

Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

Tomorrow the world commemorates Holocaust Memorial Day, an opportunity to pause and remember the victims of genocide. This year's theme is fittingly named, 'Fragility of Freedom'. In a world marked by instability and conflict, there is an increased significance in not only contemplating the past but also recognising the imperative for peace, understanding and tolerance in the present. Today, our Year 7 pupils had the privilege of participating in the National Literacy Trust's Memorial Day program, featuring an insightful session with acclaimed author Tom Palmer and Holocaust survivor Mala Tribich. Engaging in a Q&A session, pupils gained valuable insights into Mala's harrowing journey of survival. Inspired by today's learning, Year 7 will now embark on creating a written piece reflecting on these impactful experiences.

STM Vision

As we embark on this next chapter of St. Thomas More's journey, the SLT and I have been actively involved in shaping our future vision for the school. I am pleased with our direction of travel so far and we have some exciting plans for the future as we continue our development of the school. I look forward to keeping you informed of our progress throughout the school year.

Year 11 Mocks

The Year 11 Mock exams are currently in progress, with students making a positive start by tackling exams in Music and Spanish today. Mrs Doherty-Perkins organised a school event last week for both students and parents, offering valuable advice and support on effective revision techniques. For those unable to attend, the information has been uploaded to the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment). If you encounter difficulty accessing the information, kindly reach out to enquires@stm.srscmat.co.uk and Mrs Doherty-Perkins will send the details to you. We are pleased to observe a significant number of students participating in both before and after-school revision sessions.

Year 9 Progress Evening

On Thursday February 8th, it is imperative that at least one parent or carer of each Year 9 student attends the progress evening. This event serves as a crucial opportunity to engage in discussions about your child's academic progress with their subject teachers, especially as we approach the options process. The event will be held at school, with teachers and key staff stationed in various rooms, providing you with the chance to have a private conversation with them during your allocated time slot.

Bookings for the evening will be made using 'School Cloud'. Year 9 parents, please refer to your previous letter and contact us if you are having difficulty making appointments.

Preloved PE Kit

Mr Harrison is looking for preloved STM PE kit from past students. STM hoodies, STM polo shirts, STM leggings, any black shorts or track suit bottoms or plain black leggings which can be used. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.



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St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy
enquiries@stm.srscmat.co.uk Tel: 01298 23167
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**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Go Blue for Blythe House - Friday 16th February

On Friday, 16th February, we will be holding a fundraising day for a much-loved local charity, Blythe House. Some of you may already be aware that Mrs Collinge, our Head of Humanities was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2023. Blythe House played a crucial role in providing essential support to Mrs Collinge during her treatment, and I am aware of the exceptional care they have extended to numerous families in our community. As part of a non-uniform day, we encourage pupils to wear the colour BLUE in exchange for a donation of £1.00. Further information will be provided on our Facebook page closer to the time.

For further details on Mrs Collinge's journey and the support of Blythe House, please visit:

<https://blythehousehospice.org.uk/kellys-story/>

A message from the Diocese of Nottingham

CALLING CATHOLIC TEACHERS

Do you know somebody who is a practising Catholic and who is a teacher or senior leader working in a school outside of the Catholic sector? The Diocese of Nottingham along with the Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts is leading a virtual information session about working in a Catholic school on Monday 4 March from 7.00pm – 8.00pm.

For further information, please contact: Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan Education Service (julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk).

With sincere thanks for your continued support,



Mr Redfern
Headteacher

