

Dear Parents/Carers

The students have been superb this week and looked incredibly smart and professional in their uniform. We know the high standards that they display will have an incredibly positive impact on their mindset and outcomes, so well done to all the students who are trying so hard at the start of the year. Thank you as well to parents and carers for your care and attention to make sure they have all the things they need to be successful including plenty of sleep each night.

Assemblies this week have been about the importance of community and being kind to each other in our actions, words and thoughts. Heads of Year explained to students that, although they may say or do something they intend as a joke, if it is cruel or makes fun of someone else then it isn't acceptable as you can't know how other people will feel about it deep down.

The simple message is that it is much better to be kind and look after each other and that is what we want for all members of our community through our calm, polite and respectful culture.

Year 7 Mass

Thank you to Father Peter Hapgood-Strickland and Sister Dolores who visited school on Thursday morning to celebrate Year 7 Welcome Mass with the whole year group.

The Year 7 readers were excellent, as were Olivia and Harry our Head Girl and Head Boy who read the readings and the psalm. I was also hugely impressed with the School Choir who sang beautifully, it is clear they have been working really hard and also learning the school hymn which is "Walk With Me O' My Lord".

I was also very proud of the Year 7s who behaved superbly in Mass and were very prayerful and respectful, Father Peter was hugely impressed.

Well done Year 7.

Reminder: Open Evening: Early Finish

Our Open Evening for prospective parents/carers and students will take place on Thursday 25th September 5pm to 7pm.

As is usual practice school will close early on the day of Open Evening (25th September) at 12:15 to facilitate the organisation that is required to open the school to many hundreds of parents/carers and their children.

Further information will be provided about buses that are available for students to travel home in on the day in due course

Travelling to School by Cycle

It is fantastic to see so many students travelling to school on their cycles and we encourage as many students to cycle or walk to school as part of a healthy lifestyle, although we accept that this is not always possible.

As a reminder there are a few simple things that will make sure that students on cycles are safe on the journey to school as well as other pedestrians and road users.

- Please make sure your child's bike is well maintained with inflated tyres and working brakes, reflectors and lights especially in the winter.

- Remember that safety organisations recommend the use of a cycle helmet when travelling by bike.
- Students must not ride their bikes on school premises when they arrive or are leaving school. They must walk their bikes on the school drive when they are inside the green gates. This is for their safety and the safety of students walking in this area, it is a simple rule but it works very well to prevent injuries.
- Students must not ride their bikes on the pavement outside the front of school next to the parked buses as this is a safety issue for: them, students queueing for the bus, staff on duty, and other pedestrians. The pavement is very narrow when the buses are parked and there is not space for students to ride their bikes safely in this area so students on bikes must walk them past the buses before they get on their bikes to ride them home.

Possible Bus Drivers Strike: Advance Notice

On the 19th-22nd September it is possible that the 719/219 bus will be affected by industrial action which may be taken by the Bus Drivers of this service. We are in contact with the Bus Company and will be able to provide updates and more clarity in the coming days.

We do know however that the bus drivers of the 786 and 790 are not striking. Therefore, those services are unaffected.

Fire Drill

Today we had a Fire Drill and Evacuation test and the students' behaviour was remarkable. The students organised themselves in their register lines quickly and were so silent while the registers were being taken that you could hear a pin drop on the yard even though there were close to 800 students present.

Well done to all the students and staff for such a well organised procedure.

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League

No updates in the school Fantasy Football League this week due to no Premier League Football due to the international break!

The current overall school leader with 206 points is Sam H.

Frank C-S was the Game week 3 winner with a massive 71 points.

There is still time to join the league especially now the Premier league is on a break for international football and there are weekly winners for every gameweek.

Once you have created a Premier League account and a team at [Fantasy Premier League, Official Fantasy Football Game of the Premier League](#) you can join the school mini league named;

St Thomas More League

The league code is; rfjc8l

Alternatively, you can click on the link below to automatically join the league.

<https://fantasy.premierleague.com/leagues/auto-join/rfjc8l>

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!

Please find the list of the Overall winners this week in each form who are also the weekly winners in this first full 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

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					
Megan H 210	Enya K Lily E 310	Inioluwa A 440	Margot K 360	Ava F 270	Tommy M 200
Year 8 Total					
Valentina FN 290	Erin K 170	Lola McN 280	Maddie D 220	Imogen S 230	Stemily O 340
Year 9 Total					
Jalodia O 210	Albie N 300	Aiden F 240	Franek S 250	Eleanor L 190	Amelia F 190
Year 10 Total					
Lucy M 410	Doreen A 250	Emily G 310	Iris L 310	Evie B 300	Dylan R Chloe T 270
Year 11 Total					
Paul K 200	Sam A Ava F 230	Dominik C 270	Elizabeth O Lauren L 210	Ruby L 250	Reve MM 230

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

H Brophy

2025 has been designated as a Jubilee Year by the Catholic Church 'Pilgrims of Hope' as the theme.

This week it seems appropriate to pray for kindness.

New Academic Year Prayer

Dear God, we come before you today with a humble heart and a desire to be more like you. Fill us with your Spirit of kindness and compassion so that we may be a light to those around me.

Kindness is not always easy, especially when we encounter difficult people or situations. We pray that you would give us the strength and wisdom to respond with grace and love. May we be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

We also ask that you would help me to see the needs of those around me. Sometimes people are hurting, and they don't know how to ask for help. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear so that we can be a source of comfort and support to those in need.

As we go about our day, we pray that you would help us to be intentional about showing kindness to others. Whether it's a smile, a kind word, or a simple act of service, may we be a reflection of your love and grace.

Finally, Lord, we ask that you would bless us with a heart of gratitude. Help us to recognize the blessings in our lives and to be thankful for them. May our gratitude overflow into acts of kindness and generosity toward others.

Amen