

8th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

I hope that you and your family had a restful Christmas and New Year period.

As we enter our student's final term at St Thomas More Voluntary Catholic Academy, I have some key information I would like to share in relation to how your child will be supported over the coming weeks.

Year 11 Head of Learning and Pastoral Manager:

I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Kawalek has been placed within Year 11 as the Pastoral Manager.

Mrs Kawalek's focus is on supporting students on a day-to-day basis with their mental wellbeing, behaviour within school and running pastoral-based interventions on either a one-to-one basis or within small groups.

Whereas in my role as Head of Learning, my focus is on each student's academic performance within school and behaviour towards learning.

Changes to Teaching Staff within Year 11:

Following on from the communication at Parents Evening, I am pleased to announce that the following classes will be taught by the following Teachers for the remainder of the academic year:

- 11EN2 will be taught English by Mrs Shaw (Head of English).
- 11EN3 will be taught by both Mrs Newton and Mrs Dodd.
- 11AHI and 11CH1 will both be taught by Mrs Collinge.
- 11APE1 will be taught by Mrs Doherty-Perkins.

If a student is to move set or be placed into a differing class, it has been requested that the subject teacher contacts you to discuss the reasoning for this and to inform you of when this will come into place.

How to support your child with their revision sessions – Wednesday 17th January 2024 6.30pm:

Following on from the "How to Revise" session students attended within school on Wednesday 6th December 2023. On Wednesday 17th January 2024, I would like to invite you to attend a parental evening at 6.30pm to go through the information shared with students and provide practical guidance on how to support students when they undertake revision.

If you would like to attend this evening, please email ldohertyperkins@stm.srscmat.co.uk to confirm your attendance.

Mock Exams – Monday 29th January to Monday 9th February 2024:

From today students have only 15 school days until they complete their mock GCSE exams. Students will undertake the Mock Exams in line with the JCQ regulations and will complete them inline with how they will be completed within May and June 2024.

The Mock Exams are an important time for Year 11 as they provide an accurate outline of where students are currently working at and what they are likely to achieve within the Summer Exam series. Students have been informed of the importance of these within their Liturgical Prayer this morning.

Students were provided with a copy of the Mock Exam Timetable on Wednesday 6th December 2024. I have attached a copy to this letter for your reference.

Students will be provided with their results from their mock exams on Thursday 14th March 2024. This will be completed in line with how students will receive their exams in August 2024.

To support students, I will be running revision sessions as follows this half term:

	Days it will run:	Location:
Breakfast Revision Session: 7.40am to 8.40am. <i>(Breakfast will be provided for all students who attend).</i>	Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Stage
After School Revision Session: 3.10pm to 4.10pm.	Monday Wednesday Friday	Room 115

GCSE Exam Series 2024:

As it stands students have 122 days until they sit their first formal GCSE exam – Religious Education on Thursday 9th May 2024. Further on within this term, students will be provided a timetable highlighting all dates for the exams and how study leave will run for students during the exam series.

Prom – Wednesday 26th June 2024 from 7pm to 11.30pm:

As previously mentioned, students have invited to attend the Year 11 Prom on Wednesday 26th June 2024. For those students who have received communication from myself about whether their place is at risk for Prom, I will be in contact on the Wednesday 31st January 2024 to confirm whether they can attend or not.

The details for this are now live on Parent Pay for students to purchase their tickets. The price for Prom is £45 and this includes a two-course meal and the evening's entertainment (further details to follow).

The deadline for payment for this is Sunday 31st March 2024 – if payment is not made by this deadline, then students will not be able to attend.

Leavers Hoodies and Year Books:

A letter has been uploaded to the school website outlining how students can order both their Leavers Hoody and Yearbook. If you have any questions in relation to this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Y11 Year Photo:

I am pleased to announce that the Y11 students will be having their final year group picture taken on Friday 19th January 2024. Details on how to purchase the photo will be sent to you in due course.

I would like to thank you for the continued support you are providing to both St Thomas More Voluntary Catholic Academy and to your child.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further.

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs Doherty-Perkins
Head of Learning for Year 11