



Friday 6th September 2024

Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

I am so pleased to be writing to you all once more with a weekly update. I hope you and your families have had a lovely summer break and you are keeping well. A very special welcome to our new families who have joined our school community.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate all of our Year 11 and 13 pupils for their excellent examination results. It was a pleasure to see them open their GCSE and A-Level results in the summer, and to hear of their next steps. We will continue to hold them all in our prayers.

We have had a fabulous first week of term! It has been an absolute pleasure to greet pupils and welcome them back to the school community. Year 7 should be very proud of how they have managed this week. We appreciate it can be a real challenge starting a large secondary school, but they have done brilliantly.

Prayer Theme

"Nothing that goes into someone from outside can make that person unclean; it is the things that come out of someone that make that person unclean." - Mark 7 : 1 - 23

- We have prayed together as a community:

Dear God,

**We thank you for all of the gifts and talents that you have blessed us with. We ask that this week, as we start a new school year, that we reflect on how we can be good people on the inside as well as the outside.
Amen.**

Year 7 Welcome Mass

- We would like to invite parents and carers of Year 7 pupils to celebrate Mass in school to welcome them fully into our school community
- It will be held at **9am on Friday 27th September** in the school hall
- Please enter via reception at the front of school from 8.30am ready for a 9am start
- Teas and coffees will be available after Mass with a donation welcome to the Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning



ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL,
CROFTDALE ROAD,
BLAYDON,
TYNE & WEAR,
NE21 4BQ





Parental Engagement @STM

- We are looking forward to welcoming you all into school over this next year and I would like to share an overview of the range of opportunities we have to meet in school or online.
- We really do appreciate your support and look forward to another year of ensuring our pupils can reach their full potential.

[Parental Engagement Opportunities 2024 - 2025.pdf](#)

Keeping in touch @STM

- Please find a reminder of the ways in which you can contact us here at school.
- We would appreciate it if you could read this document so that your query can be directed to the correct staff member.

[Keeping in Touch.pdf](#)

Behaviour Curriculum

- Pupils have been reminded of the whole school Behaviour Curriculum this week.
- Your support is much appreciated in ensuring that all pupils adhere to this, in particular with regards to uniform and the completion of homework.
- All pupils can learn, grow and develop when they are in a calm, happy and orderly environment here in school.

St Thomas More Behaviour Curriculum				
Key Concept	Always Respectful	High Standards	Civilised Conduct	Active Learning
Shared Understanding	Respect is at the centre of our community; we recognise that our behaviour is a way of demonstrating our respect for each other; when we get it wrong we apologise and move on.	We have high standards of ourselves and each other; we recognise that the way we present ourselves symbolises our commitment to these high standards.	We are a civilised community where civilised conduct is the norm; this means we adhere to set routines which ensure our school runs smoothly and remains a pleasant place to learn.	Our main focus is learning; we therefore behave in a way that ensures our learning is enhanced & not disrupted.
Crucial Learning	Be a caring and considerate member of the school community; accept responsibility if you make a mistake and apologise.	Wear your school uniform correctly and with pride. Key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirts tucked in. • Correct footwear • Unrolled skirts. 	Maintain pride in our school site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't drop litter • Tidy away after lunch • Don't graffit! 	Be prepared & equipped for learning; work hard and complete tasks (including homework) to the best of your ability.
	Never behave in a disrespectful, discriminatory or derogatory way to anyone in our school community.	Appropriate tone, volume and language used at all times.	Be in the right place at the right time; punctuality is a vital life skill.	Actively listen & respond; give the teacher 100% of your attention.
	Visibly show your respect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address staff as Sir / Miss. • Say good morning / afternoon to each other. • Say please and thank you. • Stand and be silent when staff enter the room. • Follow instructions from staff from the first time of asking. • Head doors open for each other. 	No jewellery, no acrylic nails / varnish / gels or fake eyelashes. Makeup kept to an absolute minimum.	Walk on the left & leave / enter via the nearest external door.	Consistently meet the 'STM Standard' in all your work.
		Mobile phones should be stored out of sight and on silent. They should be put away immediately if requested.	Line up quickly & orderly in all instances you are required to do so.	Aim to use toilets during a break / lunchtime to avoid disruption to learning.

Please follow us on social media (**Facebook and Twitter STM_CS_Blaydon**) where we share regular updates from our school community.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Turner
Head Teacher

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CROFTDALE ROAD,
BLAYDON,
TYNE & WEAR,
NE21 4BQ



0191 499 0111
info@stthomasmore.org.uk
www.stthomasmore.org.uk

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