



17th December 2024

Dear Student, Parent/Guardian, and Carers,

I write to you after a very positive half term here at Thomas Becket Catholic School. There has been lots of good news shared via our social media accounts.

Dates for your diary

- Thursday 19th December – Christmas dinner day, also, non-uniform day (Christmas Jumpers) with a £1 donation for CAFOD
- Friday 20th December is the last day of term; **school will close at 12.30pm for all pupils.**
- Monday 6th January 2024 – term 3 begins. All pupils return to school.
- Thursday 16th January 2025 – Y11 Parents Evening
- Thursday 23rd January 2025 – Y13 Parents Evening
- Thursday 6th February 2025 – Y9 Options Evening

Staff updates

It is with sadness that I am informing you that at the end of this term, the following staff will be leaving us:

- Mrs Brown – Teacher of History and Head of KS4
- Mrs Lewis – Teacher of Science
- Mr Westell – Teacher of English
- Mrs Gurney – Deputy Raising Standards Leader
- Miss Watson – Teacher of Art (Maternity Leave)
- Ms Hassan – Teacher of Science (Maternity Leave)
- Mrs Duckworth – Teacher of Maths and Head of Year 9 (Maternity Leave)
- Mrs Palmer – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Retirement)

We wish all the staff leaving the best of luck in their journey beyond Thomas Becket.

I am delighted to announce that there have been some internal updates to the personnel of the pastoral team.

I can confirm that the Raising Standards Leaders for each year group from January 2025 will be as below.

Please see their direct e-mails below where they can be contacted: -

Head of Year 7	Mrs Lloyd	SLloyd@tbcs.nor.olicatschools.org	Pastoral Support Year 7	Mrs Jagirdar
Head of Year 8	Mrs Budulean	dbudulean@tbcs.nor.olicatschools.org	Pastoral Support Year 8	Mr Barbu (New staff)
Head of Year 9	Mrs Gipki	Agipki@tbcs.nor.olicatschools.org	Pastoral Support Year 9	Mr Patel (New staff)





Head of Year 10	Ms Burgess	RBurgess@tbcn.nor.olicatschools.org	Pastoral Support Year 10	TBC
Head of Year 11	Ms Donovan	VDonovan@tbcn.nor.olicatschools.org	Pastoral Support Year 11	Mrs Patel
Head of VI Form				

Attendance

As we come to the end of a school term, I'd like to count on your support to encourage your child to aim for 100% school attendance when we come back in the new year.

Attendance is monitored daily, it is important that you contact school to inform us of the reason for your child's absence by email, amcmahon@tbcn.nor.olicatschools.org Alternatively, you can call school on **01604 493211 ext.337 or Option 2.**

Following safeguarding requirements, a home visit may need to take place. Children absent from school for three days or more will receive a visit from the Attendance Team.

Children with an attendance below 90% are logged with the Local Authority and the Education Welfare Service. For children whose attendance does not improve, a four-week monitoring period will take place and parents and students may be invited into school for a meeting with the attendance team and Head of Year for a Parenting Contract.

When absent from school, it is good practice to provide medical evidence when your child is absent. Medical evidence examples:

- If you visit the doctor or walk in centre, collect a stamped appointment card.
- If your child is prescribed medication, please email a photograph of any medication to amcmahon@tbcn.nor.olicatschools.org
- Medical evidence is required for all children who have less than 90% attendance.

School plays an important role in your child's development, both academically and socially. Pupils with poor attendance are **five times less likely to achieve five GCSE pass grades** and this can have a major impact on their future career and further education options.

If you have concerns around your child's attendance, speak to their form tutor at the earliest opportunity. We can provide support to tackle any issues.





Uniform reminder

We are very proud and delighted with the smart appearance of our pupils, this is often commented on by visitors to the school. A huge thank you for your support.

We expect all pupils to be in the correct, full school uniform. Pupils who are not in the correct uniform will be placed into Learning Recovery. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter and your support for the standards we wish to uphold as a school. The link to our policy is here - [download.asp](#)

Below is a summary of our uniform expectations:



As a reminder, we expect the following:

- Pupils must wear their blazers at all times in the school unless a teacher allows them to take it off during lessons.
- Shirts must be tucked in.
- Top shirt buttons must be done up.
- Pupils must wear their school tie at the correct length.
- Pupils must wear the appropriate footwear – black, polishable, and low heels. No trainers or plimsols.
- Hoodies are not allowed.
- Jewellery – only a wristwatch, small stud earrings in each ear lobe and a crucifix under the shirt allowed. **No other jewellery is allowed.** Pupils will be asked to remove jewellery at tutor time. If they refuse, this will be confiscated and collected at the end of the day.
- No artificial nails or eye lashes
- Pupils must bring a rucksack bag to school that fits an A4 folder



THOMAS BECKET CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Becket Way, Kettering Road North, Northampton, NN3 6HT

HEADTEACHER Mr Paul McCahill BSc (Hons) NPQH MA SLE

WEBSITE www.thomasbecket.org.uk

PHONE 01604 493211

EMAIL office@thomasbecket.org.uk



Good news

I hope you are all able to access my weekly [Headteacher Bulletins Thomas Becket Catholic School - Headteacher Bulletins](#) These are a quick and easy listen to find out what events have been happening in school over the course of each week. Please also keep an eye out for the end of term newsletter that will be shared before the end of term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all once again for all your support. I hope that you have a restful, joyous, and relaxing Christmas holidays and a Happy New Year!

God bless,

#TeamTBCS
#MissiontoExcellence

