



Friday 16th October 2026

Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

It has been another purposeful and rewarding week at St Thomas More, with pupils continuing to demonstrate the commitment, enthusiasm and high standards that we are so proud to see. As we approach the end of this half term, there is a real sense of achievement across the school and much to celebrate.

Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have been particularly focused as they make their final preparations for their mock examinations, which will begin after half term. Over recent weeks, they have worked exceptionally hard, making excellent use of their RAP resources, revision sessions, Masterclasses and wider subject support. We know that this dedication and determination will pay off, and we wish every student the very best as they prepare to demonstrate all that they have learned.

Beyond the classroom, our Year 13 students also enjoyed a fantastic visit to Ford Castle this week. It was a wonderful opportunity for students and staff to spend time together, taking part in a range of team-building and adventure activities. The trip provided a memorable experience for everyone involved and a welcome opportunity to strengthen friendships and enjoy time together as a year group.

Prayer Theme:

'Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God.'

Matthew 22:21

We have prayed together as a community:

Dear Lord,

You remind us that everything we have is a gift, and that our lives should reflect our love for You. Help us to understand the words of Jesus: *"Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God."*

Guide us to act with honesty, responsibility and integrity in all that we do. May we give You our time, our talents and our hearts, using them to serve others and make a positive difference in our community. Help us each day to make choices that reflect Your love and bring us closer to You.

Amen



Uniform Reminder

- Consistent standards of uniform are an important part of school life at St Thomas More, helping to create a strong sense of belonging, pride and shared identity. We are grateful for the continued support of families in ensuring pupils arrive at school each day dressed smartly and in line with our expectations. As we approach the new half term, we would appreciate families taking the opportunity to check that pupils have the correct uniform and are ready to maintain these high standards.

Standard Uniform Option 1	Standard Uniform Option 2
Royal Blue blazer badged with St Thomas More School logo St Thomas More School Tie Blue Shirt Black Trousers White / Black Socks Sensible Black Shoes (No boots or trainers) No Piercings (or retainers)	Royal Blue blazer badged with St Thomas More School logo St Thomas More Blue Kilt OR Harrow Grey Trousers Black / Flesh Coloured Tights (not patterned) OR White / Black Socks Blue Revere Blouse Sensible Black Shoes (No boots or trainers) No Piercings (or retainers)

SHOES THAT ARE ALLOWED

Smart, black and practical

Shoes must be **black** and **waterproof**. They must be **leather** or **leather effect**.

Acceptable styles include:

Shoes should be sensible, practical and appropriate for school. No heels. Shoes must be suitable for school.

SHOES THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED

For safety and uniform standards

The following types of shoes are **not allowed** in school for safety and uniform standards.

These styles are not permitted. They are not suitable for school.



✓ ITEMS THAT ARE ALLOWED

Simple, practical and appropriate

Our uniform is about high standards and equality.
The following items are allowed:



Normal watches
(no smart watches)



Minimal, natural makeup
(discreet and natural-looking)



Hair ties / hair bobbles

✓ Items should be safe, sensible and not draw attention. When in doubt, leave it out.

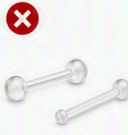
✗ ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED

For safety, fairness and uniform standards

The following items are **not allowed** in school.



No jewellery
(including earrings of any kind)



No plastic piercing retainers
(for ear or facial piercings)



No false eyelashes



No nail varnish



No false nails



No smart watches or fitness trackers
(e.g. Apple Watch or other brands)



No extreme or unnatural hair colours
(Hair should be a natural-looking colour.)

✗ These items are not permitted. They are not suitable for school.

! Our uniform policy helps everyone feel safe, focused and ready to learn. Thank you for your support.

✓ TROUSERS THAT ARE ALLOWED

Smart, simple and appropriate for school

Trousers must be black or grey and straight legged.
They should be smart in appearance and suitable for school.

Acceptable styles include:



Black straight leg



Grey straight leg



Black straight leg



Grey straight leg

✓ Trousers should fit well, be smart and appropriate for school. Black or grey, straight legged trousers only.

✗ TROUSERS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED

Not appropriate for school

The following styles of trousers are **not allowed** as they are not suitable for school.



Skinny / Tight Fit



Flares / Wide Leg



Cargo Trousers



Jeans



Leggings



Joggers



Sportswear



Trousers with decorative zips or extra details

✗ These styles are not permitted. They are not suitable for school.



Virtual Parental Session: Supporting Your Child in Being Actively Involved in the Extra-curricular Life of the School

- We invite families to join our upcoming Virtual Family Support Session. This week it will focus on the importance of extracurricular activities. Research consistently highlights the positive impact that participation in extracurricular activities can have on a young person's sense of belonging, wellbeing and overall success in school. Pupils who engage with wider school life are more likely to develop confidence, build positive relationships and achieve strong academic and pastoral outcomes. Our upcoming family support session will explore the many benefits of extracurricular involvement and provide an overview of the wide range of clubs, teams and enrichment opportunities available at St Thomas More.
- The session will run from 5:00pm-5:30pm and a link will be shared on Wednesday to access the session.
- As always, all of our sessions are recorded and available on demand. Please email info@stm.bwcet.com if you would like to access any recordings.



Annual STM Fundraising Walk

- On Friday 23 October, our whole school community will come together for our Annual STM Fundraising Walk, completing a route of approximately 8 miles in support of our fundraising efforts.
- This is always a fantastic opportunity for pupils and staff to come together, demonstrating our shared sense of community while supporting worthwhile causes.
- Pupils should come prepared with sensible shoes, comfortable footwear, weather-appropriate clothing and a water bottle.
- We are looking forward to another memorable day and hope that everyone will get involved because every step makes a difference!



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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