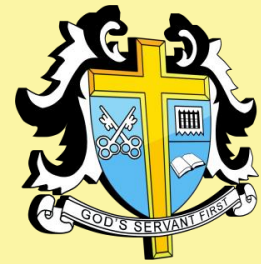




# CONTACT

No. 1437 – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018



Dear Parents and Pupils,

As our first full week of this academic year draws to a close, I cannot believe how full a week this has been, especially for our Year 7 students. With football, basketball and rugby trials for so many of our students afterschool and all Year 7 students attending a retreat at St Peter's led with Fr Jeff, their Form Tutor and Mrs Maxfield our Chaplaincy Co-Ordinator as part of their induction to our school community, there is much to celebrate and discuss at home this week end. In assemblies this week, the whole school community have reflected on two of the themes of Catholic Social Teaching – the dignity of the Human Person and solidarity and the common good. Every human person is created in the image and likeness of God and as such we are all People of God, one family. Therefore what happens to one has an impact on all. During assembly the action of one certainly has had an inspiring effect on others, as Mrs Caten 'Braved the Shave'. Yes she did it and our thanks and congratulations to her for the inspiration she has given us our school community to consider the action we can take to build the common good for all, locally, nationally and globally.

## Weekly Prayer

Dear Jesus,

*inspire me to put my faith into action by responding to the needs I see around me.  
I often don't even notice what's happening to others but I know that you can do infinitely  
more in us that we can ask or imagine. Increase my faith and my action!*

AMEN



**She did it!** – Congratulations and well done to Mrs Caten who, on Tuesday and in an assembly for Years 7 & 8, had her long hair shaved off for Macmillan Cancer Charity. The Little Princess Trust Charity will also benefit from this sacrifice by receiving the hair as a donation for wigs for children who have lost their hair through chemotherapy. Mrs Caten would like to pass the following message on, *'A huge thank you to all the staff, parents, governors and friends of the school for the amazing support and donations. It was awe inspiring'*. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please click on the following link. The final amount raised will be published in next week's Contact. <https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/ruth-caten>



**Year 7 Welcome Mass** - We look forward to welcoming members of Year 7 and their families to our Year 7 Welcome Mass which will take place in school on Thursday 20th September at 7pm. There is no better way to feel part of a community than by joining together at the altar of the Lord in prayer and thanksgiving. Mass will be followed by a social time offering opportunities to meet informally with some of your son's teachers.

**School Council** - On Monday our School Council was convened under the leadership of the Head Boy and Head Girl. The recently formed council is comprised of a representative from each year group plus the head of prefects. We would now like to receive applications from members of Year 7 and Year 12 for the position of School Council representative. Candidates are required to submit a video application via the VLE no later than Wednesday 19th September. The application page can be found at the following link: click [here](#)

**Year 12 Retreat** - Parents of Year 12 will have received a letter detailing the retreat day to be held on Tuesday 25th September. This day for all members of the year group will be led by our Diocesan Youth Team from Walsingham House Abbotswick and will take place in school. Details of payment required can be found in the letter and any parent or guardian who has not received details of the day should contact the school office at [office@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk)

**Liturgical Choir** - All students with a love of singing with others are warmly encouraged to join our Liturgical Choir. This is a group of staff and students from across all year groups who meet together on Tuesdays to prepare music for use in our liturgical celebrations. Currently we are preparing the songs we will use at the Year 7 Welcome Mass next Thursday. With this in mind we will meet on both Monday and Tuesday next week. Please come along. It is open to students who have been in the school previously but we would be particularly pleased to welcome members of Year 7 and Year 12 who have recently joined our school community. We practice in RE4 at 1:35pm. Everyone Welcome.

**Inter-House Debating Competition** - Today a Debating Workshop was held in order to introduce the skills and rules of debate to those students in years 10-13 who will represent their Houses in this year's competition. The first debate will take place on Friday 21st September and will involve St Andrew's proposing and St George's opposing the motion: This house would ban music containing lyrics that glorify violent and criminal lifestyles.

**House Cadre** - On Monday 17th September there will be a meeting of the House Cadre which is the team of Form Leaders in each House group. They should meet with their House Captains, Chaplaincy Captains and Sports Captains in the Concourse at 0845.

**Weekly Mass** – Forms 12D & 13D gathered together in the Chapel to celebrate their Form Mass at lunchtime. We were pleased to welcome Father Jeff Woolnough. My thanks to all the students who led us in prayer and proclaimed the readings.

**Year 7 Retreat – 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018** – Forms 7A, 7D, 7G and 7P had their Retreats on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Forms 7S and 7(6) have theirs today. An update and photos will follow in next week's issue of Contact. Evaluation Forms will be sent to Form Tutors on Monday for all students to complete. Mrs. Maxfield (Chaplaincy Co-ordinator)

**Confirmation Programme at St Teresa the Child Jesus – Rochford** - If you are in Year 9 or above and are ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and become full members of the Catholic Church please email Fr Gerry and let him know at [frgerry@talktalk.net](mailto:frgerry@talktalk.net) The course will be starting in October. If you have any questions please do email Fr Gerry or speak to him after Mass.

**Confirmation course at St. Helen's Church, Westcliff-on-sea** - If you are in Year 9 or above you are very welcome to join our Confirmation Course which is due to commence in October 2018. Please contact Nicola Nevin on 07740 287042 for further details and to register.

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**Caterlink Menus and Tariffs** – Please [click here](#) for information on the school's catering menus and tariffs.

**School Calendar of Dates for Your Diaries** – Please [click here](#) for a link to dates of events and trips planned for this academic year. Any changes to these events will be announced in this newsletter

**Student Absence** – A reminder that if you are reporting a student absence, please call the school and leave a message on the absence line, or submit a message via School Gateway. Mrs Walford, Pupil and Community Support Officer.



**Interested in Drama? Why not try the STM Drama Club run by Nick from JADA Youth Theatre** - A fun, social class in drama where you can learn extra performing skills. This is a fun way to make new friends and build confidence in a relaxed environment.

We will cover storytelling skills, voice work, improvisation, scripts and physical theatre. No experience needed but willingness to work as part of a team is important. Open to all year groups.

When? Every Thursday 3.30-5pm (starting Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September)

Where? Psychology 1

Any queries please contact Mrs Napper (Teacher of Food Technology/Enrichment Coordinator).

**Practise your Spanish – Writing and Speaking skills with señora Williams in MFL1**

Club	Day	Time	Who for
Spanish Beginners	Monday	1.35-2.00	Yrs 7 & 8
Spanish Conversation	Tuesday	3.30-4.30	KS5
Spanish Grammar Skills	Thursday	1.35-2.00	KS4/ KS5
Spanish Conversation	Thursday	3.45-4.45	Yr 9-11 (KS4)

**STEM CLUBS**

**ALL STUDENTS WELCOME**

Through STEM, you will develop key skills:

- problem solving
- creativity
- critical analysis
- teamwork
- independent thinking
- initiative
- communication
- digital literacy.



STEM CLUB	Teacher	When	Where	STEM CLUB	Teacher	When	Where
Space Jam	A. Pierce	Thursday 3.45 - 4.45	Lab 2	Electronics	J. Vitone	Tuesday 3.45 - 4.45	TR1
Programmers	J. Marshall	Tuesday 1.30 - 2.30	CR5	Cell	J. Dibbens	Tuesday 3.45 - 4.45	Lab 5
Construction	R. Leamy & S. Griffin	Thursday 3.45 - 4.45	Te1	Medics	E. Jones	Tuesday 3.45 - 4.45	Lab 7
Gardens	S. Jones	Tuesday 3.45 - 4.45	Lab 6	<b>ALL STARTING</b> Week Beginning 17th September			

**Year 11 Business Studies REVISION – Tuesday 3.35 – 4.35 in BS1** - I would like to invite anyone who would like to get extra help with work and to attend revision sessions for GCSE Business Studies. This will be on a Tuesday after school with Mrs Lindsay. We will cover topics covered as well as help with exam practice.

Mrs Lindsay

**Year 12 and 13 Business Studies DROP IN – Monday 3.35 – 4.35 in BS1** - I would like to invite anyone who would like to get extra help with work and to attend revision sessions for A LEVEL Business Studies. This will be on a Monday after school with Mrs Lindsay. We will cover topics covered as well as help with exam practice. Mrs Lindsay.



### **Business Studies TWITTER page**

If there is anyone interested in Business and are on twitter, please follow Mrs Lindsay for up to date business news, exam information and interesting articles from all aspects of Business. @Alindsay100

As we are at the start of a new academic year, you will no doubt have a new cohort of students who are looking to apply to Medical School this year or next. As the deadline for medical applications is 15th October, we're focusing this month on delivering a series of webinars, hosted by an NHS Doctor, to educate and inform:



**Webinar 1 - Personal Statements for Medicine - 17th September 2018**

**Webinar 2 - The Road to Medical School - 19th September 2018**

Students can register for the webinars using the following link:

[www.medicalprojects.co.uk/webinars](http://www.medicalprojects.co.uk/webinars).

Moreover, as it's a new academic year we have updated our brochure with our current courses. If you'd like to read more about the team here at Medical Projects, or would

like to know more about the courses we have available to students, please find our latest brochure which you can download here: [Medical Projects Information Brochure 2018/19](#).

### **Careers in Investment Management**

- Tuesday 23rd October 2018
- Redington, 1 Angel Ct, London EC2R 7HJ
- Start: 9am
- Finish: 3pm

We are delighted to give students an opportunity to attend a Careers in Investment Management one day insight experience, being hosted by Redington in the City of London. This is a chance for young people who have an interest in gaining a career in financial services to spend a day in an investment management firm, meeting trainees and apprentices and hearing how they began their career in finance. In addition to this, students will:

- Get expert advice on routes into careers in investments
- Meet the HR representatives from global investment firms including M&G Investments, Columbia Threadneedle, BNY Mellon, Janus Hendersons Investors, and Jupiter
- Learn about the importance of ethics and morals from an investment professional perspective

The chance to meet such a wide range of employers from the investment sector is unrivalled – many graduates do not get this type of access. If you have students who want to work in the City then attending this event is a must. Attending this event could make a big difference to a young person's future career opportunities at the end of their sixth form studies.

#### **Students must:**

Be in year 12 or 13

- Apply online for a place by the deadline of 2nd October 2018: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MTBHBYW>
- Commit for the entire day
- Arrive on time, dressed smartly and be prepared to work in a team with other students from other schools and colleges

# SPORTS NEWS

**CROSS COUNTRY** - A reminder that cross country club takes place on Wednesday morning. All are welcome to attend.

**PE Extra-Curricular Sports Timetable** – Please see, below.

## SPORTS FIXTURES

DATE	FIXTURE	TIME
17/09/2018	Year 7 Football Squad 1 & 2 Training match	3:45 – 4:45
18/09/2018	Year 7 Football a/b/c/d vs Southend (AWAY)	4:00
19/09/2018	Year 8 Football vs Southend (HOME) Year 9 Football vs Southend (HOME)	4:00 4:00
20/09/2018	Year 10 Football vs Southend (HOME) Year 11 Football vs Southend (HOME)	4:00 4:00
21/09/2018	NO FIXTURES	

## PE Extra-curricular Timetable Winter 20

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.00 - 8.30am	PE DEPARTMENT MEETING	Year 9 Futsal	All Years Cross Country Year 8 Football	Year 10 Futsal	Year 8 Basketball
1.40 - 2.20pm	Year 7 Basketball	Year 7 & 8 Rugby	SNR Rugby Year 9 Basketball	Year 8 Basketball	Sport Scholar Meeting Racquet Sports
3.30 - 5.00pm	Year 7 & 8 Rugby Year 10 & 11 Basketball Year 11 & VI Form Football Training	Year 9 Rugby Year 9 Basketball Sport Scholars Fitness	Year 10 Football - Week 1 Year 7, 8 & 10 Southend Football - Astro	Year 7 & 8 Rugby Year 9 Football	Badminton Club (Week 1 - Years 10 & 11) (Week 2 - Years 7, 8 & 9)