



24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been wonderful to hear from various members of the public and local organisations about their interactions with many of our pupils. From assisting neighbours in need to collaborating with both local and national organisations like Buxton Crescent Heritage Trust and the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme (AMSP), the positive feedback regarding our pupils' conduct and engagement has been heartwarming.

Equally inspiring are the achievements of our pupils outside the classroom. From sporting triumphs to dance competitions, music exams to charity fundraising, we love to celebrate the successes of our highly talented pupils. If you would like to share your child's accomplishments outside of school, please let us know by emailing [socialmedia@stm.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:socialmedia@stm.srscmat.co.uk).

Well done to all our pupils who have engaged and achieved so well. We are incredibly proud of you!

**ASPIRE Points**

During the SLT's revisioning exercise in January, we decided to revisit key policies and procedures across the school to ensure they align with our core principles and mission. This half term, we introduced our revised rewards scheme, STM ASPIRE points, to pupils. Credits or positive points are now called ASPIRE points and are awarded under the six categories of our mission statement: **A**uthentic, **S**acred, **P**assionat**e**, **I**nspirational, **R**esilient, **E**mpathetic. After the half term break, pupils will find out who has won each category for the past half term. These pupils will be rewarded and their efforts celebrated. A more detailed breakdown of how a pupil can earn an ASPIRE point can be found here:

A	S	P	I	R	E
Authentic	Sacred	Passionate	Inspirational	Resilient	Empathetic
<i>'We seek to find our true vocation and who we really are'</i>	<i>'We are loved and made in the image of God'</i>	<i>'We strive to grow and be our best selves'</i>	<i>'What we do here can help us change the world'</i>	<i>'For our greatest learning comes when we make mistakes'</i>	<i>'We are called to care for all in our community and the world'</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal development</li> <li>• Extra-curricular</li> <li>• In-form engagement</li> <li>• Wider reading</li> <li>• PHSE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behaviour</li> <li>• Organisation</li> <li>• Punctuality</li> <li>• Uniform</li> <li>• Equipment</li> <li>• Manners</li> <li>• Attitude (to peers/staff)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved effort</li> <li>• Improved attainment</li> <li>• Improved behaviour</li> <li>• Improved engagement</li> <li>• Improved attitude</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attainment</li> <li>• Achievement inside of school (e.g. test result)</li> <li>• Achievement outside of school (e.g. dance exam)</li> <li>• Homework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endeavour</li> <li>• Consistency</li> <li>• Application</li> <li>• Attitude (to work)</li> <li>• Independence</li> <li>• Engagement</li> <li>• Participation</li> <li>• Homework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service to the school:</li> <li>• Catholic life of the school</li> <li>• Service at school events</li> <li>• Student leadership</li> <li>• Service to others and the community:</li> <li>• Kindness</li> <li>• Charity work</li> <li>• Environmental work</li> <li>• Social justice work</li> </ul>





Pupils can also earn ASPIRE points in individual subject areas. For example, here’s how a pupil can earn points in Design Technology:



*How can I earn ASPIRE rewards in Design & Technology?*

A	S	P	I	R	E
<i>Authentic</i>	<i>Sacred</i>	<i>Passionate</i>	<i>Inspirational</i>	<i>Resilient</i>	<i>Empathetic</i>
<i>'We seek to find our true vocation and who we really are'</i>	<i>'We are loved and made in the image of God'</i>	<i>'We strive to grow and be our best selves'</i>	<i>'What we do here can help us change the world'</i>	<i>'For our greatest learning comes when we make mistakes'</i>	<i>'We are called to care for all in our community and the world'</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I complete practical activities at home</li> <li>I complete my homework to a high standard</li> <li>I volunteer to help at events and be a D&amp;T ambassador for the school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I demonstrate high expectations.</li> <li>I am on time for my D&amp;T lessons.</li> <li>I have equipment on my desks without prompts.</li> <li>I use manners and respectfully listen during lesson time</li> <li>I treat the tools, machinery and workshop with respect</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I am an excellent class contributors during learning time</li> <li>I have improved my behaviour to enable myself and others to learn well</li> <li>I want to finish work outside of learning time</li> <li>I always want my work to be the best it can be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I am selected to wear the 'student teacher' lanyard</li> <li>I always work sensibly and safely in the workshop</li> <li>I repeatedly select the correct PPE to wear in the workshop</li> <li>I volunteer for additional tidying responsibilities</li> <li>Mrs Lichfield can rely on me to help and support during practical lessons.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I show resilience during an assessment/difficult topic.</li> <li>I consistently demonstrate "ASPIRE"</li> <li>I complete WIN activities well.</li> <li>I overcome problems and challenges during practical lessons.</li> <li>I reflect well during DIRT lessons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I listen carefully during demonstrations</li> <li>I listen to feedback given to me by my teacher and put it into practice</li> <li>I am kind and respectful to my peers, Mrs Lichfield and Mr Rogers</li> </ul>



**Year 9 Options**

The Year 9 Options Evening is scheduled for 12th June, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. The event will start with a presentation outlining the process. Following this, pupils and parents will have the opportunity to meet with Middle Leaders and subject specialists to learn about the various subjects available.

**Safeguarding – Open Water, Quarries and Abandoned Buildings**

As we approach the final half term before the summer holidays, I want to address a critical safety concern regarding the dangers of open water, quarries, and abandoned buildings. While these areas might seem appealing for exploration and recreation, they pose significant risks. Open water can have strong currents and hidden hazards, quarries often feature steep drops and unstable surfaces, and abandoned buildings can be structurally unsafe and contain hazardous materials.

We urge you to help us convey an important message to the young people in our care: **“STAY SAFE... STAY OUT.”** It is vital that they understand and heed this warning.

Leading into the summer, pupils will be educated about these dangers during their Personal Development lessons on Wednesdays.





### **Year 10**

Earlier this week, parents and carers received a letter outlining the measures we are taking to prepare pupils for their Mock Exams in June. An exam timetable is also attached to this letter. If you missed it, you can find a copy here: <https://www.stthomasmorebuxton.srscmat.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2024/05/Y10-Mock-Exam-Letter-from-Ms-Scampion.pdf>

### **Year 11**

Mrs. Lancett has sent a letter today to parents and carers of Year 11 pupils concerning Study Leave. You should have received a text notification about this letter, and it is also available on our website: <https://www.stthomasmorebuxton.srscmat.co.uk/news-and-events/letters-to-parents/>

With the half term break upon us, pupils are encouraged to rest and recuperate while also dedicating time to revise and practice their exam techniques. Striking a careful balance between relaxation and study will be beneficial for both their exam success and overall wellbeing.

### **Derbyshire County Council Household Support Fund**

As part of the Government's Household Support Fund Scheme, Derbyshire County Council is distributing funding to household's struggling to pay for food, energy, and essential living costs.

As part of the scheme, the Council will again be distributing grocery vouchers. Information about who is eligible for the vouchers is available on their website and distribution will start in late June 2024.

Full details about the scheme and the support available for those experiencing financial hardship is available on the Derbyshire website: [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund)

### **Half Term**

I wish all our pupils and their families a safe and restful half-term break. School reopens on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at the normal time.

With sincere thanks for your continued support,

Mr Redfern  
Headteacher

