

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

No. 1330 – Thursday 19th November 2015

Dear Parents and Pupils,

6th Form Open Evening – An invitation to our own Year 11 students that we are holding our 6th Form Open Evening tonight between 6pm – 9pm. This is an opportunity to talk the Sixth Form students and staff about their programmes of study and life in our flourishing sixth form. We look forward to seeing many of our students here this evening.

INSET Day – A reminder that the school is **CLOSED** tomorrow, 20th November.

Highlight of the Week Transition Summer School Seedlings - My highlight this week was seeing the photographs of the beautiful sunflowers that our Year 6/7 transition pupils planted from seeds during their summer school transition in the summer holidays.

'.....Look how our little seedlings have grown! These sunflowers reflect the planting of seeds and hope in our year 7s when they first came to St.

Thomas More. Well done boys, they look beautiful.' Ms Caten.



Christmas Fayre – A reminder that our PSA Christmas Fayre takes place on Saturday 28th November. Please see the school website for more news about this exciting event.

Advent Service Thursday 17th December 7pm start – Save the Date! – Today, parents will have received by email a letter inviting them to our Advent Service which is to be held on 17th December. Please put this date in your diary as we hope to see many parents and friends at this event.



Christmas Lunch - All parents should have received an email inviting their son or daughter to have a special traditional Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, 16th December 2015. There will be no other choice of meal available to purchase on that day, although there is a vegetarian option. The cost of this lunch will be £3:50. There is no charge to pupils who receive free school meals. Please note all payments **must** be made via the School Gateway, we are no longer able to take cash payments. If you have any problems accessing The School Gateway please email finance@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Could you help one of Southend's vulnerable this Christmas? Southend on Sea Borough Council are once again aiming to ensure that all of Southend's vulnerable children receive a gift this Christmas. Last year's Toy Drive was an overwhelming success with over 300 gifts donated and the Council are aiming to beat that figure this year. The Council are asking for help from residents and school to support the campaign by donating toys, selection packs, pens and pencils, toiletry sets or vouchers for days out. Please take any donations to the ground floor reception at the Civic

Centre or contact Lorraine Goldsmith on 01702 534923 or email: lorrainegoldsmith@southend.gov.uk to arrange a pick up. The drive will run from Monday 16th November to Friday 18th December.

Fr Martin, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral, would like to invite you to DESIGN A COVER FOR THE CATHEDRAL'S CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER - Would you like your art work to be seen by hundreds of people on Christmas Day? Using a piece of A5 paper (portrait format), draw a religious Christmas image that is colourful and imaginative. On the back of your picture clearly PRINT your name, age and contact address/email. Then, deliver to Brentwood Cathedral, Clergy House, 28 Ingrave Road, Essex CM15 8AT. The deadline for entries is **Sunday 6th December**. Prizes are £35 for primary school children and £50 for secondary school students. Prizes are generously donated by the Brentwood Catenians.

Sacred Heart School Christmas Fayre November 29th 12:15 – 3:00pm Entry 50p per person – Come and grab some gifts for Christmas and at the same time have an enjoyable afternoon with friends in our new school hall raising vital funds for new equipment for our children. There will be lots of stalls selling crafts, jewellery and toiletries amongst other exciting gifts and presents. Santa's grotto and story rhymes for the children. Entrance via Southchurch Road.

A Prayer for Paris

Heavenly Father

*we ask for the comfort of your Holy Spirit
to embrace all those who mourn today.*

*We thank you that your perfect peace
transcends to all understanding
and brings hope through times of darkness.*

*We pray that wherever there is hatred and violence
your love and forgiveness would overcome.*

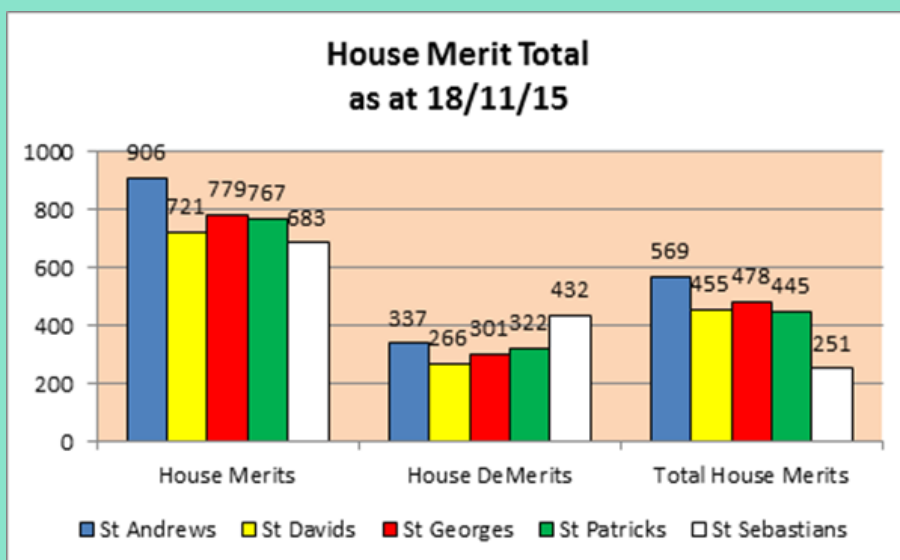
*We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ
Amen.*



House News!

Inter House Debating Competition - Following a well fought final last Friday with St Andrew's team proposing and St George's team opposing the motion: This house believes that the UK government should pay reparations to countries that suffered from the slave trade. St George's team were victorious. Congratulations to all speakers who took part in the competition. House points will be added to the totals at the end of the year for all inter House competitions. The final placements are as follows:

House	Position
St Andrew's	2 nd
St David's	3 rd
St George's	1 st
St Patrick's	5 th
St Sebastian's	4 th



On behalf of St Thomas More's, promising Young Enterprise company, 'IMPACT', myself, Miss McCague, and Miss Ryan, we would like to extend a huge thank you to all who supported our first fundraiser of the year, here at St Thomas More, Friday the 6th November.

We were over whelmed by the support and well wishes we received on the lead up to and

indeed the quiz night, with all who attended, donated prizes and took part in our raffle. We are thrilled to say we raised £600+. This will go towards the development of our products in the coming weeks and months. The night would not have been a success without your support, so again thank you.

Myself and Miss Ryan, would also like to say a massive thank you to, Mrs A Lindsay, Head of Business Studies and Mr John Foster, Business Advisor and Governor of St Thomas More High School, for all of your help, guidance and support, throughout the organisation and running of this event.

I would also like to mention 'IMPACT' themselves, for their commendable enthusiasm and commitment so far this year. You all should be proud of your achievement so far.

We are now focusing on developing our products and hope to have these to market within the next month or so.

Now that 'IMPACT' have found their flare for making money, I am confident this year's going to be a good one for Young Enterprise here at St Thomas More. We look forward to keeping you all posted on our progress. Miss McCague



Spanish Club is held on Wednesday lunchtimes with Mrs Terry and Mari-Carmen Foster. All KS3 and KS4 students of Spanish are welcome for practice and support. ¡Hasta entonces!

SPORT FIXTURES

DATE	FIXTURE	TIME
23/11/2015	Year 10 Basketball v Shoebury (AWAY)	4:15pm
24/11/2015	U14 Essex Basketball v Gt Baddow (HOME) Year 7 Hockey v Eastwood (AWAY) Year 7/8 Indoor Cricket tournament @ Westcliff	4:15pm
25/11/2015	Sixth Form Football v Westcliff (AWAY) Sixth Form Basketball v Brentwood (AWAY) Year 8 Basketball v Shoebury (HOME)	2:00pm 2:30pm 4:00pm
26/11/2015	Year 7 Rugby v Chase (HOME)	3:00pm