

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been wonderful to welcome the students back this week for the start of the Winter Half term and I must say that the students have made a fantastic continuation to their studies and it has been a pleasure to see them working so well this week and looking so smart in their School uniforms.

Well done to all the students on a fantastic return to school.

Remembrance Day

On Monday 11th November we will be marking Remembrance Day in school with a minute's silence during the morning session to mark this important and solemn occasion. In school we know that we have more students than ever before who volunteer for uniformed organisations and activities outside of school and we are immensely proud of them and the contribution that they make to their local community.

Therefore, if students who are members of the Scouts, Guides, St John's Ambulance, Police Cadets, or Armed Forces Cadets including the Army, Navy or Royal Airforce cadets wish to wear their full organisation's uniform to school on Monday 11th November as a mark of respect to all those who have been affected by war, then they are of course most welcome to attend school in the uniform they wear for their cadet organisation.

Please note that some cadet organisations do require volunteers to ask permission to wear their uniform at events outside their normal volunteering activities so please do check if your son/daughter requires the permission of their organisation to wear uniform to school on Monday.

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.

Year 10 Theatre Trip

Well done to the Year 10 students who represented the school on their theatre trip to watch "Lizzie the Musical" at the Hope Mill Theatre in Salford. I am told the production was really enjoyable and a fantastic experience. Thank you as well to the students for their impeccable behaviour.

Year 11 Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended last night's parent/carer's evening for Year 11.

The event was very well attended with a huge amount of positive feedback and teachers were really pleased to be able to give lots of positive messages about the hard work of our students as they begin the final preparations for their GCSEs.

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

Some unexpected results last week end made it an interesting Saturday and Sunday for our budding football managers last weekend, don't forget that players need to make any changes to their team before 11:30am tomorrow

Mr Turner continues on top spot in the League this week with 614 points

Miss Taaffe was the game week 10 winner with 56 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](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

Another brilliant week of points collection well done to all the students in school on working so hard this week even in the first week of term! Congratulations to the students who have already passed the threshold for a Bronze badge at 1500 which gives them a fast pass for the dinner queue each Friday.

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 1760	Erin K 1850	Ella F 1400	Rohan G 2180	Abigail B 1480	Lillie M-P 1490
Year 7 Weekly Winner					
Valentina F 160	Jason T 170	Mikayla C 210	Amelia O Maddie D 260	Nanci L 250	Connor M 180
Year 8 Total					
Aiden F 2040	Jacob B 1350	Abbie H 1950	Ellis P 1580	Charlotte L 2020	Charlie M 2020
Year 8 Weekly Winner					
Aiden F 190	Tanzil A 220	Abbie H 180	Winter Li 170	Eleanor L 340	Charlie M 380
Year 9 Total					
Miracle O 2150	Chris M 1810	Thomas H 1760	Finlay D 1110	Carrie M 1750	Ole M 1640
Year 9 Weekly Winner					
Lucy M 160	Chris M 150	Oliver D 190	Iris L 160	Angel O 200	Isla N 200
Year 10 Total					
Olivia K 2080	Sam A 1260	Dominik C 1660	Kaitlyn F 2150	Harry C 1900	Reve MM 1270
Year 10 Weekly Winner					
Olivia K 290	Ava H 140	Dominik C 340	Kaitlyn F 190	Harry C 180	Jakub O Reve MM

					180
Year 11 Total					
Jess K 1570	Hope C 1370	Pippa SM 1600	Daisy N 1770	Mia Rose L 1330	Megan T 1470
Year 11 Weekly Winner					
Eid A 140	Ryan F Caitlyn M 120	Media K 170	Daisy N 180	Mia Rose L 130	Archie W 140

Thank you: Operation Christmas Child: Shoe Box Appeal

Thank you to all our families, staff and students for your fantastic and very generous donations for the Shoe Box Appeal in support of Operation Christmas Child. The charity work that the students are so committed to is so incredible and it really does change the lives of so many others who are in real need of our help.

<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.

Well done to the whole community on a superb response to this appeal.

Reminder: St Mary's Primary School and Parish Tonight!

I have been asked to inform you of an exciting event taking place at the Hall at St Mary's Primary School on Friday 8th November, a "Strung Sung Supper".

It promises to be a very enjoyable evening of singalong fun for all the family with lyrics provided so everyone can take part. Pie and peas supper is included in the ticket price with a vegetarian option available.

Family tickets for 2 adults and 2 children are priced at £30, with individual tickets priced at £8.30

Please see the St Thomas More website on the Headteacher's Letter page to view a flyer for the event.

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.

With Remembrance Day next week in our thoughts we share a prayer of remembrance and a prayer for peace.

A prayer of Commemoration and a prayer for Peace

Father of all,

remember your holy promise,

and look with love on all your people, living and departed.

On Remembrance Day we especially ask that you hold forever

all who have suffered during war, those who returned scarred by warfare,

those who waited anxiously at home, and those who returned wounded, and disillusioned;

those who mourned, and those communities that were diminished and suffered loss.

Remember too those who acted with kindly compassion,

those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades,

and those who in the aftermath of war, worked tirelessly for a more peaceful world.

And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord;

grant us peace in our time and a longing for the day when people of every language, race, and nation

will be brought into the unity of Christ's kingdom.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.