



OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**To: The Parents of students in Years 1-13**

**WEEKLY CIRCULAR AHEAD OF WEEK TWENTY-TWO**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. We hope that this update finds you all happy and in good health.

**NEW**

- **ADMISSIONS FOR YEAR ONE FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025.**
- **ATHLETIC MEET, 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 – Please see attached circular.**
- **OVERSEAS TRIP FOR STUDENTS FROM YEARS 7-13 – JUNE 2024. Please see attached.**
- **BEAT DIABETES WALK, 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024- YEARS 9, 10 AND 12.**
- **MID-TERM ASSESSMENTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN MARCH 2024 (Only 1 Assessment / Test per subject) Years 1-10 & 12.**

**ALL PARENTS PLEASE NOTE THAT THE WINDOW FOR PAYMENT OF THE SECOND TERM FEES WAS BETWEEN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> OF DECEMBER 2023 AND THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF JANUARY 2024. FEES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PAID ARE NOW CONSIDERED OUTSTANDING. ANY STUDENT WHOSE FEES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID WILL BE CONSIDERED OUTSTANDING AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ISSUE ANY OFFICIAL SCHOOL DOCUMENTS, EXAMINATION ANSWER SCRIPTS, REPORT CARDS, ETC.**

**1) ADMISSIONS TO YEAR ONE FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024- 2025:** We would like to inform all parents that the admissions notice for **YEAR ONE for** the Academic Year 2024 – 2025 has been uploaded to the school website and we have attached it to this circular as well.

**2) ADMISSIONS TO YEARS TWO- TEN FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024- 2025:** We would like parents to please note that since places for these year groups are limited, the admissions notice for years 2-10 will be available in the last week of February 2024.

**3) ATHLETIC MEET, 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024- FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE QUALIFIED FOR THE FINALS:** Please see attached circular.

**4) OVERSEAS TRIP FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-13- JUNE 2024:** Parents are invited to check the attached Brochure and those parents who are interested are invited to come to school on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 10:00 am to the Main Hall to meet representatives from Scravel. There are also contact numbers on the brochure for parents who wish to contact them directly in advance.

**5) BEAT DIABETES WALK, 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 FOR YEARS 9, 10 AND 12:** We have sent a separate circular to parents of students in these year groups. Please save the date for this event. Parents are most welcome to join our school group. Children aged 8-12 have to pay AED 10 and children aged 12 years and above have to pay AED 20.

**6) SPRING BREAK CHANGE IN RE-OPENING DATE AS INFORMED BY KHDA:** Parents **are** hereby informed that we have just been informed that the school will resume after the Spring Break on 15<sup>th</sup> **April 2024 and not 8<sup>th</sup> April** as per their originally approved calendar. PLEASE MAKE A DUE NOTE OF THIS CHANGE.

**7) 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 attached to this weekly notice. **Parents are reminded that we do not admit NON-ST. MARY'S STUDENTS TO OUR A-LEVEL PROGRAMME.**

## **8) SOCIAL MEDIA FREQUENT CHECKS BY PARENTS FOR SECONDARY & UPPER PRIMARY CHILDREN:**

Parents of secondary and upper primary children are strongly encouraged to kindly make frequent checks of your child's use of social media. We have seen in many cases that minor children are being sought out on Instagram, Snapchat and other platforms by much older individuals for chats and conversations. It is important for parents to know who their children are conversing with to protect them from any potential safeguarding issues. We would also like to remind parents about your children's use of inappropriate content and language on Social Media Platforms which you will be aware of only if you make frequent checks of the same. Please have your child remove himself/herself from private social media groups that are not encouraged or recommended by us at St. Mary's. The school cannot take responsibility for private groups started by students, and we strongly discourage the formation of these groups as well as discourage student participation in them. It is once again important here that ALL PARENTS check your children's digital activity frequently including group activity if your child is part of private groups created by students.

## **9) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024:**

Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2023-2024 that has been attached to this circular for your easy reference. This will help you plan ahead. If the regulators make any changes to the same, we will inform you immediately. Please note that only emergency medical leave will be approved during school days. Leave for family holidays and celebrations must coincide with the school holidays as per the KHDA calendar. Leave for events like graduations, weddings, parties etc will not be granted during school days and if absences like this occur during exams, there will be no re-exams in that case. We expect parents to respect these dates and not request leave during school days.

## **KEY DATES IN THE APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR**

**Parents are strongly reminded not to plan holidays/ celebrations and other events outside the approved holiday slots in the calendar as these will not be approved.**

15 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024	Sports Day Years 5-13 (subject to change)
23 <sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2024	Sports Day Years 1-4
11 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2024 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024	Mock Examinations years 11 and 13
<b>25<sup>th</sup> MARCH – 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024 (inclusive)</b>	<b>Spring Break. SCHOOL RE-OPENS 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024</b>

9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024	Eid Al Fitr (subject to government declaration)
15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> MAY 2024	Final exams in parallel with regular lessons
17 <sup>th</sup> MAY 2024	Study Holiday
20 <sup>th</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> MAY 2024	Final Exams and students go home at 11:00 am
17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024	Eid Al Adha (subject to government declaration)
28 <sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024	Report Day & Last working day for students and teachers

**Please note that the GL EXAMS usually take place during the month of May and June.**

**10) PREDICTED GRADES POLICY FOR YEARS 12 & 13:** Please refer to previous circulars.

**11) SUBJECT CHANGE POLICY, YEARS 9 TO 13:** Please refer to previous circulars.

**12) 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](mailto:l.pinto-smchs@smgeducation.org) and she will get back to you. Please include your telephone number in case she needs to call you. As shared with you, Lise-Ann is also our school's Wellbeing Champion and so she may be contacted via email for any wellbeing issues that you would like to urgently discuss.

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

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
(Principal)





# Emirates Airline Festival of Literature 2024

After five long months of perseverance and preparations, Saintz students have made us proud by winning awards and recognitions in the Litfest competitions!

Our champion readers came second in The Chevron Reader's Cup, Arabic Primary!

Team "Moonlight" consisted of:  
**Armia Rady**  
**Karas Kamal**  
**Mohammed Ahmed**  
**Yawna Barkil**



These super readers placed third in Chevron Reader's Cup, English Secondary!

"The Prose" team members:  
**Aliza Asif**  
**Isabella Lauren Mayobga**  
**Mariya Unnisa Begum**  
**Qazi Umer Farooq**

**Ozel Alicia Fernandez**, our little performer won an honorable mention in the Emirates NBD Poetry for All competition.



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**To All Winners!**



# The Poetic Hearts 2024

SGI Gulf's prestigious Poetic Hearts 2024 saw many talented writers from our school take part in it. One of our young poets got selected to perform her work on stage at The Poetic Hearts poetry symposium on 8th February, 2024. In a packed auditorium with dignitaries, senior poets, young poets from Saintz and students from other schools attending, our Samarah Gracias from 10A gave a stellar rendition of her poem, Pioneers of the Earth.

# Congrats!



**Samarah Assumptia Gracias**, our young poetess selected to perform at the Poetic Hearts stage.



Our young poets who submitted their works for the poetic hearts competition and got a chance to attend this prestigious event

# Proud OF YOU!



# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

P.O. Box: 52232, DUBAI - U.A.E.

Tel. : +(971) 4 3370252

E-mail : maryscol@emirates.net.ae

Fax : +(971) 4 3368119

website : www.stmarysdubai.com



## مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

بريد إلكتروني : maryscol@emirates.net.ae

موقع ويب : www.stmarysdubai.com

هاتف : ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ ٤ ٩٧١ +

فاكس : ٣٣٦٨١١٩ ٤ ٩٧١ +

OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE: Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024

To: Parents of students from Years Five to Thirteen (Only those who have qualified for the Finals) :

### **10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 ATHLETIC MEET FOR YEARS 5 TO 13**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. We would like to invite you to read the update on our Athletic Meet for Years 5 – 13.

**This year the Police Officers Grounds where we usually have our Sports Day is being renovated and therefore, we have scheduled an Athletic Meet on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at GEMS AMERICAN ACADEMY AL BARSHA between 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.**

**Parents of students who have qualified for the races are cordially invited to join the school community for this event and cheer the children in a spirit of healthy competition. Athletes will be taken to the venue by bus and brought back to school. Buses will leave school at 8:00 am sharp. Parents may come directly to the venue.**

Please make sure that your child has enough water and snacks on that day. ***Those children who use an inhalator must also have it with them.*** All students must be in their proper sports uniform. **Athletes who are competing are permitted to wear their house T-shirt, with a pair of running shorts up to the knee, running shoes (with synthetic turf spikes allowed) and socks.**

**However, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2024, we will conduct some fun sports events which will be A STUDENT AND STAFF ONLY EVENT.**

Yours sincerely,



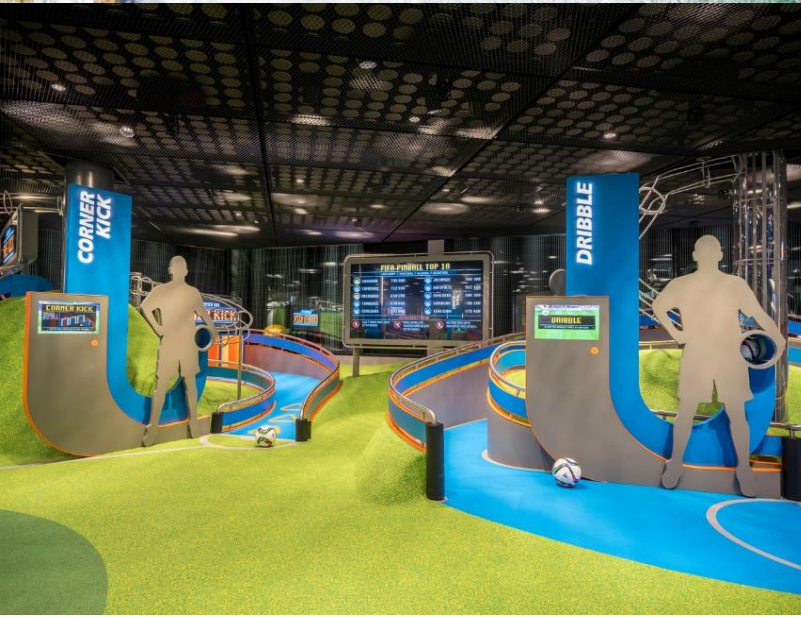
Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
(Principal)







**EDUCATIONAL TOUR OF SWITZERLAND  
& GERMANY**







- Switzerland is One of the Countries with the Highest Quality of Life. According to the Social Progress Report, “medical”, “nutritional” and “access to basic knowledge” is where the country shines. Its index is 88.87 out of 100.
- Switzerland Has 208 Mountains and has more high peaks than any other country in Europe with 48 that are above 4000 meters.
- It’s no wonder Switzerland is known internationally for its high-quality chocolate, but do you know just how much chocolate is made and consumed there? Approximately 180,000 tons of chocolate is made, and about 11 kilos of chocolate per person are eaten per year. there is even have a chocolate train!
- Switzerland is one of the world leaders in recycling and waste management. The Swiss successfully separate and recycle organic and recyclable waste whilst converting the rest to energy. Moreover, Switzerland provides nearly all CO2-friendly electricity to its citizens.
- Switzerland’s Gotthard Tunnel Is the Longest in the World



- Germany is the EU's largest economy.
- German is the third most widely taught language in the world.
- The Black Forest is a large, forested mountain range located in south-western Germany. This region measures 160 kilometres in length and 60 kilometres in width.
- The Black Forest has got this name from the general dark color of the pine trees that grow in the region.



The cosmopolitan city by the water combines creative urban life with nature in all its glory. Zurich is abuzz with activity day and night with its countless events, diverse venues.

And if you're after rest and relaxation, you can be in the Swiss mountains in less than an hour.

## DAY 1

- Arrive at Zurich
- Explore the beautiful city of Zurich.
- Proceed to Hotel
- Dinner & Overnight stay in the hotel

For more than 6,400 years, Zurich has been occupied, 2000 years of these years as a city. Today, the city is home to 400,000 residents and is the largest city in Switzerland as well as the capital of the canton of Zürich. As a hub for railways, roads, and air traffic to both Switzerland and Europe in general; the city's importance cannot be gain said.

## DAY 2

- Breakfast
- Visit the Rhine Falls
- Learn how the traditional Black Forest cake is made.
- Educational session at the Drubba Cuckoo Watch Outlet
- Enjoy the scenic view at Lake Titisee
- Dinner & Overnight Stay in the hotel



The Rhine Falls is the largest plain waterfall in Europe. The falls are 450 ft wide and 75 ft high.

The highest flow ever measured was 1,250 m<sup>3</sup>/s in 1965; and the lowest, 95 m<sup>3</sup>/s in 1921.

The falls cannot be climbed by fish, except by eels that are able to worm their way up over the rocks.





Learn the history behind the world-famous black forest cake and participate in putting together this delicious masterpiece dessert.

In the heart of Germany's Black Forest, artisan cuckoo clock makers keep alive a tradition that has lasted for centuries. Carving intricate patterns and folkloric scenes, they build beautiful cuckoo clocks with a fairytale charm. Learn about the working process of these beautiful time pieces.



### DAY 3

- Breakfast
- Enjoy the snow peaked Mount Titlis. Enjoy the cable car ride to the top of the mountain.
- Relish a hot lunch with the mesmerizing view of the mountains.
- Proceed to Lucerne and the old Town.
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in the hotel





The TITLIS Rotair cable car rotates its way up towards the snow-covered summit of TITLIS. The world's first revolving cable car transports you from the middle station at Stand up to the summit station at 3,020 meters above sea-level. The cable car revolves 360 degrees during the five-minute trip, treating you to idyllic panoramic views of steep rock faces, deep crevasses and distant snow-covered mountain peaks.



Lucerne, the gateway to central Switzerland, sited on Lake Lucerne, is embedded within an impressive mountainous panorama. Thanks to its attractions, its souvenir and watch shops, the beautiful lakeside setting and the nearby excursion mountains, the town is a destination for many travel groups and individuals on their journey through central Switzerland.

#### DAY 4

- Breakfast at hotel
- Visit the Swiss National Museum to learn about the history and culture of Switzerland, including exhibits on art, music, and traditional Swiss life.
- FIFA Museum Visit



- Learn the art of chocolate making while visiting a chocolate factory.
- Dinner
- Overnight Stay in the Hotel



Experience the world of chocolate with all your senses — from its history to its production and cultural significance. Find out fascinating facts about chocolate through multimedia exhibits, and benefit from unlimited chocolate tasting.



Football. Fútbol. Fußball. Voetbal. Calcio. Jalkopallo. Kora. Soccer. The names vary, but the game's the same. And it's played everywhere. In every village and city in every country on every continent.

The FIFA World Cup Gallery is the largest room in the museum and is dedicated to the two most important competitions run by FIFA – the FIFA World Cup and the FIFA Women's World Cup. It is the beating heart of the museum.





The Swiss National Museum holds a unique collection on the cultural history and the craftsmanship and artworks of Switzerland.

## DAY 5

- Breakfast
- Fun Filled day at Europa Park
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in the hotel





## DAY 6

- Breakfast at hotel
- Check Out and Proceed to Zurich International Airport

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Tentative travel dates: 25th to 30th June 2024 for a duration of 6 days & 5 nights (May vary)
- Explore the beautiful city of Zurich.
- Explore the old town of Luzerne.
- Visit Rhine Falls
- Learn the history behind the world-famous black forest cake and participate in putting together this delicious masterpiece dessert.
- Visit and Tour around the Chocolate Factory and learn the history and process of making chocolate.
- Visit the Swiss National Museum
- Visit the FIFA Museum
- Visit to Drubba Clock Factory and learn the functioning of the cuckoo clocks.
- Visit Lake Titisee
- Visit Mount Titlis through a cable car ride to the top of the mountain and enjoy lunch with a mesmerizing view.
- A fun filled day at Europa Park with endless shows and fun.

## INCLUSIONS

- Return Flight Ticket on economy class.
- Hotel Accommodation on twin/triple sharing basis
- Schengen Visa
- Travel Insurance
- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
- All sightseeing, transfers in private Coach and Entrance Fees to attractions as mentioned in the itinerary.
- Hotel and City Taxes
- Accompanying Teacher and Experienced Tour Manager from Scravel

## PACKAGE COST AND PAYMENT INSTALMENT PLAN

Total Trip Cost as per inclusions mentioned is AED 9900*/- All Inclusive (Excluding 5% VAT)				
Before 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2024 Non-Refundable	10 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2024	5 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	5 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	5 <sup>TH</sup> June 2024
AED 2000	AED 2000	AED 2000	AED 2000	AED 1900

### Important Information:

- Open only for students Year 7 onwards.
- Registrations will be accepted on a first come – first served basis.
- To enrol your child for this educational trip, kindly fill in the below consent slip and submit the same to the school with a passport copy and UAE residency visa copy of the student along with 1st instalment payment before 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- Kindly note the passport should be valid for 6 months from the date of return and the UAE residency visa should be valid for 3 months from the date of return. This is mandatory requirement for visa processing.
- All the formalities and the visa application details will be provided after registration.
- Please note that the initial deposit/advance payment is non-refundable once registered.
- Cancellation charges and refunds post the 1st Instalment payment will be subject to the policies of the airlines and service providers.

I, ..... Parent of student.....

..... studying in grade ..... would like to enrol my child on this educational trip to  
The

Switzerland & Germany. I hereby give my consent to enrolling my child for this trip by submitting the

Copies of the initial documents and paying the non-refundable advance payment of AED 2000. I would like  
to be contacted for further communication through emails on .....  
and through calls on .....

Signature:

Date:

## CONTACT

Phone: 04 336 0857 | +97150 2210676 | +971505585674 | Email: [trips@scravel.com](mailto:trips@scravel.com)





OUR REF : .....

TRN: 104153998000003

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## **Admissions for the Academic Year 2024-2025-** **YEAR ONE ONLY**



Information to parents applying to **YEAR ONE**

We are pleased to announce the procedures for New Admission for the Academic Year 2024-2025 at St Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai. We invite you to read on carefully as this will help in saving time and enable us to work smoothly.

**As per the guidelines of KHDA, the Ministry of Education, minimum age for admission to Year One is 5 years on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2024 for UK curriculum schools. Children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 may apply for YEAR ONE.**

**ALL STUDENTS APPLYING TO YEAR ONE SHOULD HAVE COMPLETED FS2 OR KG1. THIS IS A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR ADMISSION TO ST. MARY'S.**

## Admission Procedures

Forms must be filled online using the link provided in this notice with all relevant supporting documents. Please note that forms that are not fully filled, have incorrect details and/or do not have all the supporting documents will not be considered.

Link : <http://smchs.ethdigitalcampus.com/RegistrationPortal/?dbConnVar=SMCHS>

### Documents to be attached with the form

- 4 passport photographs
- 1 photocopy of the passport with valid visa of the child, parents/ guardian
- Last report card from the previous school
- Emirates ID of parents and candidate
- Birth certificate of the child
- The health card (Immunization Card)
- The Baptismal Certificate (Christians only)

Face-to-face interviews that test a child's reading and general conversational ability will be scheduled for short listed candidates in the month of March 2024. **A SAMPLE OF READING TEXTS WILL BE UPLOADED TO THE SCHOOL WEBSITE UNDER THE ADMISSIONS TAB.** Parents should be aware that the INTERVIEWS are competitive as the number of students far exceeds the number of places available. Other factors are also taken in consideration such as those which will allow us to maintain a good balance in the internationality of the student body.

Incomplete application forms will not be considered for admissions. Students studying in a particular class will not be allowed to take admission in the same year, for e.g. if a child is studying in year one he / she will not be considered for admission to year one.

**Valid Residential Visa for the child, parents or the guardian who is sponsoring is a must to consider the applications for admission process. In case your UAE visa is under process, kindly provide evidence of the same and / or an undertaking to provide the same once secured.**

**We regret that we will not be able to contact all the applicants individually. If your child's name does not appear on the final list, then it means that he or she has not made it through the face-to-face interview.**

Please do not call the school to check the status of your application. We will not be able to entertain such enquiries. **As places are very limited, parents are advised to seek admission to other schools too.**

**Please do not phone the school for admission-related enquiries.**



A promotional banner for 2025 admissions. The background is dark blue with abstract geometric shapes in orange, grey, and purple. At the top center is a small orange plus sign. The main text "2025" is in white inside an orange circle, followed by "ADMISSION" in white on an orange banner, and "OPEN" in white on a grey banner. Below this is a white button with the text "REGISTER NOW". To the left of the button is a QR code. To the right is a globe icon and the text "Visit our website" followed by the URL "https://www.stmarysdubai.com/admissions/" in yellow. A small white circle is on the right side of the banner.