

**St. Thomas More High School**  
*An Academy Trust in the Diocese of Brentwood (Reg No: 7696989)*  
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## CONTACT

*No. 1336 – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016*

Dear Parents and Pupils

**Year 8 Retreats** – The Year 8 retreats began this Wednesday and I was delighted to be able to join 8D and Mr Reid at Walsingham House. This opportunity for reflection and prayer with one another has been warmly received by the pupils and continues into next week. Our thanks go to the Walsingham House youth ministry team for their inspiration, to Mrs Webb and all the staff who are accompanying the pupils and, of course, to the boys themselves.

**Exam Countdown** – Click the picture below to see a live countdown of when public exams start on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

It's almost **Exam Time**

**120** days **17** hours **3** minutes **11** seconds 126

Year 12 mock examinations commence next week and results of these will contribute to discussions regarding their continuation into Year 13, so are therefore incredibly important – good luck!

**Term Dates 2016/17** – The school term dates for the academic year 2016/17 can be found on the school website by [clicking here](#).

**Absence from School** – A reminder that parents/carers must report a child's absence for EACH DAY they are off school. Increasingly, parents are failing to either call in altogether resulting in staff chasing the absence up, or they are failing to record each day the child is absent. Thank you for your support with this matter.

### Highlight of the Week

My highlight this week is hearing about the amazing achievement of Year 10 student Harry Kitchens. Harry a keen squash player ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Silver Level event travelled to Brighton competing against the top 32 England ranked junior players, finishing with a very credible 8<sup>th</sup> place! Harry has also been selected for the East

Region Juniors U15 Squash Team, only 4 boys are selected from the Counties of Essex, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. Well done Harry!

# Weekly Prayer

Lord God,

*You look at us all as your beloved children and we know that your favour rests on us.  
May I be consumed by your love for me and may that love flow through me to change the  
world. Amen*

## Weekly Mass

This week's Mass celebrated the feast of St Sebastian. Thank you to Father Basil who celebrated Mass and to Mr McCague for the organisation of prayers and readings. There was a full Chapel of St Sebastian's House students and staff. Thank you to those students who took an active part as readers and to the leaders in St Sebastian's House Form groups who attended. Music was led by Mr McCague on the guitar and Vincent Hudson leading the singing. It was a happy celebration.

## Brentwood Cathedral Mass - Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

### "The Jubilee Door of Mercy is open"

*"The community at Brentwood Cathedral, the mother church of the diocese, invites the stranger, the wounded and all those who may be searching for spiritual sanctuary, to cross the threshold of mercy and to join us in the presence of our all compassionate God."*

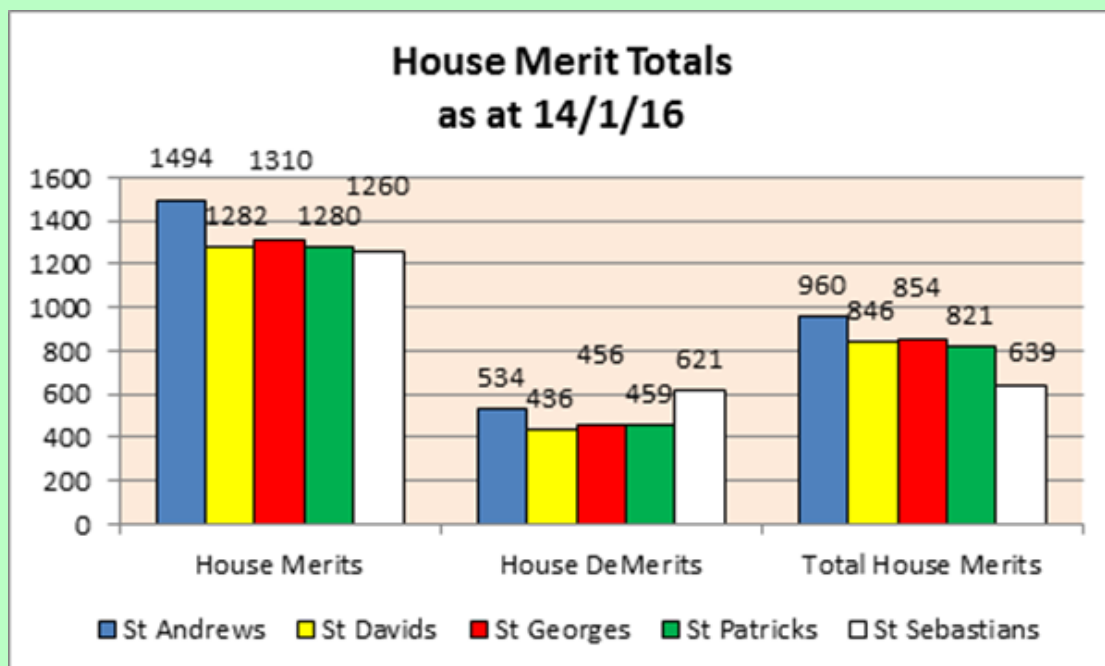
Brentwood Cathedral will be holding a special mass "Welcoming all those who are separated, divorced, remarried or who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage" more information about services held can be found here – [www.cathedral-brentwood.org](http://www.cathedral-brentwood.org)

## Debating

Tomorrow six St Thomas More students will travel to London to compete in the Cambridge union Schools' Debating Competition. We wish them well and will report on their debates in next week's Contact.

## Year 8 retreats

Year 8 retreats to Walsingham House continue this week.



**Year 11 Revision Sessions** - Please find below an updated version of Year 11 revision sessions. Can I please ask you to strongly encourage your son to attend as many of these sessions as possible especially at this important time of the year.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>
English (Higher Tier)	Mr Dooley	Wednesdays	3.30-4.30 in E1
English (Foundation Tier)	Mr Dooley	Tuesdays	3.30-4.30 in E1
English Poetry	Mr Jenkins	Monday to Thursday	2.00-2.30 in E7
English (Higher Tier )	Mr Emmerson	Thursdays	3.30-4.30 in E6
Maths	Mr O'Connell (Set 4 only)	Tuesdays and Thursdays	3.35- 5.00 in M1
Maths	Mrs Brudenell (Set 7 only)	Thursdays	1.45-2.15 in M5
Maths	Mr Mulligan (Set 2 only)	Every second Tuesday starting from the 5 <sup>th</sup> January	3.30-4.30 in M3
Science	Mrs Quane (11Sc1 only)	Mondays	3.30-4.30 in Lab 2
Core Science only	Mr Brady	Wednesdays	3.30-4.30 in Lab 5
Science	Mrs Brudenell (10asSc2 only)	Monday (week 1) Tuesday (week 2)	1.45-2.15 in M5
Geography	Mr Pankhurst	Wednesdays	1.35-2.30 in G1
Geography (Higher Tier)	Mr Hollingsworth	Wednesdays	1.35-2.30 in Media 1
Geography (Foundation Tier)	Mr Hollingsworth	Thursdays	1.35-2.30 in Media 1
History and Citizenship	Ms Statovci	Tuesdays	3.30-4.30 in H1
History	Mr Shearman	Thursdays	3.30-4.30 in H2
PE	Mr Perrotton/Mr Spillett	Fridays	1.35-2.30 in TR6
D & T	Mr Griffin	Thursdays	3.30-4.30 in Tech 2
RE	Mrs Webb	Tuesdays	3.30-4.30 in RE4
RE	Mr Griffin	Thursdays	3.30-4.30 in RE1
Art	Mr Kabarowski	Monday to Friday	Lunchtime
Art	Mrs Osborne	Thursdays	3.30-4.30 in Art 3
Media	Mrs Cotgrove	Tuesdays and Thursdays	1.35-2.30 in MS
Media	Mrs Cotgrove	Tuesdays	3.30-4.20 in MS
Business Studies	Mrs Lindsay	Thursdays	3.30-4.30 in BS1
Business Studies	Ms McCague	Tuesdays	3.30-4.30 in BS2
Business Studies BTec	Ms Ryan	Tuesdays	3.30-4.30 in BS3
Business Studies BTec	Ms Myhill	Tuesdays	3.30-4.30 in BS4
Hospitality Catch up/Revision	Mrs Napper	Mondays	3.30-4.30pm in Food Tech

**Food Technology/Hospitality/Home Cooking Skills** - Just a gentle reminder that for practical lessons, as well as bringing their ingredients, your son should have a clean apron (NOT the same one as used for art) and also they should be bringing in a container large enough to take their produce home in. Could I also remind you that they should have an active part in the preparation of the ingredients by accurately weighing them. If you do not have working

scales at home your son should be coming up before School to weigh the ingredients in the Food Tech room. Any problems do not hesitate to contact me. Mrs Napper.

## **Careers & Languages Event**

Years 10-13

Thinking about a career in languages?

Hoping for a career using languages?

**THEN THIS EVENT IS FOR YOU!**

Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February

4.30-9.00 (with pizza supper)

*Come along and hear about the opportunities available to you for study and the year abroad and find out how **to** make the most of your languages as you build up your CV and make decisions about your future...*

Register at: <https://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/events/language-careers-event-0>

Medicine...Export...Journalism...Business...National Defence... Engineering...Law...Translating...European Commission... Teaching... Export...Interpreting...Science...Fashion...Travel...Tourism...Enhanced CV  
Great opportunities...Study Abroad...etc, etc...  
...ANYTHING & EVERYTHING!

**National Cup Football Success** - The U17 team were in action away to Ibstock Place Independent School on Friday in the quarter final of the National Football Cup. I am proud to say the team won in style, beating the opposition 4-1 after a lengthy journey. Well done to Mr Kearney and the team for reaching the Semi Finals of the competition, one win away from the final! Mr Perrotton.



ESFA UNDER 17 NATIONAL CUP  
QUARTER FINAL

IBSTOCK PLACE

1-4

STM

BLOWERS, JUDGE, PHILLIPS,  
WALLER

## SPORTS FIXTURES

Date	Fixture	Time
18/01/2016	U18 Basketball v SEEVIC (HOME)	4pm
19/01/2016	Year 8 Basketball v Cecil Jones (HOME) Year 9 Basketball v Cecil Jones (AWAY)	4pm 4pm
20/01/2016	1st XI Football v Westcliff (HOME) 2nd XI Football v KEGS (HOME) Sixth Form Basketball v Bromfords (HOME)	2pm 2pm 2:30pm
21/01/2016	Year 11 Basketball v Cecil Jones (HOME) Year 10 Basketball v Cecil Jones (AWAY) Year 9 Essex Cup Football v Emerson Park (AWAY)	4pm 4pm 2pm
22/01/2016	Year 8/9 Futsal @ Waterside	9am – 2pm

