



25 October 2024

Dear student, parent / guardian, and carers,

Re: End of term letter

As we approach the end of this half term, I would like to thank you for all your continued support as we work together as a school community, raising standards and transforming our pupils' lives in building horizons through love, faith, and excellence. We have had a highly successful start to the new academic year with the vast majority of pupils focused on their learning and doing their absolute best every single day.

We thought you would like a breakdown of all the achievements Thomas Becket Catholic School has awarded our superstar pupils. We are extremely proud of TBCS learners, and we want everyone to know about their great achievements. We have awarded **90,928 achievement points** since the beginning of the academic year; this includes:

- 26,749 awarded for being ready, respectful and safe
- 16,332 awarded for excellent behaviour
- 7,890 awarded for excellent progress
- 4,103 awarded for achievement
- 23,132 awarded for excellent effort
- 12,722 awarded for other positive behaviour
- And many golden and platinum tickets for demonstrating excellence towards our five core values

A positive and respectful learning environment is essential for everyone's success. We expect all students to exhibit behaviour that reflects our school's core Catholic values. This means being kind and considerate to peers and to staff, following school rules, and actively participating in their learning are important. Encouraging your child to approach school with a positive attitude, curiosity, and a willingness to engage, will set them on the path to success. We believe that a collaborative effort between home and school will foster these important traits.

You will be aware that our behaviour policy is based on the belief that good behaviour is not automatically learned but needs to be taught and that the support of parents in this is crucial. To ensure there are clear and consistent high expectations we have 3 clear school rules "*Ready, Respectful and Safe*". Our behaviour policy code of conduct clearly outlines our expectations for all types of behaviour both in and out of lessons. A copy can be accessed [[click here](#)]. There are also clear consequences for not following the rules and there is a clear description of the sort of





behaviour, which is unacceptable and will result in a consequence. This is all contained within our whole school behaviour policy document that can be accessed [[click here](#)].

It is important for me to reiterate; at Thomas Becket, the vast majority of pupils take a pride in learning and doing the right thing. However, I must be clear in that we will not accept behaviours that disrupt learning, disrespect staff, or cause persistent disruption in and out of lessons from a small minority of pupils. All pupils at Thomas Becket have the right to learn and teachers have the right to teach. We wish for a respectful community and while that respect is built on good relationships, it depends upon the certainty that unacceptable behaviour will have consequences. Our well-established clear system of consequences helps us rapidly deal with and thus eliminate low-level disruptive behaviour, non-compliance, and refusal to complete set work in lessons.

Studies show that immediate sanctions support good behaviour in schools and help students to start the next day afresh. I appreciate and fully recognise that same day detentions may be inconvenient for some parents/carers, but so is disruptive behaviour in the classroom for the 30 other pupils in the class. This is why learning remains to be the focus and therefore good behaviour/attitude to learning must be the priority.

All behaviour incidents (positive and negative) are logged onto Class Charts. The benefit of Class Charts is that the information is live, and as a parent/carer you will see all logs immediately when they occur. Class Charts is also the platform that we will let you know if your child has been issued with a detention. It is therefore essential that you have set up your account. If you have forgotten your login details, do not worry. We can provide them for you via the form tutor and are more than happy to help, should you be unsure of how to use the app. If you have any questions, please contact your child's form tutor or email office@tbcs.nor.olicatschools.org

I wanted to take this opportunity to also remind you of our uniform policy [[click here](#)]. Our high standards in professional appearance continue to remain a focus every half term as our pupils deserve the best. We are immensely proud and delighted with the smart appearance of our pupils, this is often commented on by visitors to the school. We expect all pupils to be in the correct, full school uniform on return after the half term break. 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.

Below is a summary of our uniform expectations:





 **UNIFORM**
2023/24



Blazer
Black with school badge on pocket



Shirt
White and buttoned to the collar



Jumper (Optional)
Grey with embroidered TB logo



Trousers
Plain black suit trousers
No jeans, cords, skinny fit, leggings, joggers or linen



Skirt
Grey check, pleated



School Tie
With TB logo showing



Shoes
Black, polishable and low heeled
No boots, plimsolls or trainers

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.
- Pupils must bring a rucksack bag to school that fits an A4 folder.

I hope you have a restful and enjoyable half term break, and we look forward to welcoming pupils back refreshed and ready to work hard over next half term.

God bless,

Headteacher



RESPECT



TRUTH



COMPASSION



JUSTICE



FAITH