



St. Thomas More High School
An Academy Trust in the Diocese of Brentwood (Reg No: 7696989)
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CONTACT

No. 1276 – 20th June 2014

Dear Parents and Pupils

We have recently been reviewing many aspects of school life and have sought the views of students, parents, staff and Governors and the feedback has been very useful in helping school improvement. Over the next few weeks we will be sending out information about a move to cashless catering in response to students views about school catering, further improvements in our communication between home and school in response to parental feedback which are to include a new Student Planner, website and VLE and a change to the timings of lessons during the school day which have arisen from staff and student feedback.

New timings to lessons during the day

PERIOD 1	09:10 – 10:10
PERIOD 2	10:10 – 11:10
BREAK	11:10 – 11:35
PERIOD 3	11:35 – 12:35
PERIOD 4	12:35 – 1:35
LUNCH	1:35 – 2:30
PERIOD 5	2:30 – 3:30

The start and end of the school day remain the same - 8.40am and 3.30pm but a slightly extended break will allow possibilities of developing the range of food on offer at breaktime, when most students consume their lunch and still allow plenty of time for the extensive range of lunchtime clubs. These timings will also enable us to launch our Sport Academy in the Sixth Form from September, thereby increasing the involvement of Sixth Form teams in local, regional and national competitions. In order to ensure this runs smoothly in September we are to trial these timings for two weeks starting on 7th July.

Primary School Visits – Our round of primary school visits are now coming to a close. This week, Mr Mason and Mrs Saunders, along with some of our Year 7 pupils and Year 10 prefects, visited St Joseph's and St Teresa's. Thank you to Headteachers Mr Collingwood and Mrs Stevens and their staff for their warm welcome. Please see times and dates of our last two visits, below.

Date	Time	School
Wednesday 2 July	3.00pm	St George's
Monday 7 July	2.00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes



SPOTLIGHT –Elijah Chaplin (9P) aims to complete 250 laps of the sports hall in a charity run on Monday 23rd June. He will complete this after school under the watchful eye of the PE department. Elijah is looking to raise money for GOSH and is running in memory of a family friend who took part in the Southend half marathon but who sadly died after completing the race. If any students would like to sponsor Elijah he (and some supporters) will be available at lunchtime on Monday to collect sponsors at the desk by the 6th form common room.

Merit Marks

St Andrew's	St David's	St George's	St Patrick's	St Sebastian's
2445	2461	2539	2083	2338



Weekly Prayer

Lord God,

because you love your people

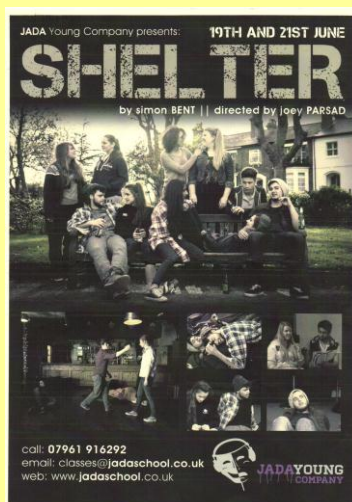
and you want them to be filled with your love,

you give us the gift of the Eucharist.

May we always appreciate this gift,

and may we be grateful for all the ways you come into our lives.

Amen.



Jada Young Company

Congratulations to Danny Whitelaw and Luke Standen on their outstanding performances in JADA Young Company's performance of Simon Bent's play 'Shelter' on Thursday evening. The play is about homelessness, and the group decided that they would raise awareness of this problem and also benefit the local homeless charity HARP by donating some of the ticket money to the charity. Well done Danny and Luke.

Miss Gilroy and Mrs Statovci.

Manga High Grassroots Maths Challenge 9-22 June - St Thomas More Maths department are participating in this year's Manga High competition which, for this year, is running for two weeks. As I write this we are still 3rd in the country so can I please encourage you to use Manga High at home for the final days of the competition to ensure we have a top three finish! Don't forget that as well as the prize for the school that wins, there are also prizes for the best scores in our school! Ms E Clarke, Head of Mathematics.



Paris 2014 - A reminder that the full payment (£350) for this trip is due by 30th June 2014. Prompt payment would be much appreciated. Miss O'Neill, Head of MFL.

Year 10 Science Double Award Groups - Now that the year 10 Core science GCSE course is finished pupils are moving onto the year 11 science GCSE which is titled "Additional Science". As mentioned in the email letter that went out to all parents concerned last week, we are starting this course off now by focusing pupils on the first part of a

controlled assessment task (ISA). On the 10th July pupils will be sitting their **paper 1** exam and all the work that is being done in class leading up to the 10th will help prepare them for this exam. It is important that they prepare at home as well especially while they are away on work experience. To help prepare themselves at home we advise that they should use the module 2 ISA material on our “science GCSE – controlled assessment resources” VLE page.

The science ISA tasks contribute 25% of the marks for the course and so it is important that they prepare as much as is possible. This is important when considering the fact that this is the year your son will have to look seriously at their further education options. Thank you for all your help. Mr S Clunn.



Revision Sessions



Maths - Reminder that the Maths department are running a weekly 'Maths Clinic'. This is open to any pupil in Years 7-10 who needs help with any Maths work! The timetable for the next two weeks is::

Day	Date	Time	Teacher	Room
Tuesday	24/6/14	12.30-1pm	Mr O'Connell	Maths 1
Wednesday	2/7/14	12.30-1pm	Ms Clarke	Maths 2

Assessment Dates

- Year 10 – Monday 7/7/14

Year 10 English, Maths and Science Revision Sessions - I would like to make you aware of the following revision sessions which are now available for your son. I would appreciate if you could encourage your son to attend. Please find the revision timetable below. Mr Quane, Year 10 Pupil Progress Mentor

Subject	Teacher	Time	Room
English	Mr. Dooley	12.30 – 1.00pm Mon & Tues 3.30 - 4.30pm Thursday	MS2
Maths	Mr. Heaphy	1.00 – 1.30pm Mon, Tues & Wed	M5
Science	Miss. Ryan	12.30 – 1.00pm Mon, Tues & Wed	Lab4



PE DEPARTMENT NEWS

STM National Schools Athletics - Our Junior Athletics squad travelled to Lee Valley Athletics Stadium in London last Thursday, on a lovely summer's day. The junior squad had performed well in the first round of the competition but were unsure what to expect at the regional level, where they would be up against some of the strongest athletes in Cambridge, Hertfordshire and Essex.

Arriving at the venue our boys were amazed at the fantastic facilities and entered via the indoor High Performance Athletics centre, gathering around to look at the picture profiles of some of the United Kingdom's top class athletes (pictured on the right), who had previously competed or trained at the facility. Very inspirational for our aspiring athletes!





The morning's events quickly got underway and it was clear from the start that our boys were doing way more than holding their own; we in fact dominated the track events. There were numerous strong performances from the team but special mentions must go to our biggest point winners on the day:

- Daniel Adebayo who ran 12.4 seconds in the 100m and triple jumped a staggering distance of 11m.80.
- Herbert Zumbika from Year 7 who ran 26.6 seconds for 200m and threw 9.72m in the shot put.
- Chosen James who ran 13.4 seconds in the hurdles and jumped 4.77m in the long jump
- Isaac Smith who jumped 4.71m and ran 44.6 seconds in the 300m.

There were many notable performances in all areas and it was a strong team performance all round. The boys delivered event after event throughout the day and the black and white vests were constantly acquiring the top 3 track places. After a nervy wait at the end of the day the results were in, out of the seven regional finalists STM had come second, with a massive score of 434 points, losing out to the Kind Edmund School in Essex by just points! The school are so proud of their achievement in their first year in the competition, 4 more points and it could have been a National Final. Marginal gains! The final results:

- 1: King Edmund School, Essex - 437 points.
- 2: **St Thomas More School, Essex – 434 points**
- 3: The Champion School, Essex – 433 points
- 4: Brentwood Independent School, Essex – 405 points
- 5: Emmerson Park School, Essex – 404 points
- 6: Farlingaye High School, Suffolk- 328 points
- 7: The Perse School, Cambridgeshire – 311 points.

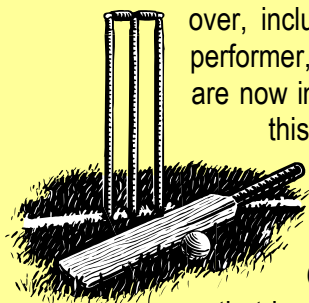


We were all disappointed but hugely proud of what the boys achieved. It will mean we are ready to come back fighting harder next Year, ensuring we reach a National Final. The team and staff had a great day and the amazing experience was topped off when some of the boys met GB 100m sprinter **Dwayne Chambers** (pictured below with our talented 800m runner Zack Wing).

Well done all involved!

Mr Perrotton

Essex Plate U14 Cricket v Chadwell Heath – STM won by 123 runs - An amazing batting performance from Dyos and Curtis saw them score 169 runs without the loss of a wicket to setup this quarter final win. Jess Dyos ended 90 not out with Matthew Curtis 42 not out. Not to be outdone by his teammates, Oscar Waller then took a hat-trick in one over, including the wicket of an Essex player. Jacob Tanousis from Year 8 was another standout performer, taking a wicket, a catch and producing a great piece of fielding to secure a run out. The team are now into the semi-final of the competition and have every chance of winning it if they can replicate this performance. Mr Bass.



Year 10 Cricket Essex Plate ¼ Final – Oaks Park 96. STM 97/8 (18.3 overs) - Having reached the quarter final with a convincing win at home to Robert Clack, a tricky tie away to Oaks Park was the reward. Winning the toss captain Coelho stuck the opposition in on a wicket that had a tint of green. A solid bowling performance restricted Oaks Park to 96. The highlight of the innings being Eggerton's excellent direct hit run out which removed Oaks Park's gun batsman cheaply. The chase started slow with wickets falling regularly until Gard stepped up to the plate and scored a sharp 18. Yet again it was wickets pegging us back against a spinner who could turn it on glass. Eggerton yet again had moments of brilliance and finished the game to the delight of the side with 9 balls remaining. A semi-final in the plate competition awaits in the sides first attempt in this tournament. An excellent effort by all. Mr Kearney.

DIARY DATES

Date	Event	Time
Monday 23 rd June	Year 10 Cricket v Shoebury (HOME)	
Wednesday 25 th June	Year 10 Cricket v Southend (AWAY) Year 8 Cricket v Southend (HOME)	4pm 4pm

EARLY WARNINGS

Date	Event	Time
Monday 30 th June	Year 8 Cricket v Westcliff (HOME)	4pm
Wednesday 1 st July	Year 7 Cricket v Eastwood	4pm
Thursday 3 rd July	Year 9 Cricket v Eastwood (HOME)	4pm