

Dear Parents/Carers

Salford Diocese Theme of the Week for Schools for the Current Week. (Monday – Friday)

VOCATION: 'I am the door for the sheep.'

– **Last Sunday's Gospel** - John 10: 1 - 10

This week assemblies have been delivered to all Year groups by Deputy Headteacher, Miss O'Mullane, and have focused on our standards and expectations that makes St Thomas More RC College one of the leading schools in the region. The standards that we insist upon are so important to ensure that the school is a calm, polite, respectful and purposeful environment where teachers can teach and students can learn. Our behaviour and rewards system is always focused on making sure that the school community can make great progress in lessons and feel safe and secure when in school. As always, I am so grateful for the support that parents/carers provide in supporting the policies and procedures of the school so all young people have the opportunity to achieve great outcomes during their school career.

Bank Holiday 4th May

A reminder that Monday the 4th May is a Bank Holiday and the school will be closed. I hope that everyone in our community enjoys the long weekend and hopefully we are all blessed with some good weather.

Summer Uniform Modification Summer

Students have been informed that from Thursday this week they no longer need to bring their school jumper to school should they wish to leave it at home. The weather is getting warmer as we head to Summer and as we do every year this week seems like a sensible point to temporarily remove the requirement for students to wear the school jumper up until the Summer holidays. Please note that the school jumper will once again be compulsory in September in the new school year so it is worth students keeping hold of their jumpers until the new school year.

It is very important that students make sure that their shirts are tucked in over the next few weeks to retain the smart professional appearance of the uniform without the jumper.

Students must continue to wear their blazers to school and when walking between lessons, however as always students are permitted to take off their blazers during lessons and when seated in the dining hall. Should the weather become particularly warm over the Summer it may be necessary to further relax the requirement on the school blazer but this decision will be taken on a day to day basis and communicated at the time.

Please note that if the temperature drops students should not substitute the school jumper with a hoodie or coat worn underneath their blazer. If the temperature is low they can return to wearing their school jumper for as long as they require.

Mrs Milnes' Funeral

Further to my letter yesterday please find below a reminder of the arrangements for the early finish for Year 9 and Year 10 students on Wednesday 6th May so that colleagues of Mrs Milnes can attend her funeral and pay their respects.

Mrs Milnes' Family that her funeral will take place on Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 1pm, at Hollinwood Crematorium Chapel.

Mrs Milnes was a hugely respected and cherished member of staff who has been employed in two separate periods for a significant number of years and her loss has had a profound impact on the school community, staff, students and parents/carers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents/carers for the many messages of support, and also to recognise the strength and resilience of staff and students as we have navigated this very sad time in the school's history. As I am sure you will understand a large number of staff want to attend Mrs Milnes' funeral particularly because her death was so unexpected after only a very short illness.

In order to allow Mrs Milnes' school colleagues and friends to attend the funeral as a mark of respect **I have taken the decision to ask Year 10 and Year 9 students to finish school early on Wednesday 6th May**, remote learning activities will be set by staff for these students in the afternoon to cover the last two lessons of the day and take appropriate account of the time taken for travelling home.

Year 9 and Year 10 students should attend school as normal in the morning.

Arrangements will then be made for Year 9 to leave school at 12:05pm, with Year 10 students leaving at 12:00 noon, it will not be possible for the school buses to be arranged to collect at this time so students will need to use public transport to complete their journey home.

School will remain open all day for Year 7 and Year 8 students on Wednesday 6th May to support parents/carers, I recognise the younger age of Year 7 and Year 8 students are more likely to require childcare arrangements than older students, and this can be challenging to arrange at short notice.

School will also remain open all day for Year 11 students on Wednesday 6th May due to the proximity of their GCSE exams in the Summer.

School will then be open as normal for all students on Thursday 7th May.

On Wednesday 6th May pastoral support will be available for all students and the school Chapel will be open before school for students if they wish to pay their respects to Mrs Milnes in their own private and prayerful manner.

I hope that you are able to understand the decisions that the school has taken in relation to the funeral of Mrs Milnes, this has been a very challenging few months for the school community especially in light of the earlier death this year of Miss Mayson, and we have given a great deal of consideration on the most appropriate way to pay our respects to a kind and wonderful colleague, teacher, and friend, who has been taken from us all much too soon.

St Thomas More RC College Achievement Point League

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.

Total Points

| T | H | O | M | A | S |
|---------------------|--------|------------|----------|---------|-------|
| Year 7 Total | | | | | |
| Joseph M | Enya K | Inioluwa A | Margot K | Billy W | Efe O |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 6210 | 5770 | 6220 | 6080 | 7020 | 4430 |
| Year 8 Total | | | | | |
| Mikayla C 5910 | Isabelle C 5170 | Ella FO 5200 | Maya L 4890 | Daisy T 5390 | Isabelle D 4660 |
| Year 9 Total | | | | | |
| Charlotte H 4270 | Abbie H 5360 | Aiden F 4890 | Charlotte L 5460 | Aerin L 4520 | Erin L 5120 |
| Year 10 Total | | | | | |
| Lucy M 6460 | Christopher M 5315 | Lucy W 5130 | Finlay D 4870 | Carragan M 5805 | Erica S 5670 |
| Year 11 Total | | | | | |
| Olivia K 5140 | Sam A 4000 | Dominik C 5660 | Elizabeth O 4940 | Harry C 6490 | Cody S 4670 |

Weekly Winners

| T | H | O | M | A | S |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Year 7 Weekly Total | | | | | |
| Joseph M 210 | Taylor C 110 | Hollie B Tamia M Lewis C Alistair P 100 | Dora C Margot K Grace T 190 | Billy W 200 | Lacey W 140 |
| Year 8 Weekly Total | | | | | |
| Archie M 130 | Erin K 180 | Ella FO 150 | Maddie D 130 | Gospel OE 200 | Darcie K 180 |
| Year 9 Weekly Total | | | | | |
| Ruben F 110 | Zuzanna F Abbie H Olivia N 120 | Alfie D 90 | Ellis P 190 | Sam S 70 | Isabelle P 140 |
| Year 10 Weekly Total | | | | | |
| Hassanat O 330 | Chris M 350 | Thomas H Lucy W 240 | Florence S Finlay D 270 | Carragan M 260 | Erica S Isla N Joshua F 300 |
| Year 11 Weekly Total | | | | | |
| Liam A 120 | Ruby McG 210 | Valerie I 140 | Dylan H 160 | Ruby L 200 | Amelie S Will T 120 |

St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.

The current overall school leader is still Patrick H with 2010 points.

Our current gameweek winner is Mr Turner with 66 points

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>

Year 11 IMPORTANT Reminder

GCSE Summer 2026 Exams:

MFL (Speaking) & Art – 20th April 2026 to 2nd May 2026

GCSE Written Exams begins -- 5th May 2026 to 15th June 2026

*Remember GCSE examinations begin in a matter of days so it is vitally important that Year 11 students are completing lots of revision at home at evenings during these last few days. 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 **days** are a hugely important time for Year 11 students and any sustained revision that they can do at home in the next few **days** will be a superb preparation for their exams.*

Please note that the Summer 2026 GCSE Timetable is available to download on our school website

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

Students will have plenty of materials to revise from that have been provided by all relevant subject areas and there are plenty of resources available online too such as BBC Bitesize. Through years of experience, school staff know that there is no better preparation for exams than individual students sitting down in a quiet space and making notes on a topic whilst also practicing exam questions that are available both from staff in school and exam board websites. Please also remember that students can do a huge amount of revision for Maths just using the SPARX website, and the school has paid for access to this resource for every student.

During the exam period, school will be open to Year 11 students from 8:20am 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.

Please note that as always 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 5th June** the first week back after half term that 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 8th June students can then revise for the small number of remaining exams at home.*

On the morning of Friday 5th June, pupils will complete their English Language exam and will be allowed to leave site to go home to revise however on this day we will also have the facility to allow students to remain in school if required to complete silent revision for exams on the following Monday.

On Tuesday 9th June there will be a specially scheduled maths lesson for all students' periods 10 and 11 for all Year 11 students in advance of the final maths paper the next day. Following the additional Maths lesson on Tuesday 9th June, students will be given the opportunity to sign shirts at the end of the school day, this has been a lovely experience for students in times past and as in previous years students will also have the opportunity to collect their leavers hoodies, we will also once again make every effort to organise an ice cream van on site dependent on weather.

The date for the Year 11 Prom is Wednesday 1st July 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 alongside other criteria including attendance.

On Thursday 23rd April, before the written GCSE exams start Year 11 had a Mass to pray for success in the forthcoming exams, this replaces the liturgical service to pray for the exams that was originally scheduled on the 1st May.

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

Prayer for Preparation to Study for Year 11

Lord, I know you are with me and love me.

Give me peace of mind as I prepare for this time of study.

Help me to focus on my books and notes,
keep me from all distractions so that I will make the best use
of this time that is available to me.

Give me insight that I might understand what I am studying,
and help me to remember it when the time comes.

Above all, I thank you for the ability to be able to study
and for the many gifts and talents you have given me.

Help me always to use them in such a way
that they honour you and do justice to myself.

Amen.

Upcoming Events (dates may be subject to change for unforeseen circumstances)

| | |
|--|---|
| Thursday 25 th September | Open Evening |
| Monday 29 th September | Year 11 Information Evening |
| Wednesday 1 st to 3 rd October | Year 7 Retreats Savio House |
| Tuesday 14 th October | Visit of the Right Reverend Bishop of Salford |
| Tuesday 21 st October | Year 11 Mock Interviews |
| Wednesday 22 nd to 24 th October | Year 8/9 Battlefields Trip |
| Thursday 23 rd October | Talent Show |
| Friday 24 th October | School Closes for October Holiday |
| Monday 3 rd November | School opens for November Half Term |
| Thursday 6 th November | Year 11 Parents Evening |
| Wednesday 26 th November | Leavers Presentation Evening |
| Friday 28 th November | School Closed to Students/Staff |
| Monday 1 st December | Year 11 Mock Exams Begin |
| Thursday 4 th December | Advent Mass |
| Wednesday 17 th December | Christmas Dinner Day |
| Friday 18 th December | Senior Citizens Christmas Party |
| Friday 19 th December | School closes for Christmas 12:15 |
| Tuesday 6 th January | School Opens for Spring Term for Students |
| Thursday 8 th January | New Year Mass |
| Thursday 22 nd January | Year 10 Parents Evening |
| Thursday 29 th to 30 th January | Year 7 Stratford Trip |
| Friday 13 th February | School Closes For February Holiday |
| Monday 23 rd February | School opens for February Half Term |
| Thursday 26 th February | Year 9 Parents Evening |
| Thursday 5 th March | GCSE Drama Performance Event |
| Monday 9 th March | Year 9 Pathways Evening |
| Thursday 19 th March | Year 7 Parents Evening |
| Friday 27 th March | School Closes for Easter Holiday |
| Monday 13 th April | School Opens for Summer Term |
| Wednesday 29 th April | Open Mic Event |
| Thursday 30 th April | Year 8 Parents Evening |
| Tuesday 5 th May | GCSEs Begin Year 11 |
| Friday 22 nd May | School Closes for May Half Term |
| Monday 1st June | School opens for June Half Term |
| Wednesday 10 th to 11 th June | Year 10 Science Residential |
| Tuesday 16 th June | Year 10 Exams Begin |
| Monday 29 th June | Year 6 Information/Induction Evening |
| Wednesday 1 st July | Year 11 Prom |
| Thursday 9 th July | Key Stage 3 Rewards Evening |
| Thursday 9th July to Saturday 11th July | Year 10 London Trip |
| Friday 17 th July | School Closes for Summer 12:15 |