

Dear Parents/Carers

This week our assemblies have focused on the season of Lent that now lies before us, Lent is a wonderful time in the Liturgical Calendar as it gives us the opportunity to reflect on the good choices we can make for our benefit and the benefit of others. The student leadership team led the assemblies and passed on the Lenten Fundraising Challenge to all form groups on the theme of "Eight is Great", each form group now has the task of raising as much money as possible for the Christie Cancer Research and Treatment Hospital with activities based around the number eight.

This is the eighth year we have been raising money in Lent for the Christie which is a hugely worthwhile cause and yesterday we welcomed our Christie Representative into school with a message of thanks for all the students, staff and families for raising over £30,000 in the last seven years, thank you for your ongoing generosity, you have helped countless numbers of people who you may never meet but that is the wonderful part of our Catholic mission.

Well done to the Staff who are completing a Sponsored Walk on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Paul K Y10 who is learning 8 pieces of Piano music in Lent, and Harry C who is completing a sponsored bike ride.

To donate to the staff walk please follow the link below, thank you in advance for your generosity.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/stmstaff>

### **Ash Wednesday Service**

Thank you to Father Peter Hapgood-Strickland who came into school on Wednesday to lead our Ash Wednesday Service for all Year groups to celebrate the start of Lent. Every year group behaved impeccably and very respectful and received the Ashes from Palm Sunday with great reverence.

Thank you also to the staff and students who helped plan and lead aspects of the service. Father Peter was once again overwhelmed with the excellent behaviour of the students during the service and I was so proud of them and the school once again.

### **Card of thanks from King Charles**

We were very proud and pleased to this week receive a card of thanks from King Charles. The Stewards, GIFT and Student Leadership team sent His Royal Highness a Christmas Card in December with best wishes from the whole school community and it is fantastic to see that their thoughtful gesture has been noted by the Palace! Amazing!

### **Special Mentions**

Well done to Lexy S in 11A who danced in the IDTA Street Dance National Finals in Blackpool over the weekend, Lexy came second place in both the individual and group performances which is an amazing achievement against some incredible competitors in this national competition. Well done!

Well done to the Year 10 Football team who progressed into the next round of the Catholic Cup with a superb 2-0 victory on Monday evening, also very well done to the Year 8/9 Basketball team who qualified for the Tameside Final this week with victory in their highly competitive match.

Well done to the Year 10 pupils who visited Salford University this week to learn about the world of Law and the Justice System, their behaviour was absolutely incredible as we would expect and was commented on by the course leaders! Bravo!

### **Reminder Year 11 Revision**

*This will now be the last full half term before the GCSE examinations begin in May so it is vitally important that Year 11 students are completing lots of revision at home at evenings during the week and at the weekends. It isn't always the easiest task for Year 11 students to revise consistently and regularly at home so any support and encouragement provided by parents/carers could be crucial in securing the best possible grades for your child. Thank you for your support in this, these next few weeks are a hugely important time for Year 11 students and any sustained revision that they can do at home in the next few weeks will be a superb preparation for their exams.*

*Please note that the Summer 2025 GCSE Timetable is available to download on our school website and also on Satchel One.*

### **Reminder: Consideration of our Neighbours (parking)**

*I am sorry to say that we have been contacted by some of our neighbours who are concerned about parking in the streets near school at pick up and drop off time. We have always had a fantastic relationship with the local community so could I please ask parents and carers to be mindful and considerate of where you are parking and please don't park across residents driveways or dropped kerbs, I am sure that this has only happened inadvertently as I am sure that no-one would deliberately or knowingly park across someone else's driveway but please do take a moment to consider where you are parking/waiting particularly at the end of the day.*

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

Due to the FA Cup there were no Premier League Fixtures this week so no changes to the league, managers need to make any changes to their team before 11am tomorrow due to an early kick off between Nottingham Forrest and Manchester City.

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>

### **World Book Day: Decorate a Door**

Thank you to all the staff who took part in the decorate a door challenge in honour of world book day, there were some fabulous and creative designs of classroom doors decorated as books. The students then had the task of finding the decorated doors and working out the correct titles of the books. All done to promote our shared love of reading that is such an important lifelong skill.

Well done to the student winners of the door challenge

Mollie R, Kaja S & Tyler C (Y11)

Alex S (Y7)

## St Thomas More RC College Achievement Point League

Magnificent points collecting by all our committed students week after week!

Remember that you can log into satchel one to check your child individual achievements and successes at any time as the parent page is updated daily, if you are unable to log in for any reason please contact school for help. [admin@stmcollege.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmcollege.org.uk)

*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 5030	Erin K 4740	Ella F 4360	Maddie D 5310	Abigail B 4180	Connor M 4460
<b>Year 7 Weekly Winner</b>					
Rio A 200	Dalyn McG Erin K 150	Mikayla C 200	Maddie D 240	Imogen S Daisy S 100	Isabel D 210
<b>Year 8 Total</b>					
Aiden F 5370	Albie N 4000	Abbie H 4970	Milena R 4940	Charlotte L 5190	Erin L 5280
<b>Year 8 Weekly Winner</b>					
Darcey D 180	Tanzil A Albie N 160	Steven C Ravin R 120	Milena R 170	Iris P Evie S 110	Erin L 200
<b>Year 9 Total</b>					
Brooke D 5740	Chris M 4540	Thomas H 4540	Iris L Evelyn SH 3360	Carrie M 4540	Ole M 4390
<b>Year 9 Weekly Winner</b>					
Brooke D 250	Doreen A 130	Caleb G 160	Iris L 180	Jake T 180	William C Erica S 130
<b>Year 10 Total</b>					
Olivia K 5380	Jack R 3960	Dominik C 4660	Kaitlyn F 5120	Harry C 5760	Reve MM 3770
<b>Year 10 Weekly Winner</b>					
Olivia K 200	Jack R 160	Dominik C 330	Amelia T 130	Harry C 230	Spencer C Jakub O Reve MM 120
<b>Year 11 Total</b>					
Eid A 3820	Caitlyn McC 3110	Pippa SM 3830	Daisy N 4950	Mia Rose L 3690	Megan T 3380
<b>Year 11 Weekly Winner</b>					
David P 340	Caitlyn McC 130	Ben F Jessica R Max M	Daisy N 140	David W 120	Cadhla B Aditi K 130

		Shalom O 100			
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## 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.

*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

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## 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.

Today we include a special Lenten Prayer provided by CAFOD.

### Prayer for Lent

Give up harsh words: use generous ones.

Give up unhappiness: take up gratitude.

Give up anger: take up gentleness and patience.

Give up pessimism: take up hope and optimism.

Give up worrying: take up trust in God.

Give up complaining: value what you have.

Give up stress: take up prayer.

Give up judging others: discover Jesus within them.

Give up sorrow and bitterness: fill your heart with joy.

Give up selfishness: take up compassion for others.

Give up being unforgiving: learn reconciliation.

Give up words: fill yourself with silence, and listen to others.

**Amen**