked.

God bless

H Brophy

2025 Jubilee Year for the Catholic Church

2025 has been designated as a Jubilee Year by Pope Francis with 'Pilgrims of Hope' as the theme.

Prayer for the Gospel on Sunday "The Presentation of the Lord"

God of Welcome,

may we take this opportunity to recommit ourselves to the work of justice,

letting your light shine brightly in a world often shadowed by inequality and division.

Like Simeon and Anna in the Gospel, let us recognise your presence in our midst and proclaim your justice to all.

Amen