

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

هاتف : ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ ٤ ٩٧١ +

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OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 28th October 2022

To: The Parents of students in Years 1-13 :
WEEKLY CIRCULAR AHEAD OF WEEK TEN

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. We trust that this update finds you and your families safe and healthy. Please read on for all the latest updates. Information that is still relevant from previous circulars will be referenced from there so that it is not repetitive.

ALL PARENTS PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR ALL FIRST TERM FEE PAYMENTS WAS 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022. ANY STUDENT WHOSE FIRST TERM FEES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID WILL BE CONSIDERED OUTSTANDING AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ISSUE CORRECTED ASSESSMENT PAPERS, OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS ETC.

NATIONAL BOOK MONTH & CELEBRATING A LOVE OF READING-

All parents from Years 4-10 please see attached circular with this update.

1) LONDON BOARD EXAM REGISTRATION FORMS FOR YEARS 11 & 13:

Parents of students in Years 11 and 13 are reminded to please check the London Board Exam Registration forms that have been sent with the children last week. Payment for London Board Exams must be made through Skiplly.

2) MOBILE PHONES ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY –YEARS 12 AND 13:

Parents of A-Level students are notified that we have sent students and parents an Acceptable Use Policy for Mobile Phones for A-level students .

3) SAVE THE DATE, 17TH NOVEMBER 2022-GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2021-2022:

Parents of students in the Graduating Class of 2021-2022 are notified to kindly save the date, 17th November 2022 with regards to the Graduation Ceremony. Please see the attached GRADUATION NOTICE for additional information.



4) SPORTS MEET 16TH FEBRUARY 2023 (YEARS 5-13) TRY OUT SCHEDULE :

Parents are requested to kindly check the attached link sent on 14th and 21st October 2022.

5) CLIMATE SURVEY FOR PARENTS, STUDENTS & STAFF OF YEAR 8 TO YEAR 13:

As part of its effort to improve awareness of environmental issues in the UAE, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment is conducting its annual survey of parents, educators and students in Year 8 and above. The survey will take about 15 minutes to finish, and should be completed by **November 4**. The links to the surveys are below – we appreciate your cooperation in completing the same before the deadline. Links are available here as well as on the school website.

The links to the surveys are below

- [Student survey](#)
- [Staff survey](#)
- [Parents survey](#)

6) FIRST REPORT DAY & PARENT TEACHER MEETING - SATURDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER 2022-SAVE THE DATE :

Parents are requested to kindly check the attached circular to this update for more details.

7) ACTIVE LEARN PASSWORDS :

Parents please note that the Active Learn Passwords will be sent to your child's school email. These are being sent only to those students who have paid for the Active Learn. Kindly check your child's school email for the same.

8) FACE MASKS NO LONGER MANDATORY FOR STAFF & STUDENTS:

Please note that we had sent parents an update on the 27th of September about a key change to protocols for masks released by KHDA , effective 28th September. Face masks are no longer mandatory for staff and students while on the premises in private schools but must still be worn on the school buses and other public transport like the metro and public buses etc. We still recommend that children who have underlying health issues or are vulnerable , take precautions by using a face mask.

9) UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FROM KHDA:

Parents are requested to kindly view the image below to have a clear picture of the latest Covid-19 protocols released by KHDA. The quarantine period for Covid positive cases is now FIVE days. However students can only return to school on the sixth day if they are symptom-free. If your child still has symptoms at the end of the 5 day quarantine period, kindly email our school doctor for further instructions. (dayani-smchs@smgeducation.org)

10) NO SHARP OBJECTS TO BE SENT WITH CHILDREN IN YEARS ONE THROUGH THREE:

Parents of children in years One through Three must check your children's pouches and bags in the morning to ensure that there are no sharp objects like scissors, compasses, steel rulers , paper cutters, paper clips, etc which can be potentially dangerous to the child and other children in the class. Please do not send any toys with them either unless specified in the class group email as may be required for some lessons.

11) FOURTH SUBJECT DROP FORM FOR YEAR 12 AND 13:

Parents please note that the subject drop form for those students of Years 12 and 13 who may wish to drop the fourth subject is available on the school website.

12) IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS, PARTICULARLY BY STUDENTS IN YEARS 9-11:

Parents are requested to carefully read the separate circular issued in this regard on 16th September.

13) GL CAT-4 TEST FOR YEARS FOUR, SIX, EIGHT AND TEN ONLY:

Parents of students in Years Four, Six, Eight and Ten are requested to kindly check the separate circular regarding the GL CAT4 examination issued on 23rd September. Please email the skiply receipt indicating payment for the same to your child's class teacher. Please find the schedule below for the GL CAT-4 examinations. **CHILDREN MUST BRING A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE – ONLY A TABLET OR LAPTOP (THE TEST WILL NOT RUN ON A MOBILE PHONE) ON THE DAY THE TEST HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THEIR CLASS.**



SCHEDULE FOR CAT-4 EXAMINATIONS

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 st NOVEMBER | YEAR 4 A B C D E & F |
| 2 nd NOVEMBER | YEAR 6 A B C D E & F |
| 3 rd NOVEMBER | YEAR 8 A B C D E & F |
| 4 th NOVEMBER | YEAR 10 A B C D E & F |

14) ADMISSION TO A-LEVELS (PARENTS OF CURRENT YEAR 11 STUDENTS):

Parents of Year 11 students are requested to kindly go through the separate circular on A-Level admissions issued on 23rd September.

15) WELLBEING WEDNESDAYS:

With a view to improving overall student wellbeing and following through with some suggestions from students themselves, the school will champion Wellbeing Wednesdays as the first in a series of initiatives to improve overall student wellbeing. ***We would request that every child bring in ANY ONE FRUIT of their choice and ANY ONE DAIRY (milk, laban , yoghurt, a fruit juice could substitute for those children who are lactose intolerant)*** for breakfast every Wednesday, that they will have together in class first thing in the morning during the morning registration with their class teachers.

16) PREDICTED GRADES POLICY FOR YEARS 12 & 13 :

We would like to remind all parents and students to carefully go through this Policy that is available on our school website. The situation that unfolded over the last two years made many children realise, albeit too late the true value of being consistent with their study habits and not waiting until the last minute before exams to prepare and study. It is always best for every child to be **CONSISTENT AND HIGHLY REGULAR** with their study and ensure that they maintain a good level of attainment across all their assessment opportunities and prepare as well as they can for their Board Examinations. This will also help them to achieve better predicted grades as every assessment and examination counts towards the calculation of the same.

17) SUBJECT CHANGE POLICY , YEARS 9 TO 13:

We would like to request all parents of children in these year groups to please go through the Subject Change Policy which is available in the Parents' Info section of the school website.

18) IBT ARABIC EXAM FOR ARABIC A- ARAB SPEAKERS FROM YEARS FIVE THROUGH TEN :

Parents of native Arabic speakers in Years Five through Ten are requested to check the separate circular sent earlier and complete the necessary formalities at the earliest. **Please email the skippy receipt indicating payment of AED 35/- to the class teacher.**

19) IBT ARABIC EXAM FOR ARABIC B- NON-ARAB SPEAKERS FROM YEARS FIVE , SEVEN and NINE ONLY :

Parents of non-native speakers in Years Five , Seven and Nine are requested to check the separate circular sent earlier and complete the necessary formalities at the earliest. **Please email the skipily receipt indicating payment of AED 35/- to the class teacher.**

20) YEAR 11 STUDENTS REQUIRED TO HAND IN THEIR PHONES DURING MORNING REGISTRATION :

Please refer to our circular of 16th September 2022.

21) SOCIAL MEDIA FREQUENT CHECKS BY PARENTS FOR SECONDARY & UPPER PRIMARY CHILDREN :

Please refer to our circular of 16th September 2022.

22) PARENT ACCESS TO THE CAMPUS AT HOMETIME:

Please refer to our circular of 16th September 2022.

23) NO DISTRIBUTION OF ANY ITEMS (cakes/ candies/ chocolate/ and even non-edible items) FOR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS:

Parents are reminded that while the class would be happy to sing for your child on his/her birthday , there should be STRICTLY NO DISTRIBUTION of any food/ sweets or even non-edible items like small toys etc on your child's birthday.

24) PARENT'S' APPOINTMENTS WITH TEACHERS:

Parents are requested to kindly email a particular teacher that you wish to meet for any urgent reason. Please specify if you would like a telephone call, a zoom meeting or a face-to-face meeting. Please include your telephone number in the email. Teachers will get back to you.

25) CRITICAL AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE REQUIRED IF ANY STUDENT TESTS POSITIVE, EVEN AT THE WEEKEND: :

Please refer to our circular dated 2nd September.

26) ONLINE LESSONS ONLY FOR ACTIVE COVID-19 CASES/ SYMPTOMATIC CLOSE CONTACTS:

Please refer to our circular dated 2nd September.

27) STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ID:

Please refer to our circular dated 2nd September. **Please do not use the class group email to communicate with teachers. Kindly email teachers directly on their school email ID.**

28) GOOGLE CLASSROOM:

Please refer to our circular dated 2nd September.

29) NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES FOR STUDENTS OF YEARS 1-8 (EXCEPT FOR MOBILE PHONE) :

Please refer to our circular dated 2nd September.

30) PARENTS' WHATSAPP GROUPS :

Please refer to our circular of 16th September 2022.

31) OWN TRANSPORT DROP OFF AND PICK UP GATE :

Please refer to our circular of 16th September 2022.

32) SCHOOL OFFICE WEEKEND SCHEDULES :

The school office will work on Second and Fourth Saturdays from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. The school office will remain CLOSED on First and Third Saturdays and ALL Sundays.

33) SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP (Boys' uniforms/ sports uniforms for boys and girls and hoodies) :

The Uniform Shop will be open only on Second and Fourth Saturdays from 8:00 until 11:00 am. Students have been accessing the uniform store for the first hour in the mornings after their class registration.

34) PAYMENT OF TERM FEES :

We would like to remind ALL parents that timely fee payments are important for the sustained functioning of the school. We urge parents not to delay fee payments and ensure that you have paid well within the stipulated fee payment window for each term.

35) SCHOOL CANTEEN:

The school canteen has been operational from Monday, 5th September 2022. However we strongly discourage primary students from buying food at the canteen, rather they would benefit from healthy snacks/ food carried from home. Parents must keep in mind that crowded canteen lines are not viable for younger children and as much as we do try to streamline the queues, it is not always possible to whittle down the crowds.

36) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-2023:

Please check all information related to the same from our WELCOME BACK CIRCULAR dated 26th August 2022. The legend of key dates is below.

| | |
|--|---|
| 24th October | Diwali Holiday |
| 18th November | Holiday |
| 1st & 2nd December | Government Holidays |
| 12th -30th December (inclusive) | Winter break |
| 17th January - 2nd February (inclusive) | First Term examinations in the morning session and regular lessons after break. |
| 3rd February | End of Term Holiday |
| 15th to 24th March 2023 and 10th to 14th April 2023 (inclusive) | Mock Exams for Years 11 and 13 |
| 27th March to 7th April 2023 | Spring Break |
| 20th and 21st April 2023 | Government Holidays |
| 4th and 5th May 2023 | Final exams (Years 1-10 and year 12) in the morning session and regular lessons after break |
| 8th to 19th May 2023 | Final exams (Years 1-10 and Year 12 in the morning and students go home after the exam. |
| 22nd May | Holiday |
| 26th June | Last day for students and staff |

37) STUDENT ABSENCES MUST BE INFORMED BY PARENTS:

All parents are requested to kindly inform the class teacher via email whenever a child is absent, even if it is just for one day. A simple email with the reason for the absence will suffice but is mandatory. Unaccounted for absences will be marked as unjustified and will be reflected on students' progress reports.

38) BOARD EXAMINATION FEES:

We would like you to be informed well in advance that EDEXCEL LONDON BOARD EXAMINATION FEES will be collected in the month of NOVEMBER 2022 for students in years ELEVEN and THIRTEEN. We trust that this will help you to budget accordingly. You can check your KHDA Parent-School contract for the BOARD EXAM FEE AMOUNT for each year group.

39) URGENT QUERIES AND CONCERNS: If you have any urgent queries and concerns, kindly send an email to our Vice Principal , Ms. Lise-Ann on l.pinto-smchs@smgeducation.org and she will get back to you. Please include your telephone number in case she needs to call you.

We take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a safe and happy weekend .

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



Links :

Subject Drop Application Form:

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SUBJECT-DROP-APPLICATION.pdf>

Circular dated 2-Sep-2022 :

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/WEEKLY-CIRCULAR-2-SEPTEMBER-2022.pdf>

Circular dated 16-Sep-2022 :

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/CYBERBULLYING-BULLYING-SANCTIONS-AND-CONSEQUENCES-REMINDER-CIRCULAR.pdf>

Circular dated 14-Oct-2022 :

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/WEEKLY-CIRCULAR-14-OCTOBER-1.pdf>

Circular dated 21-Oct-2022 :

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/WEEKLY-CIRCULAR-21-OCTOBER.pdf>

Admission to A-Level:

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/ADMISSION-TO-A-LEVELS-for-the-ACADEMIC-YEAR-2023-2024.pdf>

Subject Change Policy:

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Subject-Change-Policy-2022.pdf>

IBT Arabic Exam for Arabic A:

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/IBT-LETTER-ARABIC-A.pdf>

IBT Arabic Exam for Arabic B:

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/IBT-LETTER-ARABIC-B.pdf>



GCSE Graduation Ceremony For The Class Of 2021-2022

The GCSE GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE CLASS OF 2021-2022 will be held on THURSDAY, 17th NOVEMBER 2022 at 5:00 pm in the MAIN HALL AT ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL DUBAI.

There will be a rehearsal on Thursday, 10th November 2022 from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm in the Main Hall. Students will receive their invitations and Graduation Gowns on the day of the rehearsal . The cost of AED 230/- for the hiring of the Graduation Gown as well as 1 Graduation DVD and 1 DVD with the photographs should be paid on the day of the Rehearsal. **Please bring the Exact Amount.** Only TWO adults per graduate can be accommodated in the Hall. No exceptions can be made due to space constraints.

ALL STUDENTS WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE GRADUATION CEREMONY **MUST COME FOR THE REHEARSAL. STUDENTS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO COLLECT THEIR GOWNS FROM 12:00 PM -1:30 PM ON THE DAY OF THE REHEARSAL. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE REHEARSAL WILL BEGIN AT 2:00 PM SHARP. STUDENTS WHO DO NOT ATTEND THE REHEARSAL WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND THE GRADUATION CEREMONY.**

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE
& ENVIRONMENT



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التغير المناخي
والبيئة

As part of its effort to improve awareness of environmental issues in the UAE, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment is conducting its annual survey of parents, educators and students in Grade 7/ Year 8 and above.

The survey will take about 15 minutes to finish and **should be completed by November 4.**

The links to the surveys are below – we appreciate your cooperation in forwarding these to your school community.

- [Student survey](#)
- [Staff survey](#)
- [Parents survey](#)

This survey made for UAE - MOCCE. The Ministry is keen to survey the opinions of community members to plan the future of the environment in the UAE over the next 50 years. So we kindly ask you to participate in answering this survey.



OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 28th October 2022

**To: Parents (Year One to Year Thirteen) : First Parent-Teacher Meeting /
First Report Day/ PARENT-TEACHER MEETING DAY FACE-TO-FACE**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Marys. The first Parent-Teacher Meeting / Report Day of the academic year will be a wonderful opportunity for you and your children's class teachers to share insightful information about them. The First Parent -Teacher Meeting has been **SCHEDULED TO Saturday, 26TH November 2022 from 7:30 am until 11:00 am.** All parents are not compelled to attend the meeting and only those parents who wish to meet their children's class teachers may attend. Meeting slots are as follows.

Class SIMS ROLL ORDER LIST: Numbers 1-10 (7:30 – 8:30), 11-20 (8:30-9:30), 21-30 (10:00-11:00)

A-Level students will be given a different schedule in class and they will explain to you how that will work. Report cards will be published on the SIMS PARENT APP in advance, however we will not be able to publish report cards of children who have outstanding first term fees. Reports cannot be published if fees are paid at the last minute as the fee deadline was 30th September. (For example if fees are paid a few days before the report day, reports cannot be published immediately) . Kindly ensure that all outstanding fees are paid immediately if you have not yet done so.

Parents are asked to kindly jot down important points you wish to discuss with your child's class teacher and to not spend more than five minutes with the teacher as a courtesy to other parents. However, if you feel you need to spend a longer time with the class teacher, then it is advisable to make a private appointment with the class teacher at a later date by contacting them via email so they will schedule an appointment based on their availability.

Please send a similar email to any particular subject teacher that you feel you might need to meet personally and a private appointment can be made on another day.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)**

