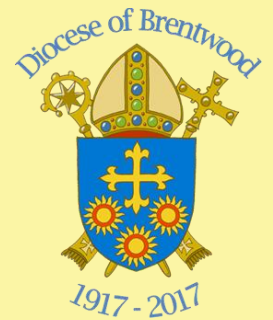


CONTACT

No. 1439 – Friday 5th October 2018



Dear Parents and Pupils,

Deanery Mass on the feast of St Francis of Assisi – Yesterday afternoon staff, Governors and Trustees from the schools in our Deanery gathered together at St Peter's Church, Eastwood to celebrate Mass following the formation of the Assisi Catholic multi-academy Trust. Our inaugural Mass, celebrated on the Feast Day of our Patron Saint, St Francis of Assisi, was an opportunity for staff at the schools in the Trust to celebrate our new relationship together and share in the celebration of the Eucharist with many familiar friends. The grouping of our schools into Deanery based Catholic MAT marks an important step forward for Catholic education in our Diocese. The formation of Assisi Catholic Trust in 2018 has started to deliver the vision Bishop Alan has for education in the Diocese into a network of collaboration and support for each school which he hopes secures and enables the development of all Catholic schools in the future.

<http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Pastoral-Letter-on-Our-Catholic-Schools.pdf>



Non-Uniform Day – Friday 12th October - This week in my assemblies, I have challenged students to put their faith into action as we focus on our service to the poor and vulnerable in our wider community. Next Friday we will hold a non-uniform day to support CAFOD who are encouraging us to **Brighten Up** this harvest. The harvest for many around the world this year will not be a bright one, many will miss out on food, clean water and education. We are asking students to 'wear it bright' and ensure they donate their £1.50. Please encourage your son/daughter to be fully

involved in this fundraising event by bringing in money for the collection or paying online. Together we can help to **Brighten Up** and help make the world a brighter place for communities living in extreme poverty. Please go to the school Gateway to make your payment www.schoolgateway.com

In addition our faith in action focus this year for staff and students is to make a huge effort to help the vulnerable in our local community. As many of you will know we've made a huge effort over the last couple of years to donate as much food as possible to our local Food Bank. Your effort in the last two years has been phenomenal and we're hoping to keep helping our local community by providing emergency relief parcels for those struggling short term hardship. So far, we as a school have helped feed hundreds of families in desperate need of a helping hand during a crisis, and this term we are hoping to continue this amazing generosity and Christian spirit.



Whilst we are very lucky these days that we can get almost any food any time of year due to global trading, today's problems show themselves in different ways. Already families will be looking at the devastating decisions they'll have to make - how they will survive paying heating bills. Therefore, we ask for your help and encourage you to send in food donations from the list below. Pupils can leave donations in the Chapel or perhaps collect food parcels together as a form and hand in at the front office. We will be collecting items over the next two weeks.

Thank you again for all your generosity in the past, and look forward to helping as many of our local community in the future.

UHT milk Sugar; Fruit juice; Pasta sauces; Soup; Sponge pudding (tinned); Tomatoes (tinned); Cereal; Tea bags/coffee; Rice pudding; Instant mash; Rice/pasta; Tinned meat/fish; Jam; Tinned fruit; Biscuits or snack bars

October – Month of the Rosary - The Rosary is being prayed on Tuesdays and Fridays throughout October, students have been quick to notice the colour change of the cushions in the Chapel from Red to Blue – for Mary. All students are welcome to join Mrs. Ackred, Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Maxfield on Tuesdays and Fridays throughout October at 2.10

p.m. outside Mrs. Ackred's office. If you can't make it at lunchtimes, an extended invitation to everyone to morning prayer in the Chapel every day at 11.15 for a decade of the Rosary, prayer and reflection for 5 minutes.

Youth Mass – A group of students accompanied Mrs Maxfield to the Youth Mass at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday night. I am delighted that this event is becoming a regular excursion for students in our school and thank you to Mrs Maxfield for encouraging our students to attend. They experienced a warm welcome from Fr. Dominic and the BCYS team. A letter will be emailed to all Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students next week, to invite them to the next Mass in November 2018. Our thanks to all those who attended and to Mr. Maxfield for driving.

Year 11 Parent and Student Study Skills and Information Evening 11th October at 6pm - The Study Skills evening is designed to answer many of the questions that you and your son will have regarding your son's preparation for his forthcoming examinations in May and June, as well as the mocks in November. It is often the case that parents are unaware of the amount of work and effort that we expect our students to put in to succeed in these very important examinations. We also hear from parents that they do not know how to help or support their sons during this busy and often stressful time. For the students this will also be a valuable opportunity for them to pick up advice and guidance on how to prepare for this intensive period of examinations. We look forward to seeing you on the evening. Mr Hardiman, Pupil Progress Director.

Year 10 Study Skills Evening –1st November at 6pm – An early warning for the Year 10 Study Skills evening – please put the date in your diary – more information to follow.

Year 9 Study Skills Evening –15th November at 6pm – An early warning for the Year 9 Study Skills evening – please put the date in your diary – more information to follow.

Mini Bus Service – Due to trips to Oxford and Cambridge, there will be no mini-bus service to and from Chalkwell station on Thursday and Friday of next week.

Weekly Prayer

Dear Jesus,

help me to find time to be alone with you this week in a way that works for me.

When I get up, help me to remember to offer my day to you and to reflect on the day prayerfully with you in the evening.

Help me to be more open to you and your love.

AMEN

Weekly Mass – Forms 12S & 13S 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. Mrs Maxfield, Chaplaincy Co-ordinator.

Inter House Debating Competition - Last week saw a fine victory for St Patrick's House who narrowly defeated St George's in a well fought debate about lowering the voting age. Well done to all speakers: Emeka Ogbonna 12P, Emanuela Lika 12P and Galvin Salvador-Regalado 13P, Ellie Gudgin 13D, Roisin Irvine 13D and Ellie Harvey 13D. Roisin was judged to be our star debater.

Today's debate will argue the motion: This House would provide free health care for those who value their health and will be between St Sebastian's and St Andrew's.

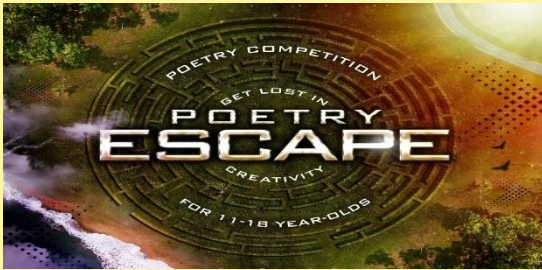
Public Speaking Competition - On Tuesday 9th October St Thomas More High School are hosting a Public Speaking Competition organised by the English Speaking Union. We have two teams competing and visitors are welcome. Please let Mrs Webb know if you would like to attend.

Scholastic Book Club In conjunction with the opening of our brand new library we are pleased to offer parents the opportunity to purchase books for your children through Scholastic Book Club. Not only do Scholastic offer all the latest

titles at reasonable prices to encourage even the most reluctant readers – but the school library will also benefit from every order placed! This month's book club is up and running and can be accessed here: <http://scholastic.co.uk/st-thomas-more-boys-high>. For every £1 spent, our school will earn 25p in rewards!

All year 7 and 8 boys will be coming home with a Scholastic leaflet or you can order directly online – just make sure that you add St Thomas More on your order form if ordering to your home address.

Orders can be placed up until 20th October.



Stranger Sagas - Congratulations to all the students who took part in the Young Writers competition Stranger Sagas. It was great to have 85 pupils selected to become published writers and their stories that can now be found in the Stranger Sagas (Southern England) anthology. If you missed out on taking part, or your story was not selected,

then have a go at the Poetry Escape competition which runs for the first two weeks of October and will take place in English lessons. Mr Standing.

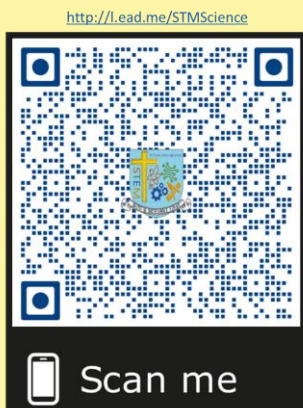


Macmillan Cake Sale - The office staff hosted a Macmillan Cake Sale on Monday of this week and raised a magnificent sum of

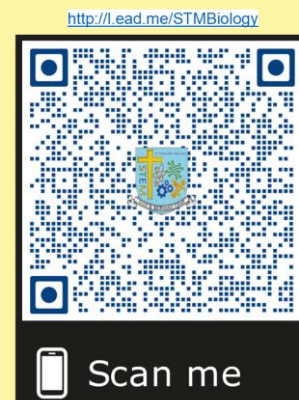
£161.65

Year 11 Revision Timetable – Please see the final page of Contact for a detailed Year 11 Revision timetable.

GCSE Science Revision



A-Level Biology Revision



STEM Twitter: St Thomas More – STEM @tommysstem



STEM Family Challenge - Attached to this week's Contact is Family STEM challenge for you to enjoy with your children at home. Any child finishing the project can bring in a picture and/or a short write up on their project and receive our Bronze STEM award.

In the 21st century, scientific and technological innovations have become increasingly important as we face the benefits and challenges

of both globalization and a knowledge-based economy. To succeed in this new information-based and highly technological society, our children need to develop their capabilities in STEM to levels much beyond what was considered acceptable in the past.

By exposing our children to STEM and giving them opportunities to explore related concepts, they will develop a passion for it. At STM we are working to spark an interest in pursuing a STEM career. However, this can be easily enhanced if parents discuss STEM at home and encourage participation in extracurricular activities.

We offer a large range of STEM extra-curricular activities after school and at lunch time (details below) with activities that show real-life applications of STEM and how they benefit our society. Children can see that what they are learning now, is pertinent to their future.

Perhaps most important of all STEM is fun! With this in mind enjoy the project. There will be a new project next term. Mr S. Jones (STEM coordinator)

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	CS1	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
Guardians	S. Jones	Tuesday 3.45 - 4.45	Lab 6	ALL STARTING Week Beginning 17th September			

National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP) - We would like to inform you that St Thomas More High School has been selected to take part in a national research project. The National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP) is designed to support students, parents and carers to make informed choices when moving into KS4, KS5 and Post 18. The project is running across the country in geographical areas where the Higher Education participation of young people is lower than expected based on good GCSE-level attainment.

Throughout the year, we are aiming to offer all of our students a number of opportunities to explore careers and further education in a variety of different ways.

Make Happen is a partnership of Higher Education establishments across Essex who are running and funding the NCOP project.

Mrs Griffiths is our Careers co-ordinator and the point of contact for the NCOP Project at St Thomas More High School and she would be happy to answer any queries you may have.

Thinking of Apply for Financial Services Apprenticeship or a Technology Degree Apprenticeship?

JP Morgan are recognised as one of the premier financial institutions in the United Kingdom. Program applications are now open.

<https://careers.jpmorgan.com/careers/global/en/programs/financial-services-apprenticeship>

<https://careers.jpmorgan.com/careers/global/en/programs/technology-degree-apprenticeship>

Deadline for application is January 2019.



KUDOS – 8D continued with Kudos on Wednesday. They worked on finishing their profiles, matching careers with their likes and dislikes. If your son has yet to complete his three profiles - My Personality, My Future, My Skills - to 100% then please encourage him to do this at home and to continue to explore the different career and subject ideas.
8G will be starting KUDOS next Wednesday during form time.

CAREERS FAIR – Stalls and Speakers wanted - The year 13 students of BTEC Business Studies are hosting a careers fair in which students will be able to find out more information about possible career options for their future as part of National Careers Week. The careers fair will feature many different job roles including university representatives. We will be holding talks from speakers who have been successful in their career across a range of professions, and also stalls in which students can walk around and ask questions about the career displayed. If you know of anyone who would be willing to speak at this event and represent their job/career, with a view to give a short speech about what they do in their role and how they came to be in that role, then please do get in contact. Also we are looking for people to set up stalls for the fair itself and if your company can offer this then please let us know. We are looking to hold this event on the 6th March 2019. We look forward to hearing from you and please do not hesitate to ask any further questions.
(BTEC Business class)

Mrs Lindsay – alindsay@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Miss Griffiths – mgriffiths@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Maths Study Club

- Monday at 2pm in M2 with Ms Clarke
- Wednesday at 1.35–2pm in M6 with Mrs Wilson
- Friday at 1.35–2pm in M1 with Mr O’Connell

Open to all year groups

- Quiet space to complete maths ELT
- Support with maths ELT
- Support with individual maths revision
- Support with class work

More sessions may become available later in the term. NB. Only students with a good attitude to learning will be welcome!

Year 11 Maths revision

Starting now:

Day	Time	Set	Location	Teacher
Monday	3.35(week 1 only)	Foundation	Lab 7	Mr Vitone
Tuesday	3.35	Sets 3 & 4	M5	Mr Lonergan

Start date to be advised:

Monday	3.35	Set 1 only	M2	Mr O’Hara
Tuesday	3.35	Higher tier	6	Mrs Wilson

Further sessions may become available.

NB. All students welcome to attend study clubs for help with individual revision.

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.

Spanish Club

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)

SPORTS NEWS



PE Student of the Week - Liam Barry of Year 11 wins the award this week for his man-of-the-match display against Chase. Well done Liam

Year 8 Rugby - On Wednesday the year 8 rugby team competed in the annual Essex Waterfall tournament - the U13 equivalent of the Essex Cup tournaments. With 4 pool games to play the boys were in for a long day of rugby and only 1 sub on the sideline due to injuries the squad knew they would have to work hard for each other and fitness levels would be tested. A great start against our first pool game opposition, with a phenomenal defensive effort from the boys. A lapse in concentration at the scrum allowed the opposition to score and the score finished 5-0. Up next was 2 consecutive games in a row with no break between, a tough ask for any team!

After a sloppy start (a common theme with the year 8 squad!) going 10-0 down inside 3 minutes, finally a bit of inspiration in going forward! Some excellent passing from William Edwards and Johnny O'Brien saw Ben Caswell score in the corner. Shortly after, Ben danced his way through what seemed an impossible defensive line and he touched down again! 10-10 and left questioning what could have been if we started quicker! Up next was our toughest test of the day, Champion school who are renowned for their strength and depth in rugby. Our boys gave a valiant effort but unfortunately come up short against an incredibly strong Champion side. In our final game, the boys really gave every last effort they had, Jonah Vesey tackling the biggest player on the pitch and stealing the ball before offloading in a tackle allowed the ball to be moved to the far wing and Fraser L-M finished excellently! A great day for the squad and training will resume normally from next week. Player of the tournament - Phillip Nother.

Year 11 v Chase – Won 10-0 - A fantastic team performance saw us put ten past Chase to seal our place in the semi-final of the cup. The first half saw seven goals, the pick being a cool finish from Salter following a deft back heel from Barry. The latter scored a potential goal of the season himself in the second with a screamer from 30 yards that swerved into the top corner. Our next match is in the Essex cup against Southend where we will be looking to avenge our defeat in last season's cup final.



Twitter - A reminder that Twitter uses can follow the PE Department's Twitter handle @PEDeptSTM to keep up to date with news, fixtures, results and links to content for exam preparation. Items are available which are already set up for customisation and just require the initials of the student. The items include:

SPORT FIXTURES

DATE	FIXTURE	TIME
08/10/2018	Year 10 Football v Chase (HOME)	4:00pm
09/10/2018	Regional Cross Country @ King John Year 8 Rugby v Woodlands (AWAY) Year 7 Football v Southchurch (HOME) Year 8 Football v Southchurch (AWAY)	09:30 departure 4:00pm 4:00pm 4:00pm
10/10/2018	1st XI Football v St Martin's (AWAY)	2:30pm
11/10/2018	Year 9 Football v Chase (AWAY) Year 11 Football v Southend High (HOME) Year 8 House Basketball	4:00pm 4:00pm 3:30 – 5:00pm
12/10/2018	Year 7 Football v Shoebury (HOME) Year 7 Rugby v Chase (HOME)	4:00pm 4:00pm

PE Extra-curricular Timetable Winter 2018

	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 SNR Rugby	Year 7 & 8 Basketball
1.40 - 2.20pm	Year 7 Basketball Year 9 Rugby	Sport Scholars Fitness	Year 7 & 8 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	Yr 10 Football - Week 1 SNR Rugby Year 7, 8 & 10 Southend Football - Astro	Year 7 & 8 Rugby Year 9 Football	Badminton Club (Wk 1 - Years 10 & 11) (Wk 2 - Years 7, 8 & 9)

YEAR 11 REVISION TIMETABLE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM			RE 8:00 – 8:30am	English - All levels 8.00-8.30am (E5)	English - All levels 8.00-8.30am (E1)
LUNCH	English - "Aiming for a level 5" 1.30-2.00pm (E3) Chemistry 1.35-2.05pm (LAB3)	Media - Drop in 2.00-2.30pm (CR7) Science - Drop in 1.35-2.10pm (LAB 8)	D&T 1.35-2.20pm (CR8)	Science - Drop in 1.35-2.10pm (LAB 8)	English - Poetry Revision 1.30-2.00pm (TR7)
AFTER-SCHOOL	English - All levels 3.30-4.30pm (E5) English - Drop in 3.30-4.30pm (E4) D&T 3.30-4.30 (TEC1 & TEC2) ICT coursework 3.30-4.30pm (CR3) Maths - Foundation 3.30-4.30pm (LAB7) <u>Week 1 only</u> Maths - Set 1 3.30-4.30pm (M2) <u>Start date TBC</u> RE 3:30 – 4:15pm	English - Drop in 3.30-4.30pm (BS3) English - Levels 5-9 3.30-4.30pm (MS1) Business Studies 3.30-4.30pm (BS1) Food Prep 3.30-4.30pm (Food tech) Maths - Set 3 3.30-5.00pm (M1) Maths - Set 2 & 4 3.30-4.30pm (M5) Maths - Higher Tier 3.30-4.30pm (M6) <u>Start date TBC</u>	English - All levels 3.30-4.30pm (E6) ICT coursework 3.30-4.30pm (CR3)	Business Studies 3.30-4.30pm (BS1) Science 3.30-4.40pm (LAB6) Maths - Set 3 3.30-5.00pm (M1) Spanish 3.30-4.30pm (MFL1)	