



CONTACT

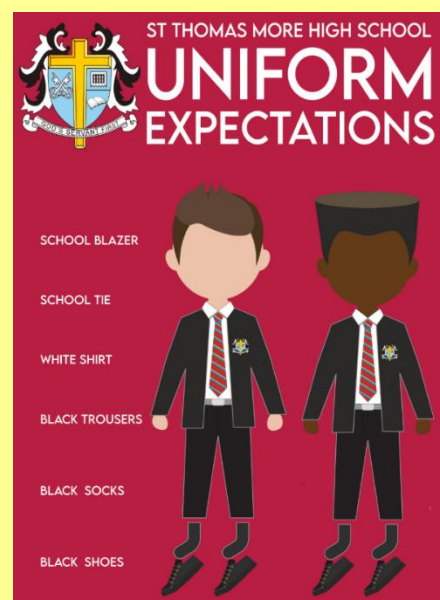
No. 1736 – Friday 10th July 2026



Uniform Update – Monday 13th – Thursday 16th July: we will be continuing with the uniform changes currently in place to ensure all children remain safe and comfortable in the warmer weather. Students are not required to wear blazers or ties during this period and may attend in shirt sleeve order or in their full PE kit (as per the photos), a reminder that students should wear proper footwear not sliders/crocs and should not wear jackets/hoodies. Please ensure your child comes to school prepared for the heat by; bringing a refillable water bottle, applying sunscreen before school and bringing some to reapply if needed & wearing a hat for outdoor periods, where possible. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all students safe in the hot conditions. **Uniform Expectations for September:** To ensure your child is prepared for the new school year with the correct full school uniform & PE Kit (as shown/listed below), please can you replace any lost/missing items over the summer break. PE Kit items can be purchased [HERE](#) and links included in the table below to purchase items/school badges.



UNIFORM LIST - ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE CLEARLY NAMED IN INDELIBLE INK		
Outdoor	Overcoat	Sensible outdoor coat/anorak preferably one that will be visible and waterproof. Outdoor coats should not be worn inside classrooms
	Bag	A strong bag for books and school equipment (preferably with two shoulder straps to prevent back strain)
	Shoes	Plain Black shoes (trainers are NOT allowed)
Indoor	Blazer	Regulation black blazer with St Thomas More school badge from school outfitters Black Blazers may be purchased from any outfitter. Badges available only from School outfitters: School Wear Centre or Danielles Shop
	Trousers	Black, NOT jeans, chinos or joggers (optional-simple black belt with no logos)
	Shirt	White (long or short sleeved) must be tucked in
	Tie	St Thomas More tie from school outfitters . Replacements via MCAS
	Socks	Plain black
	Pullover	V neck or cardigan plain black (round neck or sweatshirts, hooded or zipped up tops are NOT allowed and may be confiscated)



Early Closure – Thursday 16th July 2026: A reminder that the school will close at 1:30pm on Thursday 16th July for the summer break, a letter has been emailed home giving details of the early closure arrangements for those students who use the contract buses.

Parent Forum: Our final Parent Forum of this academic year will take place on **Monday 13th July between 4.00pm and 5.30pm**. This is an open invitation for parents and carers to pop into school to share ideas, ask questions and discuss feedback with leaders about general aspects of school life. No appointment is necessary!

Open Evening – Thursday 9th July: Yesterday we held our open evening for prospective Year 5 children joining in September 2027. It was lovely to see so many Year 5 children and their parents visit our school.

Year 5 Day – Tuesday 6th July: Year 5 children, their teachers and support staff from our Assisi Catholic Trust primary schools joined us on Tuesday this week where they enjoyed a range of activities. Thanks to all the teachers and support staff who prepared all the sessions and to our family of Catholic primary schools for supporting the day so well.

Free School Meals: [Application for FSM - St Thomas More High School](#)

Due to government changes more families may now be eligible for free school meals. If you think you may be eligible please complete your details on the link above.

COULD YOUR CHILD BE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

New government changes from **September 2026** mean more families may now qualify for **Free School Meals**. Even if they haven't been eligible before.

We are asking all families to complete a quick **Free School Meals eligibility check** as you may qualify if you receive universal credit

A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION COULD PROVIDE:

- Free healthy meals during the school day
- Additional funding to support your child's learning and wellbeing
- Extra support and opportunities within school

Please complete the form before the end of term to ensure eligible pupils can receive meals from the start of the academic year in September 2026

Governor Insight

As Governors, our role is to support, challenge and encourage the school so that every student can flourish academically, spiritually and personally. During our Summer Governing Committee meeting, we reviewed a wide range of important areas including safeguarding, health and safety, attendance, emergency planning, governor training and the Headteacher's report. We also carefully considered the school's budget for the coming year and monitored progress against actions from previous meetings to ensure we continue providing the very best education for every child. Like schools across the country, we continue to face significant financial pressures. Rising costs mean that every decision must be made carefully and responsibly. Governors provide both support and challenge to ensure that the school's finances remain sustainable, enabling us to invest where it matters most—our students' education, wellbeing and future opportunities. Our commitment is to maintain high standards whilst ensuring sensible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us. One of my priorities as Chair has been ensuring that governance is about more than reviewing statistics. We continue to challenge ourselves to prepare young people not only for success in examinations but for success in life. This means placing importance on resilience, leadership, wellbeing, careers education, Catholic values and ensuring that every student feels known, valued and supported throughout their journey at St Thomas More. Safeguarding remains at the heart of everything we do. Governors regularly review policies, monitoring and procedures to ensure our school continues to be a safe, caring and nurturing environment where every young person can thrive. As we journey together this coming school year, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that:

"Hope is not an escape from life's challenges but the strength to face them with faith, love and solidarity."

Closer to home, Bishop Alan Williams has encouraged us to remain confident despite the challenges we face, writing:

"It is a vision of hope despite the very difficult wider context in which we find ourselves."

These words capture the spirit of St Thomas More perfectly. Despite the challenges facing education nationally, we remain optimistic because our hope is rooted in our faith, in the dedication of our staff, in the support of our families and, most importantly, in the remarkable potential of every one of our students. Thank you to our staff, parents, carers and students for your continued support. Together, with faith and hope, we will continue to build a school community where every young person is encouraged to aspire, achieve and serve others. Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing summer holiday. Daniel Cauchi, Chair of Governors

Prayer of the Week

To our guardian angels

O Angel of God, my guardian dear
To whom God's love commits me here
Ever this day be at my side
To light, to guard, to rule and guide
AMEN

15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Matthew 13:1-23

Artwork: Landscape with the Parable of the Sower (1557) Pieter Bruegel the Elder



This week we hear from the Gospel according to St Matthew. In this passage our Lord Jesus Christ discusses why He speaks in parables and gives an explanation to a famous parable that He has just told the crowd - the parable of the Sower.

In this we are asked to imagine a sower going to a field to scatter seeds. Anyone distributing seeds would want them to grow and produce something (food, flowers, etc), so they would likely want to take time to make sure that the seeds are given the best opportunity possible. This sower in the story isn't as careful as you'd expect. He throws seeds around an area seemingly without checking to see the quality of the soil they are falling on.

Some seeds fall on the path and are eaten by birds, some on rocky ground with shallow soil so they can't properly take root, some fall in thorny bushes, some do find themselves on good soil and these ones yield an impressive amount of grain.

There's a lot of different perspectives in this parable, we are invited to think of ourselves as the sower and the soil depending on the situation we are applying this to. When we want our faith or an idea to grow, how do we distribute it? Do we take care to how we plant seeds in the lives of others? Or do we lose the good we want to harvest because we have planted these seeds on rocky ground? Are we the soil in these situations, do we do what we can to ensure we have created an environment for the good things we are given to grow within us?

We can look back on our school year and use this parable to evaluate our own attitudes to the Gospel, our education, or our behaviour. We shouldn't dwell on mistakes we have made, once we have reconciled we have to move on and think – how can I play my role in producing a good harvest?

- Max Morris, Lay Chaplain

Chaplaincy News

Chaplain's charity haircut: Thank you to everyone who has supported the sponsored haircut so far. **we have reached our £1000 target.** Meaning Max will keep the tonsure until the end of term. **All money raised goes to support the floating gardens initiative from CAFOD** – helping farmers in difficult climates to be able to cultivate food for themselves and their community with sustainable 'floating' gardens. **The donate link is live on MCAS or contributions can be made by card/ physical donations from staff and students during break times in the school chapel.** Please continue to donate if you are able. It cost approximately £114 for CAFOD to provide the basic training and seedlings for a small family garden that can produce food year round. The more we donate the more people who are positively impacted.

Holy Family Year 6 retreat: This week we hosted a retreat day for Holy Family primary school where their year 6 class participated in workshops themed around their gifts and talents as well as Jesus calming the storm for His followers. All used to help calm nerves and inspire them as they say goodbye to primary school. As with all our retreats we were blessed with a great student team of leaders who helped to run the retreat. Thank you to all involved!

Our Assisi Catholic Trust Family

Schools	Parishes
 Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School and Nursery	Our Lady of Lourdes and St Joesph Msgr Kevin Hale
 St George's Catholic Primary School	St. George and The English Martyrs Fr. Brett
 Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery	Sacred Heart of Jesus Fr. Graham
 St Helen's Catholic Primary School	Our Lady Helo of Christians and Saint Helen Fr. Alex
 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	Our Lady of Canvey and English Martyrs Fr. Eamonn
 Holy Family Catholic Primary School	Holy Family and St Thomas More Fr. Eduard
 Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School	Our Lady of Ransom Fr Paul
 St Teresa's Catholic Primary School	Catholic Church of St. Teresa and the Child Jesus Fr Viktor
 St Thomas More High School	St Peter's Fr. Jeff

COULD YOU BE A FOUNDATION TRUSTEE? [Assisi Catholic Trust](#) is currently seeking a foundation Trustee with experience or confidence in estates management; to support the development of the estates and our flourishing capital strategy covering buildings, digital infrastructure & technology and our asset management plan. If you, or someone you know, have these skills and a heart for supporting Catholic education, we would love to hear from you. Trustees play a vital role in ensuring strong oversight, value for money and long-term planning. If you are a practising Catholic and think you could serve our schools in this way, please contact the school office and speak to Mrs Ackred for an informal discussion.

Foundation Governor Vacancy – Sacred Heart Primary School: Are you passionate about Catholic education and making a positive difference in the lives of children? We are seeking a committed and enthusiastic **Foundation Governor** to join the Governing Board of our school. Appointed by the Diocese, Foundation Governors play a vital role in supporting the school's Catholic mission, providing strategic leadership, and helping to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils. No previous governance experience is required – training and support will be provided. We welcome applications from practising Catholics who can bring their skills, experience, and commitment to serving our school community. If you would like to contribute to the future of Catholic education and make a real impact, we would love to hear from you. For more information, please speak with Father Graham or contact the school office 01702 414200 or office@sacredheart.southend.sch.uk



Vacancies: Information for any vacancies in our Trust schools can be found on our [Assisi Catholic Trust Website](#)

Parent Reminders and Student Information

Staying safe around water:

[Strategy | National Water Safety Forum](#)

[Child drowning prevention: Water safety for kids](#)

[Water Safety and Drowning First Aid | British Red Cross](#)

[Respect the Water – National Drowning Prevention Campaign](#)

[Everything you need to know if you're heading to the beach with your family.](#)



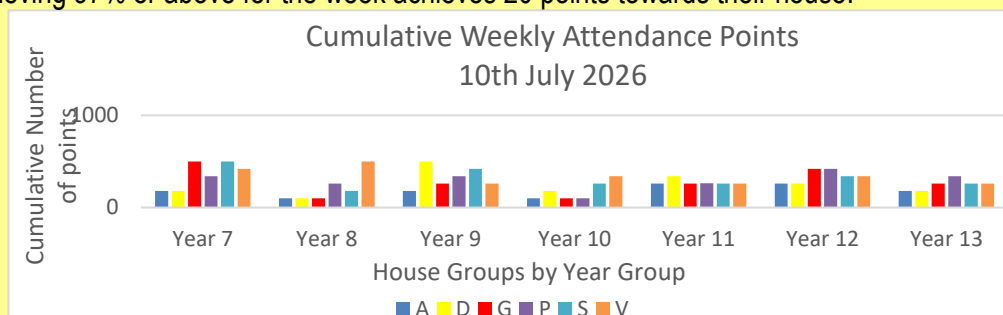
Term Dates: Please find the term dates [2025/2026](#)

Term Dates: Please find the term dates [2026/2027](#)

Calendar for Parents: can be accessed [here](#).

Absence: If your child is unwell and unable to attend, please notify the school of the reason for the absence on the first day of an unplanned absence by 9am or as soon as practically possible by calling the school and selecting attendance or by emailing attendance@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk. If the absence lasts more than one day, please update the school daily. Attending a medical or dental appointment will be counted as authorised if the pupil's parent/carer notifies the school in advance of the appointment. We encourage parents/carers to make medical and dental appointments out of school hours where possible. Where this is not possible, the pupil should be out of school for the minimum amount of time necessary. You can request a leave of absence for exceptional circumstances by through school gateway or alternatively email attendance@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk or by collecting a form from Reception. Please keep medical evidence of absence e.g. appointment cards or letters, copies of prescriptions, pharmacy receipts etc in case you need them to provide more details on your child's return to school.

House Attendance Points: The form with the highest attendance in the year group gets 100 points each week and every form achieving 97% or above for the week achieves 20 points towards their house.



Student Medical Conditions: Please ensure school is made aware of any updates regarding students medical conditions, particularly if they can potentially have an impact on their time in school and require support. Please contact Mrs Walford mwalford@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk if you wish to discuss your case in detail.

Changes to Contact Details: If you have moved house, changed your email address, mobile telephone number or work contact number, etc. **please remember you can make these changes via your child's [MCAS](#) account.**

Parking Reminder: Despite persistent reminders, parents are still parking dangerously by the red gate exit at the end of each day. This is extremely dangerous as students, particularly those on cycles must swerve to get around illegally parked vehicles. We have contacted the Local Authority, and if it continues, we have been asked to record number plates of offending vehicles to pass on to the traffic department. Could you please co-operate for the safety of our students.

Big Future Survey - Children's Commissioner: Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner:

In the five years since my first survey of England's children, the landscape of childhood has changed rapidly. Mental health referrals have increased by around half a million, more children are spending long periods of time online, and a growing number require additional support at school. How the government responds to those changes will shape what it's like to grow up in England for years to come. Listening once is never enough. This will be my third and final major survey of children. Speaking to children, asking them what they want, and acting on it, has been the approach I want to be the hallmark of my time as Children's Commissioner. There is a growing sense – in Westminster, in the media, and our wider national mood – that something is going wrong with childhood. Older generations believe the young are

worse off than they were, and this belief is starting to trickle down the age range: childhood is not what it once was. This is unsurprising, in some ways. This generation of children is on the brink of adulthood, having witnessed huge change: from the impact of the pandemic, to rising crime in their communities, to the new dominance of AI and tech. These are things that are shaping children's lives now – not just things to worry about in the future. Childhood is changing – but we are struggling to express how, why, or exactly how we feel about it. We are finding it even harder to respond. And throughout all this change, decision makers are failing to listen to them. When their schools closed, they were not consulted. We reopened pubs before we reopened schools. When they told us about the dangerous things they were seeing online, we were too slow to act. More children spend more time online than ever, seeing worse content. They have told us how to make their homes and communities safer – yet one million still live in destitution, after years of consistently rising child poverty. But we know how to improve things. When we listen to children about the new and emerging challenges in their lives: the things that worry them, the things they love, the ways they have fun, and the changes they want for a better future. Please encourage your young people to take part in the survey <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TheBigFuture/>. There is also a link on the Teams page for their year group as an assignment. Thank you so much for your continued support. Mrs Lindsay

Great British Summer Savings Scheme: From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom. As part of this campaign, the **attraction finder** website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings has been launched. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.

Spotlight on Wellbeing and Keeping Safe

Please don't forget that staff are here for you and your children, and you can get in touch with Mrs Walford via welfare@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk if you need some support. Parental factsheets on various topics are available on our website under the Safeguarding section, [Parent Fact Sheets \(st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk\)](#)

Resources for children

SHOUT to 85258. Shout provides free, 24/7 text support for young people across the UK experiencing a mental health crisis.

Young Minds

www.youngminds.org.uk Information and advice for young people on mental health. Call to parents helpline: 08088025544 (Monday – Friday 09.30am – 4pm).

Kooth, anonymous, online counselling for children and young people.

The Mix www.themix.org.uk Freephone 08088084994. Mental health advice and support for anyone under 25.

NHS 111 To get urgent mental health advice from the NHS, call 111 and select the mental

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

TECH-FREE SUMMER FOR TEENS

For many 11- to 18-year-olds, summer can quickly become screen heavy, especially when socialising, entertainment, and downtime all happen via their devices. Encouraging a tech-free summer isn't about banning technology altogether, but about helping young people rediscover friendship, creativity, independence, and the great outdoors. The NHS recommends that young people aged 5 to 18 aim for an average of at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day across the week.

- BUILD OUTDOOR CHOICE**
Teens are more likely to engage when they feel they have a level of control. Create a simple 'summer outdoors menu' with options such as cycling to a favourite cafe, playing rounders, visiting a skatepark, dog walking, photography walks, geocaching, or helping around the garden. Parents and educators can then ask young people to choose two or three activities each week that interest them.
- PREPARE THE KIT**
Small barriers can stop teenagers going outside, especially if they feel uncomfortable, too hot, or unprepared. Keep a go-bag with sun cream, water, snacks, plasters, a cap, period products, and a lightweight waterproof. During hot weather, plan shade, water breaks, and cooling activities, as vigorous exercise is not advised on very hot days.
- TRY MICRO-ADVENTURES**
Outdoor activities don't need to be expensive or complicated. A micro-adventure could be as simple as watching the sunset, walking to a local viewpoint, making breakfast outside, visiting a new green space, or planning a bike journey to a nearby nature trail. Encourage teens to plan the route, snacks, and timings themselves to help build their independence.
- LINK TO REAL INTERESTS**
A young person who dislikes sport may still enjoy being outside if the activity connects with something they already care about. Link outdoor time to music, art, animals, fashion, cooking, photography, or social interaction. Ideas include sketching in a park, making a nature playlist, filming a wildlife vlog script, or designing posters for a community garden.
- CREATE SOCIAL PULL**
For many teenagers, friends are the strongest motivator in getting outside. If parents can invite one or two friends on walks, picnics, or garden games, while schools can promote lunchtime leagues, outdoor clubs, or summer meet-ups linked to existing interests. Make these activities feel social rather than supervised, with adults nearby for safety but not dominating the experience.
- MAKE TRAVEL ACTIVE**
Active travel is a practical way to build outdoor time into everyday routines. Encourage young people to walk, cycle, or avoid short journeys where it's safe to do so, such as to school, the library, a friend's house, or a sports club. Educators can run a summer 'active miles' challenge, with pupils logging their journeys completed on foot or by pedal.
- USE PHONE-FREE CHALLENGES**
Rather than simply saying "Put your phone away", turn time spent offline into a shared challenge. Try a two-hour phone-free park visit, a family evening of board games, or a tutor-group challenge where pupils track their screen-free outdoor hours and share what they've been doing. You could all agree to keep devices in a box, bag, or classroom drawer, and allow for check-in time afterwards.
- OFFER REAL RESPONSIBILITY**
Teens often respond well when outdoor activities feel purposeful. Give them the responsibility for setting up a garden pit-together, planning a picnic budget, leading a warm-up routine, mapping or walking route, or organising outdoor equipment. Schools could ask pupils to design an outdoor wellbeing kit, manage a sports rota, or support younger pupils during activity sessions.
- REPLACE, DON'T REMOVE**
If screens are taken away without an appealing alternative, young people may see outdoor time as a punishment. Replace gaming sessions with football drills, dance practice, basketball shots, treasure hunts, or card games outside. Replace screen scrolling with a 'boredom box' containing items like chalk, a ribbon, skipping rope, playing cards, seed packets, or a disposable-style camera.
- CELEBRATE SMALL WINS**
Not every teenager will suddenly love the outdoors, so recognise their gradual progress. Celebrate a 20-minute walk, an hour at the park, a phone-free picnic lunch, or choosing to cycle instead of being driven around. Parents and educators can use praise, certificates, group displays, or simple shared reflection to show that outdoor effort matters.

Meet Our Expert
The National College provides expert-led training and resources to support schools, trusts and education settings worldwide. Its guidance helps parents and educators understand the issues affecting children and young people today, covering topics such as safeguarding, wellbeing, digital safety, and healthy development.

See full reference list on our website

Follow us on social media: [X @wake_up_weds](https://www.wake_up_weds.com), www.thenationalcollege.com, [Facebook @wakeupwednesday](https://www.facebook.com/wakeupwednesday), [Instagram @wakeupwednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wakeupwednesday), [TikTok @wakeup.weds](https://www.tiktok.com/@wakeup.weds)

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health option. NHS 111 can support anyone who is feeling unsafe, distressed or worried about their mental health. They can also give information and advice about what to do if you're worried about someone else. If you would rather get help online, you can use [111 online](#).

Papyrus Phone: 0300 102 2470; Text: 88247; Email pat@papyrus-uk.org Confidential advice and support if you're struggling with suicidal thoughts, and information about how to make a safety plan.

Samaritans offer a safe place for you to talk any time you like, in your own way – about whatever's getting to you. Call free any time, from any phone, on 116 123.

Apps for young people

Calm Harm - Support to manage or resist the urges to self-harm.

Clear Fear - To help young people to manage symptoms of anxiety.

Move Mood - Support for young people to manage low mood and depression.

Worth Warrior - For young people to help manage low self-worth and poor body image.

Combined Minds - For family and friends to provide mental health support.

SET CAMHS [Southend, Essex and Thurrock \(SET\) CAMHS | NELFT NHS Foundation Trust](#)

Resources for parents

[MindEd for Families](#) - MindEd was created by experts and parents together to provide safe and reliable advice about young people's mental health.

[YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#) Young Minds offer services to parents and carers who are concerned about their child's mental health through telephone, email and webchat

[Samaritans](#) - Tel: 116123

[Anna Freud Centre of Excellence for Children and Families](#) - The Anna Freud Centre is a mental health charity for children and families.

NHS 111 To get urgent mental health advice from the NHS, call 111 and select the mental health option. NHS 111 can support anyone who is feeling unsafe, distressed or worried about their mental health. They can also give information and advice about what to do if you're worried about someone else. If you would rather get help online, you can use [111 online](#).

[Video Resources to support your neurodivergent child - Essex Short Breaks](#) Video resources for supporting your neurodiverse child, developed with Essex County Council

Supporting your neurodivergent child booklet [Supporting Your Neurodiverse Child](#)

Essex Family forum – parent carer forum for parents with children with additional needs up to age of 25 [Home | Essex Family Forum](#)

SET CAMHS Instagram [Essex CAMHS \(@set_camhs_nhs\) • Instagram photos and videos](#) CHECK LINK OR ADD QR?

Virtual workshops for MHST schools/parents/young people via Eventbrite [NELFT Essex MHST Events - 30 Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

Please remember there is also the opportunity to join the many parents/carers who have gained the National College Parents' Certificate in Online Safety which will give you further insights into how to navigate the online world with your son/daughter.

Please use the following link and select Parent/Carer as your role:

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-thomas-more-high-school>

The course, presented by Myleene Klass can be completed in your own time, in a total of under 45 minutes. Please select the link that is appropriate to your son/daughter's age:

<https://nationalcollege.com/courses/os-for-parents-carers-of-children-aged-11-14>

<https://nationalcollege.com/courses/os-for-parents-carers-of-children-aged-14-18>

Departmental News



Our [Amazon Wishlist](#)! Friends, family and alumni can donate directly to the school library. We still accept preloved copies from home you may wish to donate, but student and departmental requests for library stock can be found [here](#). The book wish list is chosen and updated by the Library team as texts that benefit the student's reading comprehension, engagement with the curriculum and foster an interest in reading. If students have overdue library books, you should have received an overdue notice and may be charged an overdue fee per book via Gateway. To have the overdue notice removed, students can return the book, pay the fee, or replace the missing book with a new copy.

Wellbeing Leaders: Our Well-Being Leaders have had a wonderful year taking part in a range of activities that have promoted positive mental health and well-being across the school. They have enjoyed mindfulness and meditation sessions, participated in fun "getting to know you" games, and supported activities and fundraising events during Children's Mental Health Week. They have also taken part in a 'Walk and Talk' session in the school garden, enjoying opportunities to chat, reflect and connect with others in a calm outdoor environment. Another highlight of the year was contributing to our whole-school Gratitude Tree, where pupils across the school shared things they were thankful for and celebrated the positivity within our school community. To round off a successful year, the Well-Being Leaders came together for a special end-of-year party, celebrating all they had achieved and the positive impact they have made throughout the year. ☀️



Caritas Team – Summer Fete 14th July: At lunchtime on the 14th July, the Caritas Team are holding a summer fête in the garden. The garden is open every Thursday at lunchtime and we are working to have it open on more days. What will be in the summer fête? We will have fresh lemonade at the ready, delicious cakes and hook-a-duck! If you have anything you would like to add to the garden, please do! All contributions are appreciated. Where is the garden? It's near the astro on the field. Be sure to bring money to purchase said cakes, lemonade and have a go at the hook-a-duck, which will include prizes if you win! Please be mindful to respect the garden as it is a safe space for many students and an area for surrounding nature.



Stansted Aerozone Trip - Thursday, 2nd July 2026: Last week, Mr Pereira and Mr Burton took a group of students to Stansted Airport's Aerozone facility for an engaging day exploring the many careers and operations behind one of the UK's busiest airports. The visit began with a quiz on the history of Stansted Airport before students explored the exhibition, tried an aircraft computer simulator, and learnt about the 600+ different job roles available across the airport. They also heard from one of the airport's Business Analyst for Business Change and Readiness, who shared his career journey from school through studying at the University of Kent and Cranfield University before working for easyJet, Virgin Atlantic, and now Stansted Airport.

Students gained an insight into how airlines plan new routes, remain commercially competitive, and respond to factors such as global politics, market demand, competition, and aircraft load factors. They then put this knowledge into practice by working in teams to plan the most economically viable routes for their own airline. In the afternoon, students met a member of the airport's Flight Evaluation Unit (FEU), who explained how the team monitors aircraft noise, investigates community complaints, and ensures operational



compliance. The session highlighted the importance of customer service and maintaining positive relationships with local communities, particularly as the airport prepares for future expansion. Throughout the day, students were enthusiastic, asked thoughtful questions, and represented the school superbly, acting as excellent ambassadors while gaining a valuable insight into the diverse opportunities available within the aviation industry. The students also had an opportunity to do some plane spotting by watching planes take off and land - we were lucky enough to get a few pilots waving back at us.

Summer Concert Celebration: This week's Summer Concert was a fantastic success, showcasing the varied talents of our young people. We had a range of musical performances, alongside a drama show and a mini art installation, that highlighted both individual achievement and excellent teamwork in ensemble. We are incredibly proud of all the students who took part. Thank you to all parents / carers who came to watch, all students, and staff who helped to make it possible.



Go Ape: On Monday 6th July 67 Year 12 students had a fantastic day at Go Ape, showing great enthusiasm, teamwork and resilience throughout the visit. As well as tackling the exciting high ropes course and challenging themselves to step outside their comfort zones, they also played Bamboozled, where they worked together to solve a variety of fun and interactive mini games and puzzles. It was wonderful to see everyone encouraging one another, building confidence and having such an enjoyable day together.



Poetry Corner No.104

The New Colossus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glow world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

By [Emma Lazarus](#)
[New York Documentary](#)

Alumnus of the Month: [June 2026](#)



Aspire: online resources for all things careers/universities and apprenticeships, great for those not sure of the opportunities after GCSE's (POST 16) and A levels (POST 18). Click to find out more [The Aspire Guide - Flipbook - Page 1 \(paperturn-view.com\)](#)



Connexions Events: a list of 6th Form and colleges open events for 2025/26 can be found [here](#).

[Webinars & Workshops - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[The Telegraph Media Literacy Programme 2026 :: Telegraph Media Group Jobs](#)

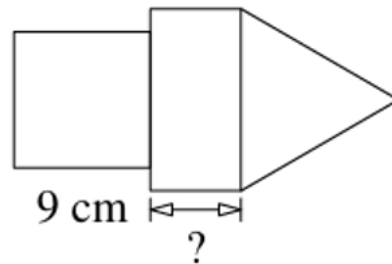
Where Next booklet is a useful tool for parent/carers to use to help support theirs and their child's understanding of what careers pathways and next steps they can actively support them taking

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

Careers Newsletter can be found [here](#).

The shape in the diagram is made up of a rectangle, a square and an equilateral triangle, all of which have the same perimeter. The length of the side of the square is 9 cm. What is the length of the shorter sides of the rectangle?



Maths Problem of the Week: Statement A is true.

Sports Fixtures

Date	Fixture
13/7/26	No Fixtures
14/7/6	No Fixtures
15/7/26	Year 8 Cricket v Shoebury (HOME) 4pm
16/7/26	No Fixtures

PE Extracurricular Timetable – Summer Term

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7.45 – 8.30 am	Year 7-8 Strength and Conditioning (Gym) (JEN)	Year 8/9 Gym (JEN)	Year 7-10 Indoor Athletics (AAC)	Darts Club (All years) (SB) Year 8/9 Futsal (JEN) Year 10-13 Gym (LSH)	Year 10-13 Gym (EK)
1.35 – 2.25pm	Year 10 Cricket (JTB) Year 10 Astro (NSP) Hurdles & High Jump Astro Long & Triple Jump (AAC) GCSE PE Coursework catch-up (LSH)	Darts Clubs (All years) (SB) Year 9 Astro (JTB) Hurdles & High Jump Astro Throws Back Field (AAC) Long & Triple Jump (LSH)	Year 8 Astro (JEN) Year 9-11 Gym (NSP) Middle Distance (EK) Long & Triple Jump (SB)	Year 7 Astro (LSH) Hurdles & High Jump Astro (AAC)	Year 11 Astro (TH) Hurdles & High Jump Astro Throws Back Field (AAC)
3.30 – 4.45pm	FIXTURES	GCSE PE Coursework catch-up (SB) Year 7 Cricket (EK) FIXTURES	Tennis club (All years) (NSP) Year 8 & 9 Cricket (JEN, JTB)	FIXTURES	FIXTURES

Extracurricular Timetable – Summer Term

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before School	Group Prayer 8.15-8.30am (Chapel) Library 8-8.40am Music Rehearsal Room 8-8.35am (Music 1)	Group Prayer 8.15-8.30am (Chapel) Library 8-8.40am Music Rehearsal Room 8-8.35am (Music 1)	Group Prayer 8.15-8.30am (Chapel) Library 8-8.40am Music Rehearsal Room 8-8.35am (Music 1)	Group Prayer 8.15-8.30am (Chapel) Library 8-8.40am Music Rehearsal Room 8-8.35am (Music 1)	Group Prayer 8.15-8.30am (Chapel) Library 8-8.40am Music Rehearsal Room 8-8.35am (Music 1)
Breaktime	Personal Prayer 11.10-11.25am (Chapel) Library 11.10-11.25am	Personal Prayer 11.10-11.25am (Chapel) Library 11.10-11.25am	Personal Prayer 11.10-11.25am (Chapel) Library 11.10-11.25am	Personal Prayer 1.10-11.25am (Chapel) Library 11.10-11.25am	Personal Prayer 11.10-11.25am (Chapel) Library 11.10-11.25am
Lunchtime	Personal Prayer 1.30-2.25pm (Chapel) Library 1.30-2.25pm Chess Club 1.30-2.25pm (RE3) Anime and Manga Club 2-2.25pm (Library) Aviation Club 2-2.25pm (MFL3) Chaplaincy Games Club Years 7-11 1.35-2.25pm (RE4) Warhammer Club 1.40-2.20pm (Lab 1) KS3 Maths Support Club Years 7-8 1.45 – 2:15pm (Tech 4)	Personal Prayer 1.30-2.25pm (Chapel) Library 1.30-2.25pm History Club 1.30—2pm (RE3) Liturgy Band 1.50pm (Music 1) Latin Club 1-2.25pm Years 7-9: invite only (RE1) Culture Club (Literature, Arts, Culture and Society) Years 10-13 1.30-2pm (E3) Labrats Years 7-8 1.40-2.25pm (Week 1 Lab 1/ Week 2 Lab 5) Transformers Club Years 7-9 1.30-2.25pm (Lab 8)	Personal Prayer 1.30-2.25pm (Chapel) Library 1.30-2.25pm The Caritas Team 1.30-2pm (E4) Dungeons and Dragons 1.30-2.25pm (Lab 2) Computer Science Club Years 9-11 1.30–2.30pm (CR5) Junior Rock Band 1.50pm (Music 1) Origami Club 2-2.25pm (RE3)	Personal Prayer 1.30-2.25pm (Chapel) Library 1.30-2.25pm Pokémon Club 1.30-2.25pm (Lab 2) Folk Band 1.50pm (Music 1) Classics Club 2-2.25pm Years 7-9: invite only (RE4) Chess Club 1.30-2.25pm (RE3) Guardians of the Garden 2-2.25pm Drama Club 1.50-2.25pm (H3) Harry Potter Club Years 7-9 1.30-2.25pm (E6)	Personal Prayer 1.30-2.25pm (Chapel) Library 1.30-2.25pm Choir 1.50pm (Music 1) Film Club Years 7-10 1.40-2.20pm (BS1) Star Wars Club 2-2.25pm (Library) Cards Club 1.30-2.25pm (M2) Bible Study 1.35-2.25pm (RE4)
After School	Group Prayer 3.30-3.40pm (Chapel) Library 3.30-4pm Study Club 3.30-4.30pm (CR3)	Group Prayer 3.30-3.40pm (Chapel) Library 3.30-4pm Computer Science Club Years 9-11 3.30-4.30pm (CR5)	Group Prayer 3.30-3.40pm (Chapel) Library 3.30-4pm Silver Duke of Edinburgh 3.30-4.45pm (Lab 10) Morley's music lessons	Group Prayer 3.30-3.40pm (Chapel) Library 3.30-4pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Holy Hour) 3.50-4.40pm (Chapel) Morley's music lessons	Group Prayer 3.30-3.40pm (Chapel) Library 3.30-4pm Senior Rock Band 3.30-4.30pm (Music 1)

Note: Clubs with no mention of year groups are open to all year groups