



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

30 June 2017

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 03 July 2017

- Year 12 Volunteering at the Family Centre (6 Students)
- Year 12 Step Forward Assembly (08:50-09:10)
- Year 13 Leavers' Mass (14:30-15:30)
- Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Training (15:15-16:15)
- Year 10 Geography Trip Parents' Meeting
- PTA Meeting (18:30-19:30)

Tuesday, 04 July 2017

- Maths Day at Queen Mary University for Selected Year 10 Pupils
- Year 8 Self-Esteem Workshop (15:15-16:15)
- Year 7 Parents' Meeting (17:00-19:00)

Wednesday, 05 July 2017

- New Year 7 Induction Day
- Year 9 Judaism Workshop (09:30-12:00)
- Year 12 Lady Margaret Hall Trip to the PDC (10:30-15:10)
- Lunchtime Recital - The Piano and Voice (13:40-14:00)

Thursday, 06 July 2017

- Year 9 Judaism Workshop (09:30-12:00)
- Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Training (15:15-16:15)
- Summer Showcase (18:00-19:00)

Friday, 07 July 2017

- Year 7 Retreat to St Monica's Church Hall
- Year 10 Geography Trip to Norfolk
- Sixth Form Dinner and Dance

INTRODUCTION

Today, along with the Training Day for staff, the school hosted a Year 5 Football Tournament for local primary school pupils. Also today, we had a Year 8 history trip to Belgium and a reward trip to Thorpe Park for selected pupils.

The school celebrated St Peter and St Paul Holy Day of Obligation yesterday with four masses so all pupils and staff could attend. The masses were very spiritual events. The final mass of the day was for our Year 11 pupils which was also their End of Examinations' Mass. As pupil arrived for the mass, they looked very elegant and smart in their dresses and suits. Refreshments were served after the mass where pupils and staff were able to get together before heading off in coaches to the Year 11 Prom, a boat party on the River Thames.

Next week, on Tuesday, is our Year 7 Parents' Evening, 5.00 to 7.00pm. We encourage all parents of Year 7 pupils to attend as it is a great opportunity to speak to subject teachers. On Wednesday, we will welcome our new Year 7 pupils to the school for their induction day.

A reminder to parents that PREP has now finished for this academic year. Parents should be aware that school will now finish at 3.10pm for all pupils unless they are involved in other activities.

SUMMER SHOWCASE

Tickets are now on sale for this year's Summer Showcase. The evening will present some of the wonderful musical talents of pupils in the school. Pupils can buy their tickets from outside the music department at lunchtimes.

Parents can also purchase tickets from front reception. All tickets cost £1.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

On Thursday, 29 June 2017, ten students from the Student Council met the Haringey Police Borough Commander Chief, Superintendent Helen Millichap, at Wood Green Police Station. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and ask questions about the safety of our community. Some of the questions pupils asked included, 'What would a student do to protect themselves to prevent being a victim of knife crime?'; 'What are the police force doing to proactively reduce or control the crime rate in London?'; and 'What are the policies of the "stop-and-search" rule?'

Pupils also had an opportunity to try out some of the uniform of the first response staff. During this time, pupils also learned the ranking of police officers, how handcuffs work and the use of batons. Emmanuelle Mayisa-Daniel in Year 9 said about the experience, "The meeting was very informative and fun. Hearing about the opinions of the people who save our lives every day is a relief and it was eye-opening to see this."

In her closing remark of the meeting, the Superintendent was impressed by the level of intelligent questions that pupils asked and she highly praised the pupils for their maturity and behaviour and for being a great credit to the school. She recommend a more regular meeting with the school council.



STEM WORKSHOP

On Tuesday, 27 June, the school hosted a STEM workshop for a number of Year 7 pupils. The workshop explored themes including the implication of increasing world population and global energy. Pupils learnt that energy can be created or stored as a natural resource that is essential for our planet.

During the workshop, pupils had an opportunity to design and build the most efficient wind turbine. The aim was to design wings capable of generating a large amount of energy.

Pupils finished off the day by partially building a car and testing it using an electrical circuit and a charger. The aim was to connect the wheels to the model car so it would drive in a straight line and for the longest possible distance through the use of a generator. The pupils had an opportunity to adapt and improve their models.

The aim of the workshop was to increase pupils' awareness of the variety of career opportunities in engineering, as well as encouraging them to choose GCSE subjects, like science and maths, that will keep STEM careers open to them.



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to the Years 9 and 10 BTEC Performing Arts pupils who completed their Unit 3 acting exam this week. After seeing 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time', the pupils have spent this term creating their own pieces inspired by the performance.

Pupils worked extremely hard and demonstrated excellent commitment to the course - they should be very proud of their work! Many thanks to all those who supported the pupils by coming to watch their performance.

Thought for the Week

"The wisdom of religion states that to find peace we must calm our busy minds, stop basing happiness on things outside of ourselves and develop the qualities of love, compassion, patience, wisdom, concentration and generosity".

RE DEPARTMENT

12th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

A Christian should never think that life will always be like a bed of roses. Christianity, rather, involves trials; distress; and sometimes persecution. It does not necessarily mean that this always happens - there are also moments of joy and happiness.

The Christian is called to be joyful always, even in the dark moments and we are called to have faith alongside joy. The prophet Jeremiah, even in the midst of his persecutions, trusted in God. He, as Jesus says in the Gospel, does not disown God, for God will provide. We, too, are to trust in God because we have the certainty of one thing – we have been given the grace of the love and mercy of God, which is greater than our sins.

St Peter and St Paul

This Thursday we celebrated the Feast of St Peter and St Paul, a Holy Day of Obligation. We were celebrating two great Apostles who were instruments in building the early Church through the grace of God. Our Year 11 pupils had an End of Examinations' Mass before going on to their Prom.

Prayer

Grant, O Lord that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen

Words of the Week

Monday – Trinket (Noun): a small ornament or item of jewellery that is of little value.

Tuesday – Imminent (Adjective): about to happen.

Wednesday – Misanthropic (Adjective): having or showing a dislike of other people; unsociable.

Thursday – Porous (Adjective): (of rock or other materials) full of pores or holes, through which liquid or air may pass; permeable. Not retentive or secure.

Friday – Laconic (Adjective): (of a person, speech or style of writing) brief and to the point; using very few words.