



St. Thomas More High School

An Academy Trust in the Diocese of Brentwood (Reg No: 7696989)

CONTACT

No. 1292 – 28th November 2014

Dear Parents and Pupils

Road Safety – Can I please remind all pupils to use the designated pedestrian crossings when travelling to and from school. The roads surrounding the school in the mornings and after school are heavily congested and pupils must not cross the roads at any other point than at the crossings.

Christmas Fayre – A reminder about the Christmas Fayre tomorrow which opens at 11:00am. Please come along if you can, it looks as though it is going to be an amazing day!

Highlight of the Week

My highlight this week has been seeing all of the wonderful Christmas trees arriving from our local primary schools - they are so imaginative and creative! I am looking forward to seeing them join the others to make up the Narnia themed event.

I was also delighted to receive a copy of the following email which was sent to Mr Maxfield, Deputy Head following the Music Concert which was held at Westcliff High School on Wednesday evening:

I wanted to drop you a line about the concert last night in which your jazz band took part. I was completely blown away with the standard of the group;

It was clear that the performers thoroughly enjoyed what they were doing and their team work was excellent; normally you would expect that cohesion and musical sensitivity to take longer than a term. You have some cracking musicians! Joshua Wallen's performance was quite outstanding- a natural performer!

Brentwood Cathedral – A Ceremony of Carols - At Brentwood Cathedral on Monday, 1st December, the Southend Boys Choir, Southend Girls' Choir and the Ursuline High School Chamber Choir in Brentwood will be giving a joint concert in the Cathedral at 7.30 pm.

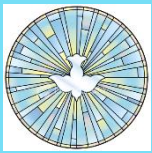
This is the second concert the choirs have given at the Cathedral and it promises to be a wonderful event. The music includes *Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten (with harp) together with choral works by Bob Chilcott, Karl Jenkins and John Rutter. Tickets are priced £10; £5 (senior citizens & students), £3 children – available on the door. All seats unreserved.

Mrs G Ackred
Headteacher



Weekly Prayer

*Lord God,
 you give us Christmas to remind us that you wanted to be with your people.
 Help us to use Advent to prepare for Christmas
 and to live lives that are truly worthy of the things you have done for us.
 Amen*



Chaplaincy

Weekly Mass – On Thursday 27th October, we were pleased to welcome Fr. Basil Pearson, who celebrated a Sixth Form mass for forms 12P (Miss Myhill) & 13P (Mr. Shearman). The mass was well attended with 36 students and 9 staff present. Our Altar Servers were Joao Pereira and Chris Burkette. Next week our Mass will be for 11P (Mr. O'Connell). Our thanks to all who participated.

Morning Prayer – November is the month for Holy Souls and our daily five-minute prayer retreats have been well attended with prayers offered for departed family members, friends and all whose names appear in our Book of Remembrance. Since our Year 11s have been busy with mock examinations, special thanks are due to the Year 7s who have come forward to lead this prayer retreat.

Faith in Form – Year 7 forms, mainly during their RE lessons, and Mrs. Caten's Year 8 this month visited the Chapel for a special Holy Souls prayer service. We hope to continue with this initiative with other forms participating during Advent. Mrs. McCurdy



Advent - This weekend marks the beginning of the holy season of Advent. There will be prayers and assemblies to help us to reflect upon this beautiful and challenging season.

Justice and Peace Group - The topic of Monday's meeting is Human Slavery. We will meet in Tech and new members are welcome. Our contribution to Cafod as participants in a Fast Lunch is steadily growing and by Christmas we will be making our Autumn Term donation. Why not join us and play your part in making a difference?

Belgium trip December 2014 - All those going on the Belgium trip need to bring in their Passports and EHIC by Wednesday 3rd December. These need to be given to Ms Statovci in H2.

Headlice Alert !! Parents have reported a few cases of headlice amongst year 7 boys. This is not uncommon in schools but, treated immediately, is dealt with efficiently.

Departmental News

For lots of Departmental news, please click [here](#)

PE DEPARTMENT AND SPORTS NEWS HEADLINES

For information and news on all the sports headlines and latest news, please click [here](#)

Date	Event	Time
Monday 1 st December	Year 7 Basketball v Shoebury (home) Year 7 Football vs East Bergholt (away) Year 11 Football vs Caterham (away)	4.00-6pm 2pm kick off 2pm kick off
Tuesday 2 nd December	Year 7 Football vs Sydney Russell (Home) Basketball refereeing and officials course	2:30pm kick off 4-6pm
Wednesday 3 rd December	Year 11 basketball vs Shoebury (A) 1 st XI Football vs Colchester Institute (A) Year 9 rugby vs Debden Park (H)	4-6:30pm 2:30pm kick off 2:30pm-4:30pm
Thursday 4 th December	Year 9 basketball vs Shoebury (A) Year 9 football vs Emerson Park (A) Year 7 and 8 rugby trials	4-6pm 2:30pm kick off 3:30-4:45pm
Friday 5 th December	Year 7 and 8 B team football vs Chase (A) Badminton Club	3.30-5.00pm 4-5pm

Basketball results:

Fixture	Competition and result
Year 7 basketball vs Westcliff	12-18 loss
Year 8 basketball vs Eastwood	43-40 win
Year 9 basketball vs Westcliff	37 – 29 win
Year 10 basketball vs Eastwood	36-33 win
U16 Basketball vs Bromfords	58 – 46 win
Sixth Form Basketball vs Woodbridge	77 – 27 win

