



St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

23 June 2017

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 26 June 2017

- Sixth Form Inductions
- Year 5 Taster Morning (09:00-10:00)
- Year 9 BTEC Drama Devised Performance (16:30-17:30)

Tuesday, 27 June 2017

- Sixth Form Inductions
- STEM Enrichment Workshop for 60 Year 7 Pupils
- Year 5 Taster Morning (09:00-12:00)
- Good Samaritan Mass at Westminster (14:30-15:30)
- Year 8 Self-Esteem Workshop (15:15-16:15)

Wednesday, 28 June 2017

- Year 12 PSHE Day
- Year 5 Taster Morning (09:00-12:00)
- Youth Club (15:10-17:10)
- Year 10 BTEC Devised Performance (16:30-17:30)
- Year 10 Geography Trip Parents' Meeting (17:30-18:30)

Thursday, 29 June 2017

- St Peter and St Paul Holy Day of Obligation
- Year 11 End of Year Mass (14:10-15:10)
- Year 11 Prom (18:00-23:30)

Friday, 30 June 2017

- **TAD**
- Year 8 Trip to WWI Battlefields
- End of Year E-Praise/Attendance Reward Trip to Thorpe Park

INTRODUCTION

The public exams are now drawing to an end and pupils will have to wait until August to get their results. The Sixth Form Inductions for internal and external Year 11 pupils are taking place next Monday and Tuesday and will be an opportunity for students to experience A Level and BTEC lessons to aid them in deciding what courses they wish to study. It is important that all Year 11 pupils keep their options open even if they are planning on continuing their studies elsewhere. We look forward to welcoming students -in their own clothes - at 8.50am on Monday morning.

We were delighted that a number of our pupils were presented with their awards at the Haringey Jack Petchey Achievements Presentation - well done to award winners.

Our Year 5 Taster Morning have been continuing for our partner Catholic primary schools. Thank you to all those Year 7 pupils who have been welcoming and working with pupils and staff for their own primary schools.

As the extreme weather has now abated, we again expect pupils to be in full school uniform to and from school, and during line-up.

The final PREP session of this term will be Thursday, 29 June. Next Friday, 30 June, is a Teacher Availability Day so school will be closed to pupils.

YEARS 7 AND 8 SPELLING BEES

Last week, we held the Years 7 and 8 End of Year Spelling Bees. Year 8 pupils were the first to be quizzed on their spelling prowess and after two tough rounds, the Red and Blue teams were sitting on equal scores. The final round, 'Speed Spelling' in which pupils had thirty seconds to spell as many words as possible correctly, resulted in the Red team being called as the victors - congratulations to : David Akintoye (C), Nahome Tewelde, Liyah Campbell and Ivan Anastasov.

The following day saw Year 7 pupils take to the stage to compete to be crowned the year group's best spellers. As with the day before, it all came down to the final round and after a re-count by the judges (there were only four points between the teams!) the Red team was named the winner - congratulations to Jamaine Maxwell (C), Connor Glindon, Katelyn Noceda, Nathan Ewango. Well done to all those who took part!

JACK PETCHEY AWARDS

On Tuesday, 20 June, seven pupils from St Thomas More received awards at the Haringey Schools Jack Petchey Achievement Awards Presentation Evening 2017 which took place at The Bernie Grants Arts Centre. The pupils, who were supported by their families, received their medallions from the Mayor of Haringey (Councillor Stephen Mann) and Haringey Police Borough Commander (Chief Superintendent Helen Millichap). The evening highlighted the wonderful pupils we have at the school - congratulations to all those who received an award!

Award Winners: Anabela Santos, Year 7; Desange Nkumu and Daniel Espinoza, Year 8; Nikaisha Anane-Busia and Esra Ali Hasan, Year 10; Ashley Nunes, Year 12; Sandi Da Cunha, Abida Khanom and Jaemal Fergus, Year 13.



RE DEPARTMENT - JEWISH LIVING TOUR

This week's Feast Day is popularly known as Corpus Christi, but the official title is 'The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ'. At one time, the Feast of the Body of Christ (Corpus Christi) was quite separate to the Feast of the Most Precious Blood, which was celebrated on 1 July. As Westminster Cathedral is dedicated to the Most Precious Blood, the Dedication of the Cathedral is still kept on 1 July. Today we celebrate the great gift that we have received of Jesus Christ, his Body and Blood.

We need always to appreciate that it is really Jesus we receive, his Body in the Host, his Blood from the Chalice. That is why we genuflect when we come into Christ's presence in the tabernacle when we enter the church. Jesus is the living bread that has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats His flesh and drinks His blood has eternal life.

Prayer

Let us pray to the Lord who gives himself in the Eucharist that this sacrament may bring us salvation and peace.

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death. May our worship of this sacrament of your body and blood help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the kingdom where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

This week, nearly 100 pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4 had the opportunity to further their knowledge of the Jewish faith in a one-day programme. In His teaching, Jesus often quoted the Jewish Scriptures; after his death, his followers turned to them for clues to the meaning of his life and message. Our school was warmly welcomed as volunteers from the Boreham Wood and Elstree Synagogue and the Board of Deputies of British Jews combined their love of God and their in-depth knowledge of their faith. The pupils had a wonderful day - more details and photos will be in this term's Glendalian.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

In the Drama department this week, Years 7 and 8 pupils visited Alexandra Palace to attend a celebration of BAFTA's 70th Birthday. This included meeting CBBC presenters Lindsey Russell and Ben Shires and taking part in workshops designed to explore behind the scenes of BAFTA. The A Level Drama students performed their devised piece, 'Our Vote', which was based on the recent general election and designed to encourage young people to vote. They, along with the GCSE pupils, also saw a production of 'Woyzeck' at the Old Vic and took part in a workshop with Mountview Drama School which introduced the process of applying to drama school.

Thought for the Week

"Goodness and Evil cannot be equal. Repay evil with what is better, then he who was your enemy will become your intimate friend."

NEW YEAR 7 CATS

Last Saturday, we welcomed 160 of our new Year 7 pupils to the school so they could complete their CATs. Despite it being a very hot morning, all were very focussed on doing their best. There were plenty of staff and some current Year 7 pupils on hand to support the pupils. We look forward to meeting the new pupils again for their induction day in July.

FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARS SCHEME

On Wednesday, 21 June, twenty-five Year 12 students visited Sussex University as part of their First Generation Scholars Scheme. The day involved a campus tour led by the university's student ambassadors, as well as workshops focussing on how students can choose the best university course for them.

The students got a taste of campus life and were able to ask the ambassadors questions to help inform their choices. The lecturer commented on how wonderfully behaved and engaged our pupils were. Well done, Year 12!



Words of the Week

Monday: Subversive (Adjective) - disruptive; troublemaking; inflammatory; something that is trying to destroy or overthrow something e.g. a government or an idea.

(Noun) - a person who adopts subversive principles or activities.

Tuesday: Gullible (Adjective) - easily persuaded to believe something, impressionable.

Wednesday: Intrepid (Adjective) - fearless; adventurous (often used for rhetorical or humorous effect).

Thursday: Petulant (Adjective) - childishly, sulky or bad-tempered.

Friday: Innocuous (Adjective) - harmless or inoffensive.