



St. Thomas More High School

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

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CONTACT

No. 1282 – 12th September 2014

Dear Parents and Pupils,

Deanery Mass at St Bernard's - On Monday after school, a number of our staff attended St Bernard's Catholic High School to celebrate Mass with the staff and priests of our Deanery Catholic Schools and Parishes. It was a lovely occasion and a wonderful way for all involved in Catholic education to start the new academic year. Our thanks go to Mrs Barron and her staff for making us so welcome.

Year 13 Study Skills Evening – A reminder that our Year 13 Study Skills, UCAS and Finance Information evening is to take place on Wednesday 17th September at 6pm. The evening is designed to answer many of the questions that you and your son/daughter may have.

Year 7 Pupils – This week, I have been spending some time visiting our new Year 7 pupils during form time and I am happy to report that they are all settling in very well. Their enthusiasm for learning new subjects in a new environment is clear and they have already made many new friends. I look forward to seeing the pupils with their parents and families at the Mass and Social evening later this month.

Year 7 Mass and Social Evening – A reminder to our Year 7 parents that there is to be a Mass and Social Evening on Thursday 25th September at 7pm. A letter will be sent home shortly with more information. Please could you complete and return the reply slip as soon as you receive the letter so that we can be sure of numbers. I very much look forward to meeting you all.



SPOTLIGHT – Surfing Achievement - Raphael Sossou, Form 8D, has been following a surfing qualification course since 2012. It is the junior surfer scheme accredited by the British Surfing Association. This summer in the Isle of Wight Raphael completed level 3 of the qualification. Gaining level 3 is a massive achievement – Well done Raphael!



Player of The Year - Congratulations to former student, Josh Cullen, who won the West Ham Academy Player of the Year award in July. Also, he was capped at Under 19 for the Republic of Ireland game earlier this week when they beat Holland 1-0 – Josh won the penalty for the winning goal! Well done Josh, you are doing so well. Please check the school website for a photograph.

Don't Stop the Music - This programme, to be broadcast on Channel 4 on Tuesdays 9th and 16th September, at 9.00 p.m., features St Teresa's School, Basildon, and the beginnings of a school orchestra. Over 90 instruments were donated to the school – donations from across the Diocese should feature in the second episode. The programme makes a passionate case for teaching young children to play classical music and the school would like to warmly thank all those who were so generous in donating instruments to transform opportunities for our children. Fr Dominic Howarth.

25th Anniversary – This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Great Dock Strike of 1889 in the London Docks. On Sunday, 14th September at 6.00 p.m., in St Mary & St Michaels Church, Commercial Road, Stepney, Cardinal Vincent Nicholas will be celebrating Mass to mark the anniversary, and the significant role of Catholic Social Teaching in the life of the Church and wider society. All welcome.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM -The Joy of the Gospel.....Pope Francis on proclaiming the Gospel in today's world. A lecture will be given by Fr James Hanvey, SJ (lecturer and author) from Campion Hall, Oxford on Wednesday, 17th September at 7.30 p.m. in the Conference Centre, Brentwood Cathedral. Suggested donation of £5. For further information please contact the Adult RE& Formation for Ministry office on 01277 265255 or email them at are&fm@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Jews and Catholics in Dialogue - To address an issue of profound concern to many at this time and in anticipation of the fiftieth anniversary of Vatican II's Nostra Aetate, the diocesan Commission for Evangelisation and Formation announces an Ecumenical Study Day entitled 'Milestones in Modern Jewish Catholic Relations', which will take place on Saturday, 25th October in Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall, beginning at 10.30 a.m. and ending at 3.00 p.m. The day will be given by Sr Margaret Shepherd of the Sisters of Sion, who is Secretary of the Bishops' Committee for Catholic Jewish Relations and Director of the Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter in west London. There is no admission fee and a buffet lunch will be provided. Please book your place by contacting cef@dioceseofbrentwood.org or by phone to 01277 265289.

Invitation - Singers are invited to perform Andrew Wright's 'A Requiem of Peace' at The Church of The Most Holy Redeemer, Laindon Road, Billericay, on Saturday, 29th November at 8.00 p.m. The concert is in aid of CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young). Copies of the Requiem will be available at the first rehearsal. To register and for more information regarding rehearsals etc. please contact Kathy Underhill ASAP on 01277 626661 or kathyunderhill@btinternet.com

Merit Marks – St Sebastian's are getting off to a good start!

St Andrew's
13

St David's
31

St George's
13

St Patrick's
20

St Sebastian's
40



Weekly Prayer

*Lord God,
by a great act of love,
you let yourself suffer for us,
and you gave us a way to be with you forever in heaven.
May we always be grateful to you for such amazing love.
Amen.*

Weekly Mass – Our Mass on Thursday was celebrated by Fr. Jeff and we got off to a very good start. Since it was the 11th September, Fr. Jeff offered the Mass for peace and tolerance in our world. Miss Hickey's Form 11-A did the Readings and prepared the Bidding Prayers, which were focused on the strife in Syria, Palestine and the Ukraine. All of

which tied in very nicely with Fr. Jeff's short homily on the need for peace in our world. Attendance was excellent. Mrs. McCurdy



RE Pupils of the Week: Marco Broadly, Angelo Aquino and Aiden Clapham helped to prepare a display about their learning in RE. We have been thinking about the importance of our cultural in preparation for a study of the culture of first century Palestine. Well done boys for volunteering.

Sacrament of Confirmation - St Teresa's Church May 2015 - If you are in Year 9 or above and wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next May please could you send Fr Gerry a short email (frgerry@talktalk.net) letting him know of your intention. The first meeting for candidates and parents will be on the 14th September after 10.30 Mass.

Cashless Catering – A reminder that, as from Monday, the canteen will not be taking any cash payments for food. Please ensure that you top up using Parent Pay.

School Photos – The individual school photographs took place on Wednesday of this week. The packs of proofs are currently being distributed to all students. If families wish to place an order you can do so online by following the instructions on the proof sheet or by completing your details and putting it and payment (cheque or card details) in the envelope. This can be returned to school by next Thursday 18th September and taken to the office. Payment is **NOT** made to the school. Cheques should be made payable to **Tempest School Photography** (as detailed on the proof sheet). Any cheques made payable to the school will **not** be processed. A reminder that ParentPay **will not** work for ordering photographs. Mr Maxfield, Deputy Headteacher.

6th Form Enrichment Day – On Wednesday, the 6th form all came together for an Enrichment Day, with the 6th Form photographs, sports events, and a guest speaker from the 'Fix Up' motivational team. Students are aware of the long road ahead studying for AS, A2 and level 3 BTEC; hopefully they feel more able to deal with this and are prepared to use their free time wisely.

An early warning that the Year 12 Study Skills is on the 1st October at 6pm parents and student welcome.

PARIS 2014

1. The total amount is now overdue. Please make payment as a matter of urgency if you have not already done so.
2. Please provide Miss O'Neill with a copy of your passport and EHIC card ASAP.
3. If your son does not have an EU passport, please inform Miss O'Neill immediately.
4. A meeting will take place at the end of October to give further details regarding the trip.



Spanish Club – If you are interested in attending a Spanish club for KS4, on a Wednesday lunchtime at 1.30, MFL3. Please speak to Mrs Terry.

Study Session – Miss Hickey will be running A-Level (AS and A2) Biology and Chemistry study sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:30 in Lab 3 from September to June. Lab 3 has a supply of revision resources for many topics/units and the pupils are encouraged to bring their own revision materials to work on.

History Revision is Back! – Year 11s can **revise** any **course content** they like with **Mr Shearman** in H3 on **Wednesdays** from **3:35 – 4:45**. **Ms Statovci** will be taking you through **exam technique** every **Thursday Wk1 3:35 - 4:45** in H2. Mr Shearman.

Music Department

Extra-curricular timetable is up detailing when the music department is open and what clubs are happening so far. A particular mention for choir starting on Tuesday, a chance to get involved in the department regardless of musical ability.

All instrumental and vocal lessons start on Monday (15th) days and times will be displayed on the notice board outside.



Year 7 - Do you read music?

Would you like to experience and try a different and 'endangered' instrument?

If you answer yes to these questions come and see Mr Riches in the music department for more information. Mr Riches



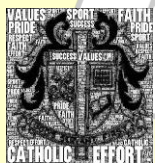
Careers Corner

For information and news on Careers, please look at the school website under the section 'Headlines'.



BEE News (Business and Enterprise)

For information and news on Business and Enterprise, please look at the school website under the section 'Headlines'.



PE DEPARTMENT AND SPORTS NEWS HEADLINES - For information and news on all the sports headlines and latest news, please look at the main homepage on the school website.



REMINDER!!!!



All pupils aiming to play for the STM sports team **must** attend one extra-curricular cross country club during the week, they take place:

- **Monday Lunchtime - 1:45pm**
- **Wednesday Before School – 8am**
- **Thursday After School – 3:40pm**

Mr Perrotton

SPORTING FIXTURES

Date	Event	Time
Monday 15 th September	Sixth Form Football Training – Squad only	3.30-5.00pm
Tuesday 16 th September	Year 7 a, b, c & d football v Southend (AWAY) Year 9 & 10 Rugby v Westcliff (TBC)	4.00 – 5.15pm 4.00-5.30pm
Wednesday 17 th September	1 st XI Football v Westcliff (HOME) Year 11 Football v St Clere's (HOME) Year 9 Football v Southend (HOME)	2.15pm 4pm 4pm
Thursday 18 th September	Years 8, 9 & 10 Football v Southend (HOME)	4pm
Friday 19 th September	Badminton Club Years 7 & 8	3.30-5.00pm

