

Dear Parents/Carers

This week assemblies have been led by the student GIFT team and school Student Leadership Team and have focused on promoting this term's charity focus of collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal. The response has already been incredible from our generous students and families, thank you! There is a reminder from last week's letter of how you can donate to this very worthwhile cause below.

At the end of last week the school received a lovely email from one of our bus drivers (who is changing their route) about the students of St Thomas More RC College that I thought I would share with you, it shows how our committed parents/carers who are working with the school have done a superb job in instilling exactly the right kind of values and behaviour in their sons/daughters. It is fantastic to get such great praise for the school and our students.

Dear St Thomas More RC College

As I have served the school now for 2 and half years as a bus driver for Belle Vue, I wanted to reach out personally and offer my thanks and gratitude to all of the staff who have been extremely helpful over this time.

The school and everyone involved should be extremely proud of the children's behaviour over the last 2 years with little to no incidents, they have been a shining example of the excellent work done at Thomas More RC College and have made my job extremely pleasant, in my years as a bus driver I have worked at many schools and none of them compare to politeness and manners of yours.

Thank you for a wonderful 2 years of service.

I am once again extremely proud of the students who do so well both inside and outside of school.

Year 9 Berlin Residential

Thank you to the staff who have spent time away from their families this week to accompany Year 9 students on the residential trip to the German capital Berlin. The photos and updates that are on the School Facebook page look like the students are having a great time and I believe that their behaviour has been excellent as we would expect. It is a significant undertaking for staff to be responsible for 50 students abroad in a foreign country and I do feel blessed that we have such committed staff that means we are able to offer these opportunities. Well done to the Year 9 students on the trip for representing the school so well.

Readers are Leaders Group and Book club

The first session this term of the Readers are Leaders book club will be on Tuesday 22nd of October.

The book club will be reading the novel, Boy, Everywhere by A.M. Dassu, if your child is interesting in joining in with the activities then please ask them to complete the signing up sheet on the door of Room 32 before Tuesday.

For more details about the text the following external website "The Book Trust" has more details and reviews

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/b/boy-everywhere/>

Black History Month

It has been a real pleasure to see all the activities related to Black History Month during October in School. Thank you to all the staff that have arranged so many exciting and interesting learning opportunities and well done to all the students for your involvement. It is fantastic to be part of such a diverse, inclusive and welcoming community. Activities have included, Year group assemblies, Black History Month Bookstand, Enrichment projects from RE, English, MFL, Art, Maths, and CPSHE and After school clubs with a special focus - Poetry by Heart club and Art Club.

Please see the following website for more information on Black History Month that has the theme this year of "Reclaiming Narratives" with the aims of Honouring Heroes, Embracing Stories and Empowering and Educating so the opportunity is taken to highlight the diverse and profound impact of Black individuals across history in a wide range of areas.

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>

Year 11 Mock Interviews

On Thursday 24th October we are inviting a number of Business and Higher/Further Education representatives into school to carry out mock interviews with Year 11 students in school. This exciting career education opportunity is another invaluable milestone in our curriculum that prepares students for a successful life beyond school and I hope all Year 11 students find the experience useful next week.

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 this week. It is no surprise that there is link between students in positive MORE points and excellent results in GCSE and Vocational exams, hard work and good behaviour leads to great outcomes for students.

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 1280	Erin K 1390	Ella F 1090	Rohan G 1650	Gospel O 1040	Lillie M-P 1110
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Valentina F 170	Erin K 230	Ella F 160	Lucas BT 250	Gospel O 120	Antonia M 200
Year 8 Total					
Aiden F 1460	Zuzanna F 850	Abbie H 1350	Ellis P 1080	Charlotte L 1440	Erin L 1300
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Aiden F Charlotte H 160	Zuzanna F 150	Abbie H 130	Winter Li 140	Charlotte L 180	Ruby W 210
Year 9 Total					
Miracle O 1660	Doreen A 1330	Thomas H 1340	Evelyn S Timmy S	Carrie M 1240	Ole M 1170

			980		
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Miracle O 270	Doreen A 180	Oliver D 260	Evelyn S 130	Leon P 120	Erica S 140
Year 10 Total					
Olivia K 1510	Sam A 970	Isabella S 1120	Kaitlyn F 1680	Harry C 1380	Jakub O 940
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Paul K 190	Joshua A 170	Dominik C 150	Kaitlyn F 170	Ciaran M 170	Cody S 140
Year 11 Total					
Jess K 1240	Hope C 1050	Joshua McK 1170	Daisy N 1400	Mia Rose L 970	Megan T 1080
Year 11 Weekly Winner					
Eid A 150	Freya H 150	Kaci- Lea D 130	Tija R Frankie D 280	Olivia W 130	Cadhla B Keir H Roisin M 110

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

International fixtures mean no Premiership games last weekend week, next fixtures are on Saturday 19th October.

So Mr Turner continues on top spot in the League this week with a 463 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 automatically join the league.

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

Reminder: School Production: A Night at the Musicals

We would like to warmly invite Parents/Carers and Families to our upcoming school production "A Night at the Musicals" on Monday 21st Oct at 4pm, Tuesday 22nd Oct at 6pm and Wed 23rd October at 6pm.

Tickets are available to purchase on parent pay with Monday's matinee performance at 4pm free as it is also a full-dress rehearsal.

Tickets for all performances must be bought in advance, even the free show to ensure we don't exceed the capacity of the hall.

Reminder: Operation Christmas Child: Shoe Box Appeal

We are once again running our Shoe Box Appeal in support of Operation Christmas Child.

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/ways-to-give/>

The Samaritans Purse is an extremely worthwhile charity that supports some of the most vulnerable children and families right across the world throughout the year but especially at Christmas. Each form group will be putting together Christmas Shoe Boxes that can include the following items

Toys - A football and pump, cuddly toys, dolls, toy cars, small musical instruments, yo-yos, skipping ropes, balls, small puzzles etc.

School Supplies - Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.

Hygiene Items - Toothbrush, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel etc.

Other Items - Hat, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, socks, T-shirt, flip-flops, hair accessories, jewellery set, watch, wind-up torch etc.

Please don't include: - Toothpaste, sweets, lotions and liquids; used or damaged items; war-related items (e.g. Toy Guns); seeds, gum, chocolate or food items; religious or political literature; medicines, aerosol cans, sharp or fragile items.

Any donations of the above items that students can bring into school would be gratefully received.

Please note: there is also the option of making a small financial donation on the School's Parent Pay website if families would prefer.

The deadline for the completion of boxes in school is early November.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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.

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.

As October is the month of the Rosary we pray to Mary today to ask for peace in the world

We ask you Mary, Mother of Jesus, inspire the leaders of nations to seek paths of peace.

You showed compassion to everyone, teach us to care for one another.

You gave us the gift of Jesus' love, teach us to be witnesses to his consolation and peace.

In this month of October pour harmony and reconciliation into our hearts.

Amen.