



September 2026

Year 8 Curriculum Overview - Autumn Term

Dear Families,

Our Year 8 students have made a confident return to school, building on the progress they made last year. It's wonderful to see them approaching their learning with maturity and enthusiasm as they continue to develop their skills and knowledge.

This letter outlines the subjects and topics your child will be studying this term. At St Thomas More, we know that a strong partnership between home and school is vital for student progress, and we are grateful for your continued support.

Below, you'll find an overview of what your child will be learning in each subject, along with suggestions for how you can help them at home.

Year 8 Term 1 Curriculum

Subject	Topics
English	Allusions: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe
Maths	Number • Prime Factors • Rounding (significant figures) • Estimation • Percentage Change Ratio & Proportion • Forming and Simplifying Ratio • Splitting an Amount in Ratio Algebra • Factorising (single bracket) • Forming Linear Equations • Linear Inequalities
Science	Biology - Photosynthesis & Interdependence
	Chemistry - Particle theory and its application
	Physics - Motion and Turning effects, Density and Pressure



Religious Education	Existential questions that lie at the heart of the human condition and reflect on both the meaning of suffering and the meaning of death
History	How far did the power of monarchy change as a result of the Civil War? - To what extent was Elizabeth's reign a 'Golden Age'? - What were the causes and outcomes of the English Civil War?
Geography	Coasts Development and the gap in development
French	Communication and Comprehension Talking about TV programmes Talking about films Talking about reading Talking about the internet Saying what you did in Paris
Music	Rhythm, Tempo & Metre Structure and Melody
Information Technology (ICT)	Media - Vector graphics Layers of computing systems
Art	Culture: decorated paper bird • Cultural understanding & appreciation • Skills & techniques 2D media • Developing design ideas based on culture research. • Skills & techniques 3D paper construction
Food and Nutrition (12 week Carousel during the year)	Advanced cooking, cultural and dietary diversity
Design and Technology (12 week Carousel during the year)	Copper Tealight/Nightlight
Physical Education	Invasion Games Dance, Gymnastics & OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities)



Wider Curriculum	Character, Culture and Morality ● Growth Mindset ● Created & Chosen ● Multi Faith Britain ● Hinduism Careers: 1. Linking skills to the workplace 2. Work skills in context 3. Employer engagement.
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[What your child will learn - School Website](#)

General Tips for Supporting Your Child's Progress

- **Maintain Good Habits:** Continue to support a consistent homework and study routine, helping your child balance schoolwork with extracurricular activities.
- **Foster Curiosity:** Encourage your child to explore topics beyond the classroom and discuss what they're enjoying or finding challenging.
- **Monitor Progress:** Regularly review their homework diary or online platforms to stay informed about deadlines and projects.
- **Positive Reinforcement:** Encourage them to take pride in their progress and any challenges they overcome.

Parents' Evening (Online)

Year 8 Parents' Evening - Thursday 4th March 2027

Assessment dates this academic year

Key Stage 3 Raising Achievement Plan (Preparing for Module 1 Assessment)
Monday 12th October 2026

Key Stage 3 Assessment Module 1:
Week commencing Monday 30th November 2026

Key Stage 3 Raising Achievement Plan (Preparing for End of Year Assessment)
Monday 19th April 2027

Key Stage 3 End of Year Assessment Module 2
Week commencing Monday 7th June 2027

If you have any questions or need further advice on how to support your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact us in school via the house email addresses below.

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Thank you for your continued support in helping us provide the best possible education for your child. We look forward to working closely with you this term.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Tait
Assistant Head Teacher