St Thomas More Catholic School Sixth Form

Parent & Carer Bulletin

The Sixth Form Parent & Carer Bulletin provides you with key information to keep you up to date with what is going on in Sixth Form.

Issue No. 40 13th November 2026

General Notices

Year 12 - In Horizons, we had the pleasure of welcoming back our speaker from St John Ambulance, who conducted a session on Basic Life Support. It was an engaging and informative experience, covering essential topics such as conducting a primary survey, calling for assistance, placing an individual in the recovery position, performing CPR, and utilising an AED (automated external defibrillator). The students actively participated in the session, practicing CPR on manikins.

A reminder that the deadline for the work experience Unifrog form is 27th November 2026. Please encourage students to secure a placement and upload the relevant details to Unifrog. If they require assistance, they should reach out to Mrs Alphonse or the Sixth Form Team. For more information on how you could help, please see page 4 of this bulletin.

Year 13 - Our Year 13 students have made an excellent start to their mock examinations this week. Study leave will continue until Tuesday 17th November. The Sixth Form Centre will remain available as a study space during this period. All students are expected to return to school on Wednesday 18th November.

We have set a deadline for UCAS applications on 4th December. This deadline is for students to submit their applications to the Sixth Form Team, after which we will review and submit each application. To ensure that every application receives the careful attention it deserves, it is crucial that students submit their applications by 4th December, or earlier if possible. We would greatly appreciate any support you can provide in encouraging students to complete their UCAS applications promptly.

Key Upcoming Dates

- Monday 9th November - Tuesday 17th November - Year 13 Mock Examinations
- Wednesday 18th November - Virtual Parent Support Session -The STM Reading Canon and Promoting a Reading Culture at Home - 5pm - 5.30pm
- Friday 27th November - INSET Day

Contacts

STM-SixthFormQueries@stm.bwcet.com

Absence reporting - STM-SixthFormQueries@stm.bwcet.com or 0191 499 0111 - option 1 and then option 2

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Opportunities next week

- **Unifrog Webinars** - linked here - coming up: *'Business accounting taster: making strategic business decisions', 'Dear AI, you still need a designer: why creativity, judgement, and human imagination still matter', 'Is a placement year at university really worth it?', 'An introduction to linguistics: how human language really works', 'Formula 1 vs Formula E: which one offers the greatest engineering challenge?', 'Beyond battles, kings, and queens: exploring everyday life in Shakespeare's England', 'Business and marketing taster: why do we love certain brands?', 'History taster: race, power, and democracy in the US', 'Healthcare science taster: could a career in audiology be for you?', 'Psychology taster: do your eyes lie to you?', 'Interior design taster: how to take a room from empty to extraordinary' and 'Land your dream job: perfect your CV and written applications'.*

- **University of Cambridge events series** - linked here - coming up: *'English Masterclass'.*

- **University of Oxford events** - linked here - coming up: *'Insight Into Humanities: What made the Romans laugh?', 'Oxplore Livestream: Should we believe the history books?', 'Insight Into Humanities: Afro-Asian Solidarity and the United Nations', 'Online Interview Workshop' and 'Insight Into Maths: Introduction to Computer Programming'.*

- **University of Sunderland** - linked here - coming up: *'Routes into Professional Policing', 'Art and Design Creative Careers Talk' and 'Master your Nursing Interview'.*

- **University of Law** - linked here - coming up: *'Becoming a Lawyer' and 'Can you sue?'.*

- **Channel Talent** - linked here - coming up: *'History: Speaking out against a Tyrant – Challenging the Authority of Henry VIII', 'Computer Science: Python Coding Workshop – From For Loops to Machine Learning!', 'Sociology: Who's Afraid of Feminism? From Feminist Waves to Feminism Today', 'Accounting/Business: Mergers and Acquisitions – The Business Behind the Deal', 'Media & Communication: Researching Influencers and Young People on Social Media', 'HE Guidance: How do You Pay for University & Manage Your Money Once You're There? Student Finance, Scholarships & Budgeting Tips' and 'Mathematics: Mathematical Proof Workshop'.*

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Opportunities next week

- **Newcastle University Insights Lectures** - linked here - coming up: *'NCL in Action: Will AI save global healthcare or break it?'.*
- **University of Sheffield** - linked here - coming up: *'Philosophy: Should we scrap the voting age?', 'Physics: Black holes - Big and small' and 'German: Are the Nazis back? The far-right "Alternative for Germany" party and its messaging'.*
- **Swansea University** - linked here - coming up: *'Masterclass Series'.*
- **University of Manchester** - linked here - coming up: *'Virtual Open Day'.*
- **Royal Veterinary College** - linked here - coming up: *'Discovery Series - Discover Biological Sciences at the RVC'.*

Apprenticeships



This event is suitable for both parents/carers & students.

We always support students attending events such as these, but we do ask that their absence is reported to us by a parent/carer so that we can update attendance records.

"We provide the best careers advice for parents and teenagers face-to-face."

Linked here

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Opportunities for Parents & Carers

Unifrog Parent & Carer Session



Introducing Unifrog: a session for parents

Parents | Teachers | Virtual

Join us as we walk you through the range of tools on Unifrog available to your child. We'll show you how you can also use Unifrog to support your child with university applications and future career planning!

Linked here

University of Manchester Parent & Carer Session

Linked here

UK parents and supporters information session (UK parents)

Wed 18 Nov (Europe/London)

Online Session

17:30 - 18:15

Year 12 Work Experience - 11th January - 15th January 2027

Could you help us with work experience?

We are currently working hard to secure work experience placements for all of our Year 12 students in January, and we would really appreciate your support!
We are asking parents and carers to think about whether they could offer a placement to a Year 12 student within their own workplace or business, or whether they know someone who might be willing to help.

We would love to encourage a bit of a 'Parent Swap'! Perhaps you could offer a placement to another parent's child, and in return, they may be able to offer an opportunity for your son or daughter.

It doesn't have to be a large business or a formal organisation—any opportunity to gain valuable workplace experience, develop confidence, and explore future career options would be hugely appreciated.

Can you help us? Do you have a contact, know a business, or have an opportunity that could make a difference to one of our students?

Every offer, connection, and suggestion could help us make sure all our students have this valuable experience.

Thank you for your support!

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Ongoing Opportunities

- UCAS Hub Live Sessions - linked here - *UCAS run live sessions in the UCAS Hub to help those researching their next steps, and record them all. You can access them using the link above. The topics covered include universities, apprenticeships, interviews and auditions.*

- Prospects - Future You webinars - linked here - *Get inspiring advice and in-depth insights from employers, careers advisers, students and graduates by attending the Future You webinars from Prospects.*

- Join the dots - linked here - *Join the Dots is a university transition programme designed to support students facing the greatest challenges in making a successful transition to university.*

- Year 13 - Pathways to Newcastle - linked here - *Through our academic-led online programme, you could receive lower entry requirements to Newcastle University and develop the skills you need for success at university and beyond.*

- Aspire Guide - linked here - *Your essential guide to careers, further education and university.*

- Amazing Apprenticeships - linked here - *Amazing Apprenticeships is a leading organisation in the education sector. For over a decade we have been working to tackle misconceptions about apprenticeships and technical education, promote their benefits, and push the boundaries of what the sector can do.*

- Channel Talent - linked here - *Channel Talent is a live and interactive video conferencing / webinar service which links universities and businesses to schools. Channel Talent beams university lecturers, admissions personnel, university students and apprentices into the school classroom in addition to including individual students.*

Useful Links

- University Open Days - linked here
- UCAS Apprenticeships - linked here
- UCAS - linked here
- Sixth Form Bursary - linked here
- Unifrog - linked here (all students have an account)
- University Taster Days - linked here
- Student Finance Guide - linked here