

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a fantastic week in school blessed by warm sunshine, and it has been so wonderful to see the students so focused on their learning and education in class this week, despite the warm temperatures. Every effort that they make in school is preparing them for the opportunity to lead a happy, successful and fulfilled life with an outstanding career in their chosen field.

Assemblies this week for most year groups have been led by Miss O'Mullane and have focused on the upcoming Mental Health Awareness week which will be marked in school. It is so important that we all realise that worries and challenges are something that everyone faces at some point in their lives but the key is to be aware of Mental Health Information so we can develop strategies and resilience so that worries and challenges can be overcome without having a detrimental impact on us. This is why Mental Health Awareness week is such a vital part of the calendar.

Year 11 have had two events this week. This morning (Friday) they had an assembly that looked back on highlights of their successes over the past five years during their time in school and also focused on some key messages for the examinations and the weeks ahead. We also celebrated a wonderful Mass with Year 11 on Thursday Morning, with Sister Dolores and Father Peter Hapgood-Strickland, to pray for the success of Year 11 in their GCSE and Vocational Examinations. Both Father Peter and Sister Dolores commented how well behaved and respectful the students were during the celebration of Mass. Well done Year 11.

Bank Holiday Monday

Please remember that school is closed on Monday 5th May for the May Bank Holiday, school will be open as normal again next Tuesday 6th May.

Year 11

From next week, school will be open to Year 11 students from 8:20am and this will continue during the exam period so that they can have a relaxing start with possibly some last-minute revision before the day of exams ahead. In previous years it has been great to see so many students taking advantage of this and showing so much commitment to success in their examinations.

Year 11 will continue to attend all their lessons during these initial parts of the exam timetable.

We have found through many years of experience that it is much better for students to continue to attend their lessons on days when they don't have exams as teachers are able to direct and support their revision.

We have carefully considered the exam timetable structure and concluded that on **Friday 6th June**, the first week back after half term, the majority of the exams will have been completed. After this date students will then only need to come into school for their exams or for lessons in which they still have an exam left to take. At other times from Monday 9th June students can then revise for the small number of remaining exams at home.

On Friday 6th June students will be given the opportunity to sign shirts at the end of their exams that day. There will be time for this to be completed before the bell for the end of the day but students will also be welcome to stay behind after school should they wish if they need additional time for this activity, this has been a lovely experience for students in previous years.

The date for the Year 11 Prom is Thursday 26th June 7pm to 10pm, please remember that the Prom is by invitation only at the discretion of the school and that students must be in positive. More points to have the opportunity to attend.

Year 11 Revision

The GCSE timetable continues to be on the school website at:

<https://www.stmcollege.org.uk/parents/examination-guidance>

Please be aware that the first GCSE and Summer Examinations have now started with exams on the following dates:

GCSE Summer 2025 Exams:

GCSE Written Exams begins -- 6th May 2025 to 18th June 2025

It is absolutely vital that students are now doing plenty of revision at home as work in these last few days as this can be the difference between one grade and another, thank you for the encouragement of your sons/daughters with their studies at home. It is also really important that students continue to remain 100% focused in class in these next few weeks even as the exams start as staff will be able to give them crucial information and guidance for the exams, a good night's sleep each night is now so important so concentration levels can remain as high as possible.

Faith in Action

We are so proud of the members of the St Thomas More Faith in Action Team who are going for their Gold Award. Yesterday they led pupils from our partner primaries St John Fisher, St Anne's and St Mary's in a Creative event during which the different teams created a large set of Rosary Beads that will be displayed in our Schools and Parishes.

A representative of Salford Diocese came to observe the event and were full of praise for our students saying:

"Please pass on my congratulations to the team who led the day, they were truly wonderful.

Thank you for the work you are doing to accompany the young people on their faith journey, it is amazing."

Tameside SEN Inspection Parent/Carer and Student Survey

We have been notified by Tameside Local Authority that OFSTED are to inspect their SEND provision.

We have been asked to share with Parents/Carers details of a survey that Parents/Carers and Students with SEND are asked to complete.

The details of the survey are contained within a letter from Tameside that can be found on the school website at the following web address:

<https://www.stmcollege.org.uk/news/headteachers-letters>

Special Mention

Bravo, to Isabella B in Year 10 who sang and played her guitar at a recent primary school fundraising event. Well done Isabella for your brilliant talents and giving up your time to support others.

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

Thomas H continues to look uncatchable at the top of the league with 2,218 points

Ms Taaffe takes the prize for gameweek 34 with 89 points!

Once students have created a Premier League account and a team at [Fantasy Premier League](https://fantasy.premierleague.com/), [Official Fantasy Football Game of the Premier League](https://fantasy.premierleague.com/leagues/auto-join/v25n52) 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

Well done to all the students who are collecting so many achievements by doing the simple things really well in school. Bravo!

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

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 FN 6250	Erin K 5500	Ella F 5250	Maddie D 6720	Abigail B 4970	Isabel D 5530
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Valentia FN 310	Alice F 190	Ella F 210	Maya L 380	Elsa R 250	Angel A 290
Year 8 Total					
Aiden F 6580	Albie N 5020	Abbie H 6020	Milena R 6090	Charlotte L 6530	Erin L 6330
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Aiden F 170	Albie N 180	Abbie H 130	Milena R 80	Charlotte L 170	Hugo S Erin L 150
Year 9 Total					
Brooke D 7290	Chris M 5540	Thomas H 5580	Iris L 4240	Carragan M 5300	Ole M 5240
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Brooke D 300	Breya P 180	Lucy W 230	Rose W 120	Angel O Jake T 160	Ole M 170
Year 10 Total					
Olivia K 6740	Jack R 4910	Dominik C 6020	Kaitlyn F 6080	Harry C 6970	Reve MM 4570
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Olivia K 400	Oliver H 290	Francesca W 410	Lauren L 360	Harry C 430	Anna R 300

Year 11 Total					
Eid A 5080	Luca H 3980	Pippa SM 4810	Daisy N 6410	Mia Rose L 4500	Megan T 4030
Year 11 Weekly Winner					
Maddie McG 190	Luca H 90	Jessica R 120	Daisy N 170	Mia Rose L 110	Jack K 60

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 the Catholic Church 'Pilgrims of Hope' as the theme.

This week we join together in prayer dedicated to our Year 11 students as they continue to prepare of their exams and we ask St Joseph the Worker to support them in their final days of revision as it was his feast day earlier this week.

Prayer for the Spirit of Hard Work

God our Father, Creator and Ruler of the universe,
in every age you call us to use and develop our gifts for the good of others.
With St. Joseph as our guide,
help us to do the work you have asked and come to the rewards you have promised.
Please grant this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.