



22nd April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 9 Feast Day for St Maximilian Kolbe – Friday 2nd May

I am delighted to share that our Year 9 pupils continue to uphold exemplary standards and embody the St Thomas More values of *"Aspire not to have more but to be more."* It has been a pleasure to support Year 9 this academic year as their Head of Learning, and I have every confidence that their positive attitude will continue throughout their time at STM.

As part of our Catholic Social Teaching programme, each year group has adopted a saint to learn from and emulate. For Year 9, we have chosen St Maximilian Kolbe, who, during his time as a political prisoner in Auschwitz, made the ultimate sacrifice by giving his life to save another. His selflessness serves as a profound example of courage, compassion, and faith.

To honour St Maximilian Kolbe, we invite Year 9 pupils to celebrate his Feast Day on Friday 2nd May. Pupils may wear non-uniform on this day for a voluntary donation of £1. In addition, the Year 9 cohort will raise funds through sponsored sporting activities during lunchtime. Highlights will include a penalty shootout against members of staff – including myself, Mrs Brown, Miss Turner, Mrs Dodd, and Mr Richardson – as well as an eagerly anticipated dodgeball match between the Year 9 team and pupils.

During Period 1, we will walk to St Anne's Church on Terrace Road for a short liturgy. This will take place during the school day, so there is no need to arrange alternative transport to or from school.

Please find below the schedule for the day:

- Registration: As normal
- Period 1: Visit to St Anne's Church, Buxton, for a short liturgy
- Period 2: Lessons as normal
- Period 3: Disability Sports and early lunch
- Lunch: Sponsored penalty shootout and dodgeball match
- Period 4: Lessons as normal
- Period 5: Lesson as normal until 2:45pm, followed by a celebration in the school hall, including cake and reflections on St Maximilian Kolbe

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Doherty-Perkins
Head of Learning for Years 9 and 10

