



OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 15th November 2024

To: The Parents of students in Years 1-13

WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK THIRTEEN

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. We trust that this update finds you and your families safe and healthy. Please read on to find out important information that is relevant to your child and/or his/her year group.

NEW UPDATES:

- **THE SCHOOL OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW, SATURDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER 2024.**
- **ACHIEVEMENTS.**
- **SAINTZ INTERSCHOOL SPORTS FESTIVAL - 18th to 21st Nov 2024.**
- **CAT-4 REPORTS (YEARS 4, 6, 8 & 10) WILL BE SENT OUT NEXT WEEK.**
- **FIRST REPORT DAY (PARENT TEACHER MEETING) - 23RD NOVEMBER**
– See separate circular.
- **DC BOOK FAIR IN SCHOOL: 21ST -23RD NOVEMBER.**

1) SAINTZ INTERSCHOOL SPORTS FESTIVAL: Our school will be hosting the Saintz Interschool Sports Festival from 18th to 21st November 2024 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm daily. Older students who live nearby are welcome to attend to support their school teams.

2) CAT-4 REPORTS (YEARS 4,6 8 and 10) : Parents are requested to kindly check your child's email over next week to receive the CAT4 reports.

3) FIRST TERM EXAMINATIONS-TIME TABLES/ PORTIONS/ RULES AND REGULATIONS/ COPING WITH EXAM RELATED STRESS (All year groups) : We have sent out a separate circular on the 6th of November 2024. Please go through this very carefully.

4) FIRST REPORT DAY & PARENT-TEACHER MEETING 23RD NOVEMBER 7:30 TO 11:30 AM (ALL YEAR GROUPS): Please check the attached circular.

5) DC BOOK FAIR @ SAINT MARY'S , 21ST TO 23RD November : As part of our ongoing efforts to cultivate a love of reading in our students, St. Mary's Catholic High School is collaborating with the leading book seller of the region, DC books , to organise a book fair for our children. The fair will take place from November 21-23 on school premises. Students will get a chance to browse their favourite titles and buy books on these days. On Saturday, 23rd November , parents will also have a chance to attend and pick up books for their children as we have the first PTM scheduled for the same day.

6) READING BINGO (READING CHALLENGE FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS) : An exciting new reading challenge for students of all year groups. Please see attached flyer for details.

7) SIMS PARENT APP REGISTRATION - IMPORTANT UPDATE : St. Mary's is committed to providing parents with a secure and reliable way to stay connected with their child's education. To achieve this, we're implementing some enhancements to the SIMS Parent App registration process. To streamline the app and ensure everyone has access to the latest features, we'll be re-registering all parents for the SIMS Parent App.

Lookout for an Email: You will receive an email from the school's IT department with instructions on how to re-register. Activate Your Account (Parents Only): Parents will receive a separate email with an invitation code from noreply@simms.co.uk. Use this code to activate your parent account within the app. Complete the Registration: Follow the steps outlined in the email to complete the re-registration process. We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to providing a more secure and informative experience through the SIMS Parent App.

For any questions, please contact the school IT department at itsupport-smchs@smgeducation.org

8) FIRST TERM FEES TO BE PAID WITHOUT DELAY : All parents please note that the deadline for the First Term Fees was September 20th . The timely payment of fees is crucial to the sustainable functioning of the school. We urge those parents who have not yet made the First Term fee payments to kindly do so without any further delay. First Term fees that have not been paid will now be considered as outstanding and we will not be able to issue corrected assessment papers, report cards and any other official documents .

9) SIMPLY BOTTLES RECYCLING PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES: We are inviting parents to please support the children in this campaign as we really would like them to value the importance of recycling. In addition to prizes from Simply Bottles , we will be awarding three classes (YEARS 1-4/ YEARS 5-8/ YEARS 9-13) with the highest number of bottles recycled with a picnic day out in January 2025. Please send the empty plastic water bottles collected with your child each day. This campaign will run until the 9th of December 2024. Last Year our school won the **FIRST PRIZE** among all other participating schools for this. We would greatly appreciate if these bottles could be smashed before sending them to school.

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

11) 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.

12) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025: Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2024-2025 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.

26 th AUGUST 2024	School re-opens for ALL STUDENTS
30 th SEPTEMBER 2024	Holiday for students
10 th to 23 rd OCTOBER 2024	Window for mid-term assessments
1 st NOVEMBER 2024	Diwali Holiday
11 th NOVEMBER 2024	Holiday for all students
2 nd & 3 rd DECEMBER 2024	National Day Holidays
14 th DECEMBER 2024 – 5 th JANUARY 2025 (Inclusive)	Winter Break
6 th JANUARY 2025	School re-opens after the Winter Break
10 th – 24 th JANUARY – 2025	First Term Examinations in the morning. Regular lessons after break. Students will not be allowed to go home after the morning's exam.
13 th FEBRUARY 2025	Sports Day Years 5-13 (subject to change)
17 th FEBRUARY	Holiday for all students
21 st FEBRUARY 2025	Sports Day Years 1-4
7 th to 21 st March 2025	Window for Mid-term assessments
14 th -21 st MARCH 2025	Mock Examinations years 11 and 13
7 th to 11 th APRIL 2025	
22 nd MARCH – 6 TH APRIL 2025 (inclusive)	Spring Break
17 th & 18 th APRIL 2025	Holiday for all students
13 th MAY 2025	Study Holiday
14 th 15 th & 16 th MAY 2025	Final exams in parallel with regular lessons
19 th to 28 th MAY 2025	Final Exams and students go home at 11:30 am
5 th & 6 th JUNE 2025	Eid Al Adha (subject to government declaration)
26 th JUNE 2025	Government Holiday
27 th JUNE 2025	Last day of school

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

13) 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 few 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.

14) 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.

15) 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.

16) 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 long weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



Links:

- [First Parent-Teacher Meeting / First Report Day](#)
- [CALENDAR – NOVEMBER 2024](#)
- [READING BINGO \(READING CHALLENGE FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS \)](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMINATIONS – TIMETABLE, PORTIONS AND RULES](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEARS 1-10](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEAR 11](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEAR 12](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEAR 13](#)
- [SMCHS ANNUAL SPORTS MEET SCHEDULE 2024-2025](#)
- [ASTER CANVAS PAINTING COMPETITION \(AGES 4-16\)](#)
- [COLLECTION OF GCSE / IGCSE / IAL / GCE CERTIFICATES SUMMER 2024](#)
- [DHA Health & Happiness Challenge – SMCHS Link](#)
- [SAINTZ MUN TRYOUTS](#)
- [DHA Health and Happiness Schools Challenge](#)
- [Youth Leadership Programme](#)
- [IBT ARABIC EXAMINATIONS – ARABIC B](#)
- [KOMODO WELLBEING PLATFORM 2024-2025](#)
- [PERSONAL APPEARANCE](#)
- [CYBERBULLYING/ BULLYING / INAPPROPRIATE USE OF OR BULLYING ON SOCIAL MEDIA](#)
- [ADMISSION TO TWO YEAR A-LEVEL GCE PROGRAMME](#)

We are proud to announce that
St. Mary's Catholic High School has received the



Pearson

Outstanding School Award

This year, Pearson introduced the Outstanding Pearson School Award for schools that have met certain criteria, including upholding examination integrity and producing exceptional student results, with St. Mary's students achieving an impressive 40 GCSE and 10 GCE Pearson Excellence Awards, along with the following Outstanding Pearson Learner Awards.

Highest in the WORLD in IAS ACCOUNTING

JASMINE MEI SEVILLA MADRONERO

Highest in the WORLD in IAS ACCOUNTING

SAMIRA BEGUM

Highest in the WORLD for GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

JANE MIRACLINE JEBA SINGH

Highest in the MIDDLE EAST for IGCSE ICT

JANE MIRACLINE JEBA SINGH

Highest in the COUNTRY for IAS ENGLISH LITERATURE

OSHADHI MARISSA WEERAMANTHIRI

Highest in the COUNTRY for IGCSE ACCOUNTING

RYAN GURUNG

**THIS ACCOLADE ACKNOWLEDGES THE HARD WORK,
DEDICATION, AND RESILIENCE OF
OUR MARIAN FAMILY.**



ST. MARY'S *Catholic High School, Dubai*

BOOK FAIR



In an effort to cultivate an abiding love for reading in our children, we are very happy to announce that St. Mary's Catholic High School, in collaboration with DC Books, one of the largest book sellers in the region, is organising a book fair on school premises.

Date: 21-23 November 2024 (Thursday - Saturday)

Venue: School Library

Time: School hours

Please note:

- Students will be given time to go for the book fair and buy books on Thursday and Friday.
- Primary students (1-6) will be visiting the book fair with an accompanying teacher. They will be provided with an envelope next week, on which parents can mention how much money is enclosed, seal it and send it with the child. The children can pass this to their teacher for safekeeping.
- Parents may send money with the older children for this. They will also be given a chance to browse and purchase books if they wish.
- Please note that we expect the children to be careful and responsible with the money they bring.
- On Saturday, 23rd November, we will be having our first PTM and parents are invited to visit the book fair and get books for themselves or their children.

Lets open new horizons for our children, one book at a time!



DC BOOKS

Everyone has a good book



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

maryscol@emirates.net.ae : بريد إلكتروني

+٩٧١ ٤ ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ : هاتف

www.stmarysdubai.com : موقع ويب

+٩٧١ ٤ ٣٣٦٨١١٩ : فاكس

OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 8th November 2024.

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 ON *Saturday, 23rd November 2024 from 7:30am until 11:30am.***

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 am) ,
- 11-20 (8:30-9:30 am),
- 21-30 (10:00-11:00 am).

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.

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)

