

Dear Parents, Carers & friends

**RE: Non-Uniform for NDCYS & World Youth Funday**

I hope you have all had a lovely half term break and spent some quality time with your families.

As we look ahead to the next 7 weeks and the build up to Christmas, there is so much planned at St Thomas More Academy. As you know, giving back to our world and our community is something that really is at the heart of St Thomas More. To #BeMore not just in ourselves, but for others. In the spirit of this and the season of giving, our students are being given the opportunity to make a difference to our local Church Community through one of our House Charites.

For many years, the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday before advent, has been set aside in England and Wales as National Youth Sunday. To celebrate our Young People and the impact they can have on our Church and our World. Earlier this year, Pope Francis declared that the universal church will now celebrate this important feast as World Youth Sunday. On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> of November, schools across England and Wales will be celebrating our first 'World Youth Funday', a chance to celebrate in school the amazing young people we have in our schools and in our world.

This year's theme is taken from the book of Acts: "**Stand up, I appoint you as witnesses of what you have seen**" Acts 26:16. To help us reflect on this theme and our calling to support our world, in school we will have a **BRIGHT COLOURED** Non-Uniform day and raise money for our Diocesan Youth Service based at the Briars, which is the Francis House Charity for the year. There will also be other fundraising activities during the day, including a bake sale.

For many years the NDCYS has provided our school and countless others with the opportunity to explore, discover and grow. The money raised will help the continued work of the Briars residential Centre which our year 9s visit this month and our Y10s will visit after Easter. We hope that all Students will get involved in the Non-uniform day and turn up to school in **FULL COLOUR**, and really celebrate their individuality. The cost of the day is **£1** per student to be paid on Parentpay. Students will have a payment check, in form time on the morning of the event, so please pay in advance.

Thank you once again for your continued support in everything we do here at school. The charity of our students and families is really something for us all to be proud of.

Yours faithfully



Christian Fitzgerald  
Lay Chaplain

