

16th June 2015

Dear Parent,

As we head towards the end of a very busy academic year. I would like to inform you of news and events over the coming weeks.

New Timetables

As our year 11's have now successfully completed the exam series for this academic year, we will be starting our **new academic timetable for 2015-16** on **Friday 19th June 2015**. Students will move up a year group i.e. year 7 becomes year 8 etc. The purpose of this is to allow students and staff to meet, agree targets and begin programmes of study ready for a positive start in September. Friday 19th June will be a provision day with students meeting with new provision leaders and form teachers. The school day will run as normal. Provision leaders will write to you in the near future to introduce themselves and the team.

Pathways

Key Stage 4 students will begin **taster pathways week beginning 22nd June**. These tasters will run over a two week period. Parents and students will be invited to a market place on **Monday 6th July 1 – 2:30 pm**. The purpose of the market place is to discuss with staff the most appropriate pathway for your child to follow. At the market place students will be given a pro-forma to complete ready to **start pathways on Tuesday 7th July**. Students may leave early if collected by parents. If parents do not attend the market place students must remain in school until 2:30 pm.

Ramadan

During Ramadan, those students who are fasting will be provided with a quiet space during lunchtime, students must speak to his/her provision leader who will then make arrangements. If students wish to spend lunchtime in contemplation, prayer and meditation this will also be available.

I would be grateful if parents, who wish to celebrate Eid-aul-Fitr with pupils remaining at home for a family celebration, write to me directly confirming this. I will be able to authorise up to two days leave.

Academic Review Day

The final academic review day of this academic year will take place on **Tuesday 21st July** from **10 am – 1:30 pm** provision leaders will write to you over the next two weeks confirming appointment times. Students must attend this appointment even if parents are unable to make it. I would like to emphasise the importance of these days as they support academic, attendance and personal progress.

Celebration Event

The end of year **Celebration event** will take place on **Monday 20th July, at 1 pm**. The venue will be Jan's Conference Centre. School will finish at 12:30 pm on this day. Students who have been nominated for an award will be transported by school minibus to Jan's Conference Centre. Parents of award winners will receive a special letter of invitation closer to the event.

If finishing early causes a problem for you or your child please contact your child's provision leader by **Monday 6th July**.

SMSC Day

All students will take part in a Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural day on **Thursday 2nd July**. The aim of the day is "keeping safe". Students will explore their roles and responsibilities in our modern world. Each provision have organised the day for the students.

Domestic Abuse Awareness

Key Stage 4 students (including current year 9's) will take part in an awareness session on **Wednesday 24th June**. Key Stage 3 student will take part in an awareness session on **Wednesday 8th July**. The sessions will take place in the form of a myths and reality quiz surrounding domestic abuse.

Students will also discuss hand-outs about historical attitudes towards domestic abuse, historical police transcripts and agony aunt letters to highlight safety planning and support services.

If these awareness session cause concern for students, provision leaders will ensure staff are available to support of necessary.

End of term and School Opening 2015-16

School closes to students on **Tuesday 21st July at 1:30 pm**. School **re opens** to students on **Wednesday 2nd September**. I will write to you again before the end of the academic year explaining procedures and start times on Wednesday 2nd September.

As you can see we have much happening as we head towards the end of term. Staff continue to deliver the very best education in order to give your child the very best opportunities.

I would like to also thank you for your continued support to your child and the staff at St Thomas's Centre.

Yours sincerely

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Head Teacher



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