



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

24 January 2020

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday 27 January 2020

- France Trip
- Year 11 GCSE Showcase

### Tuesday 28 January 2020

- France Trip
- Property Prize Assembly for Sixth Form
- Year 11 Advance English Workshop
- Year 11 Parents Evening

### Wednesday 29 January 2020

- France Trip
- Year 10 PSHE Drama Trip
- Year 12 History at University Seminar

### Thursday 30 January 2020

- France Trip

### Friday 31 January 2020

- France Trip

## INTRODUCTION

Yesterday (Thursday) the A level Performance tables for 16-18 was published. We have attached a copy of the performance table for local Sixth Form providers. I am delighted to say again, St Thomas More Catholic School is at the top of all the schools/colleges listed for progress. This is a great achievement for the school, the staff and all those students who have now gone on to university, apprenticeships and employment. Well done to all.

A reminder that there are still a few Year 11 pupils who have not applied for the Sixth Form. We have now started to interview the many internal applications we have had. However, we would not want to reach our numbers in the Sixth Form and then have to be in a position where we can not offer a place to our own pupils. Please encourage your child to make their application as soon as possible.

Next Tuesday we have the Year 11 Parents Evening, 4.30pm - 6.30pm. It is really essential that parents attend with their child to speak to teachers about progress and what your child needs to do to ensure the best outcomes in the summer.

Mr Rowland, Head of School

## SPEAK OUT COMPETITION

This week all pupils in year 10 took part in engaging workshops for the Speak Out competition, developing their skills in speech crafting and public speaking.

## YEAR 12: FINANCIAL TIMES 'ROAD TO RICHES'

On Friday seventy Year 12 pupils participated in a workshop delivered by The Financial Times to test their new personal finances board game. 'Road to Riches' is an educational board game in which players compete against one another to lay the foundations for a successful future by making savvy financial and life decisions.

After the workshop, they participated in a focus group and had the opportunity to ask questions on careers. They were also invited to apply for the summer work programme with the Financial Times.

## INTRODUCTION TO INVESTMENT WORKSHOP

Mark Gross, Partner at asset management firm Downing LLP visited the school on Tuesday to deliver an 'introduction to investment' workshop to Year 12 Economic students. The students found the workshop very informative and were able to ask lots of questions afterwards.

## UNIVERSITY PRESENTATIONS

Oxford Brookes University visited the school this week to deliver talks on Higher Education and Student Finance. Job Centre Plus visited to deliver a presentation on apprenticeships. All the students described the presentations as extremely informative as they now consider their post-18 options.

## PARENTPAY PAYMENTS

Please can all parents note that payments made via ParentPay credits your child's account immediately. If your payment is made via a Pay Point shop it can take up to three days to credit your child's account. Please can you bear this in mind when topping up. If you require help in terms of this, please contact the main school office.

## PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

The position of parent governor is coming up for renewal. The current parent governors are Breda O'Sullivan and Cathy McCarry. Both have indicated they are happy to continue for another term. If anyone else is interested in the position, please send a letter to Clerk of Governors, C/o St Thomas More Catholic School. Deadline for nominations is Friday 7th February at 3pm.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Week Beginning 20th January 2020 Year A

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Gospel Reading: (John 1: 29-34)

Jesus is the Chosen One

It is important to remember that Jesus was a very special person, an extraordinary man. Today we hear him ask some fishermen to leave their boats, nets, homes and families to follow him. The remarkable thing is, that's just what they did! "Come, follow me and I will send you out to fish for people." We all belong to God's family and God is our loving father. We are not always good, and we want to say sorry for the times when we have not loved each other.

### PRAYER

Do not be afraid, God will always love you. Whatever you have done, God will always love you. As a father loves his child, he will always love you. Turn back to him and know, God's love lasts forever. Amen.

### 'THE GOD WHO SPEAKS - YEAR OF THE WORD'

"For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God". (Ephesians 2:8).

## Thought for the Week

You're going to go through tough times - that's life. But I say 'Nothing happens to you, it happens for you.' See the positive in negative events. If you have a positive attitude and constantly strive to give your best effort, eventually you will overcome your immediate problems and find you are ready for greater challenges.

## Words of the Week

Monday - Reprieve - (Verb) - Cancel or postpone the punishment of (someone, especially someone condemned to death).

Tuesday - Consolidate - (Verb) - Make (something) physically stronger or more solid; combine (a number of things) into a single more effective or coherent whole.

Wednesday - Immutable - (Adjective) - Unchanging over time or unable to be changed.

Thursday - Disingenuous - (Adjective) - Not candid or sincere, typically by pretending that one knows less about something than one really does.

Friday - Regress - (Verb) - To return to a former or less developed state.

## BOYS & GIRLS SPORT

### Year 7 Boys Basketball

The boys' basketball team are starting to increase the gap at the top of the Haringey basketball league after a win against Park View 39-18. Congratulations to K-K, David and Ashley who made some prolific shots. STM maintain their 100% record in basketball in the Haringey and Jr NBA league.



### Year 7 Indoor Athletics

St Thomas More have now become Haringey Indoor Athletics Champions for the 11th year running. Both the boys and girls were victorious in the majority of their events to cement the gold medal. Excellent performances on the evening were from Durrelle and Ezekiel. Both teams have now progressed into the London 'Youth Games' competition.



### London School Games Gold Award

St Thomas More have been awarded a London School Games Gold Award for excellent contribution and participation in sport. Many of the school's sport teams became borough champions last year and progressed into the London Youth Games. St Thomas More then became very successful in the London Youth Games competitions receiving a number of medals for different sports; the success continues in 2020.

Well done to Mrs Carter, Mr Ameh & the P.E. department for all their hard work in ensuring our pupils perform to their best with such great success!

