

Dear Parents/Carers

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

**TRUTH: *'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.'***

– **Last Sunday's Gospel** - John 14: 1 - 12

On Wednesday I attended the funeral of Mrs Milnes, alongside her friends and family, with a large number of colleagues from school. In two separate periods of employment at St Thomas More, Mrs Milnes had over 10 years working in the RE department as a truly valued member of our community and the service was a fitting tribute to and remembrance of Mrs Milnes. I was very honoured to be asked to say a few words about Mrs Milnes at the ceremony and I spoke of a wonderful, kind, caring and wise teacher who was a great friend to so many colleagues in school. I would like to thank parents and carers for your support once again in understanding the arrangements that we made on Wednesday to facilitate a significant number of staff being able to attend. Mrs Milnes was thought of very highly by so many people in school and it was right that we were able to say goodbye and thank you to her on Wednesday and celebrate a life well lived.

I include below a lovely poem that was printed on the remembrance card that was shared at the funeral:

**Remember Me**

*By Anthony Dowson*

*Speak of me as you have always done.*

*Remember the good times, laughter, and fun.*

*Share the happy memories we've made.*

*Do not let them wither or fade.*

*I'll be with you in the summer's sun*

*And when the winter's chill has come.*

*I'll be the voice that whispers in the breeze.*

*I'm peaceful now, put your mind at ease.*

*I've rested my eyes and gone to sleep,*

*But memories we've shared are yours to keep.*

*Sometimes our final days may be a test,*

*But remember me when I was at my best.*

*Although things may not be the same,*

*Don't be afraid to use my name.*

*Let your sorrow last for just a while.*

*Comfort each other and try to smile.*

*I've lived a life filled with joy and fun.*

*Live on now, make me proud of what you'll become.*

### **Advance Notice May Half term Holiday**

The school will close on Friday 22nd May at the end of the day for the May Half-Term Holiday and then reopen on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June at the normal time.

### **Stewards David Attenborough 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Happy Birthday to David Attenborough who is 100 years old today and a great inspiration to the students on the importance of looking after the environment, especially the Stewards team.

To celebrate his remarkable career and promotion of stewardship our Stewards have created a 100-animal treasure hunt – students have to find the animals to win a prize!

### **School Production High School Musical: Props**

The rehearsals for the Summer School Production of High School Musical are in full swing and we are looking forward to an absolutely amazing performance from all the cast members and support crew.

We do however need some help sourcing some items to be used as Props on the list of items below:

Please bear in mind that items used as props sometimes can get lost or damaged in the excitement of the production so we would only seek donations of items that are old or unused as it is not always possible to return donated items:

Cheerleader Banners

Cheerleading Pom Poms

Karaoke Microphone (doesn't need to work)

Old Mobile Phones (don't need to work) (used in scenes where characters make calls or text)

Referees Whistle

Old Reading glasses

Plastic/Fake Birthday/Celebration Cake

Artificial plants

Sports Timer and Scoreboard

White bed Sheets

Many thanks in advance, items can either be donated at the office or brought in by students and handed directly to Mrs Kirkham or Mrs Doran

### **St Thomas More RC College Achievement Point League**

No update to the Achievement Point league this week due to the Bank Holiday and partial opening on Wednesday.

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](mailto: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.*

### **St Thomas More RC College Fantasy Football League.**

The current overall school leader is still Patrick H with 2087 points.

Our current gameweek winner is also Patrick H with 77 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 on Monday so it is vitally important that Year 11 students are completing lots of revision at home at this weekend and then continuing this during the exam period at weekends, evenings and over the half term holiday when it arrives. 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> June students can then revise for the small number of remaining exams at home.*

*On the morning of Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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

### **Eternal Rest For Mrs Milnes**

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,

and let Your perpetual light shine upon her.

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed

rest in peace.

**Amen.**

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

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

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 11 Prom
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Key Stage 3 Rewards Evening
Thursday 9th July to Saturday 11th July	Year 10 London Trip
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	School Closes for Summer 12:15