



Friday 18th September 2026

Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

As we move further into the new academic year, we continue to be impressed by the excellent attitude and commitment shown by our pupils.

Today, we were delighted to celebrate our Year 7 Welcome Liturgy, a special occasion that enabled us to formally welcome the newest members of our school family. It was wonderful to reflect on the outstanding start our Year 7 pupils have made to life at St Thomas More. Their enthusiasm, maturity and willingness to embrace new experiences have been evident from the moment they arrived, and we are incredibly proud of how quickly they have settled into school life.

We have also been delighted by the dedication shown by our Year 11 and Year 13 students. They have approached the start of this important academic year with real purpose and determination, setting high expectations for themselves and engaging positively in their studies. With the first RAP process of the year approaching, pupils are eager to reflect on their progress, identify areas for development and work closely with staff to ensure they are fully prepared for their mock examinations after half term.

Prayer Theme

"Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.' God sees the value and dignity of every person, and we are called to treat others with the same respect and generosity."

Matthew 20:16

We have prayed together as a community:

Dear Lord,

We thank You for reminding us that every person is precious in Your eyes. As Jesus taught, "*The last will be first, and the first, last,*" help us to see the dignity and value in each person we meet. Teach us to act with kindness, humility and generosity, welcoming others, offering support when it is needed, and treating everyone with the respect they deserve. May we never seek to place ourselves above others, but instead follow Christ's example of love and service. Help our school community to be one where every person feels valued, included and appreciated.

Amen



Welcome / Meet the Tutor Evenings

- Next week, we are pleased to be hosting our annual Welcome Evenings for families. These events provide an opportunity to hear about the year ahead, including key curriculum information, academic expectations and the support available to help pupils thrive both in and beyond the classroom.
- Families will also have the opportunity to meet their child's form tutor and connect with a range of staff who will support them throughout the year. Whether your child is beginning a new key stage or continuing their journey with us, these evenings offer valuable insights into how school and home can work together to support their success.
- **Welcome Evening Dates (5:00pm – 6:30pm)**
 - **Tuesday 22 September** – Year 8 and Year 9
 - **Wednesday 23 September** – Year 10 and Year 11
 - **Thursday 24 September** – Year 7, Year 12 and Year 13



Year 11 and Year 13 RAP

- Next week marks the start of our Raising Achievement Plan (RAP) for pupils in Year 11 and Year 13. This is a focused six-week period leading up to school assessments. During this time, pupils will receive structured support and guidance to help them prepare effectively for their examinations. Through lessons, pastoral sessions and independent study, pupils will develop their revision skills, build confidence and focus on the knowledge and understanding needed to achieve their very best.
- We recognise the important role that families play in supporting pupils during this period. As part of RAP, we will be sharing advice, resources and practical strategies with parents and carers, ensuring you have the information and guidance needed to help your child establish positive revision routines and make the most of the weeks ahead. By working together, we can help ensure that every pupil approaches their assessments feeling well prepared and Confident.





Enrichment

- We are delighted that our Enrichment programme for this academic year has now begun, with up to 50 clubs taking place across school both at lunchtimes and after school.
- We hope that pupils will make the most of the vast range of opportunities available by joining a club to enrich their experience of school life, develop new skills and interests, and strengthen their sense of belonging within our school community.
- The current timetable for our optional Enrichment programme is below and further information about each club can also be found on the Enrichment page on the school website.

- <https://www.stthomasmore.org.uk/the-stm-community/extra-curricular-activities-for-all/>



STM ENRICHMENT CLUBS 2026–27

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before School	Hot Chocolate LS Drop In	Hot Chocolate LS Drop In	Hot Chocolate LS Drop In	Hot Chocolate LS Drop In	Hot Chocolate LS Drop In
				Bacon Brekkie Reading Club	
	Reading Club	Reading Club	Reading Club	Reading Club	Reading Club
	Chamber Choir	Chess Club	Debate Club	Creative Space	Year 8 Book Club
	Chaplaincy Team	Faith in Action	History Club	Year 7 Netball	Year 7–9 Basketball
	Lego Club	Calm Club	History Film Club		Dance Club
	Year 7 & 8 Football	Year 9 Netball Club	History Homework Drop In		
	Scripture Art Club	KS3 Drama Club	Young Vincentians		
		Guitar Ensemble	Junior Choir		
		Forum	JP2 Award Club		
		Forum Gardening Club	Pokemon Club		
		Year 9 Football	Geography Club		
		Maths Homework Drop In	Wellbeing Champions		
			Crochet Club		
			6 TH Form Football		
	Homework Club	LS Supportive Study	Homework Club	LS Supportive Study	Year 7–9 Basketball
	LS Youth Club	Orchestra	Dungeons & Dragons	School Show – Grease	
		Faith & Football		Year 10–13 Fitness Suite	
				Girls Football	
				Badminton Club	
				Table Tennis Club	
	Arts & Culture	Sport & Physical Activities	Wider Life and Future Skills	Community, Faith & Wellbeing	Nature, Outdoors & Adventure

More information about each club can be found on the Pop Up TV and the school website.



A reminder to use our house email addresses if you have any queries.

St Bernadette	St Catherine Laboure	St John Fisher	St Therese	Sixth Form
STM-StBQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-StCLQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-stjfqueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-sttqueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-SixthFormQueries@stm.bwcet.com

Please follow us on social media **[Facebook and Instagram]** where we share regular updates from our school community.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Turner
Head Teacher