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



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية صب. ٢٣٣٢ه، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

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OUR REF: TRN: 104153998000003

Friday, 12th September 2025

To: The Parents of students in Years 1-13 WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK FOUR

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:

- IBT ARABIC A & B check separate circulars.
- CYBERBULLYING AWARENESS & SANCTIONS -Please see separate circular.
- October 2025 Assessment information / Timetable and portions – sent on 4th September.
- SOCIAL MEDIA PARENT AWARENESS GUIDES Will be sent to Parent Apps on 13th September.
- ROBLOX -Awareness to parents see below.

We have been recently contacted by parents of very young school children who have been playing Roblox. Parents must be clearly aware that while Roblox might encourage creativity and social interaction, it also has several negative impacts on children. The platform exposes children to inappropriate content, online predators and potential cyberbullying due to limited content moderation. Additionally, excessive screen –time can lead to poor sleep, reduced physical activity and hindered academic performance. The in-game purchases and pressure to spend money can also promote unhealthy consumer habits at a very young age.

It is important that parents recognise that any platform that allows children to chat with strangers online, poses a risk that children may be exposed to online predators. Please keep your children safe and choose safe off-screen activities like reading, going out to a park, playing a sport etc.

DECLARATION FORM – ONLY FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS FROM YEARS 7-13. Parents who have not sent this in are reminded to kindly not delay any further.

NEW DHA HEALTH FORM – FOR PARENTS OF ALL STUDENTS. Parents who have not sent this in are reminded to kindly not delay any further.

- 1) INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FAIR, 24TH SEPTEMBER 2025 (11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM) (Students and parents of Years 11, 12 and 13): Please save the date. The link to register will be sent to students by their class teachers.
- 2) IBT ARABIC A & B (ARABIC A- Years 5-10) (ARABIC B Years 5, 7 & 9): Please see attached circulars.

3) FOURTH SUBJECT DROP (GCE / IAL SUBJECTS ONLY) -YEAR 12 STUDENTS:

We have been receiving subject drop forms signed by parents and these are being duly processed where required evidence of the requirement of only three subjects has been provided. Once a subject has been dropped it cannot later be re-taken due to a loss of curricular hours. Parents are therefore requested to carefully consider this decision. There is no deadline for dropping the fourth subject.

- 4) 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 attachment to this circular regarding the GL CAT4 examination. Please email the skiply receipt indicating payment for the same to your child's class teacher. 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. GL CAT-4 SCHEDULES WILL BE SENT by MID-SEPTEMBER
- 5) NGRT YEARS 2-10 TEST DATES: Please note that students must undertake the tests seriously as this will count towards attainment in English.

Students of Years 2 and 3 will do the NGRT tests in the IT LABS. For 4-10 YEARS, parents are reminded to kindly send A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE (LAPTOP OR TABLET) with your child on the date scheduled for your child's test. Please consult the table below for test dates and the separate circular for all other information.

Monday, 15 th Sept.	YEAR 4E, YEAR 5F YEAR 7A & 7B YEAR10B, 10 E & 10F	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only
Tuesday, 16 th Sept,	YEAR 4D & 4F, YEAR5C YEAR6B YEAR 8A and 8B & 8F YEAR 9B, 9C & 9F	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only
Wednesday, 17 th Sept.	YEAR 4A & 4C, YEAR 5A YEAR 6D, YEAR 7D YEAR 8C, YEAR 9E	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only

	YEAR 5B & 5E	
Thursday	YEAR 6A, 6C & 6F	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or
18th Sept.	YEAR 7E & 7F, YEAR 8D	laptop only
	YEAR 9D	
	YEAR 4B, YEAR 5D	
Friday	YEAR 6E, YEAR 7C	ON THEIR OWN tablet or laptop only
19th Sept.	YEAR 8E, YEAR 9A	
	YEAR 10A , 10C & 10D	
Monday,	YEAR 2 - All classes	In the Computer Labs
22 nd Sept.	TEME 2 mi classes	in the computer babs
Tuesday,	Year 3 All classes	In the Computer Labs
23rd Sept.	Tear 5- An classes	in the computer Labs

- **6) CLOSING OF POST RESULT SERVICES (IGCSE/ GCSE):** This is for students who appeared for the Pearson Edexcel GCSE examinations in May-June 2025. Please note that all post result services will be closed by 19th September 2025.
- 7) SCHOOL TIMINGS FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS (7:10 am to 1:50 pm): Parents of Year 12 students are reminded that school timings for Year 12 students are from 7:10 am to 1:50 pm. They are not permitted to leave early unless there is a medical emergency or a visa / Emirates ID appointment. They have Community service and all of them are prefects as well. They are also expected to use the library for research and study during their free lessons.
- 8) ENOUGH WATER TO BE SENT WITH CHILDREN OR A FEW AED 1 COINS TO PURCHASE WATER FROM THE MACHINES: Parents of students especially those in lower primary are requested to kindly send enough drinking water with your child or one or two AED 1 coins so they can be assisted with getting water from the machines. For reasons of hygiene and safety there are no drinking water fountains.
- **9) SEPTEMBER CALENDAR 2025:** We have prepared a simple calendar of events for the month of September 2025 to help you have a quick reference and to keep track of important dates and requirements for benchmark tests etc. We will send an updated version if any events need to be further updated.

- 10) BREAKFAST/ SNACK FIRST THING IN THE MORNING: We recognise that many children, especially those travelling on long bus journeys to reach school every morning, find it difficult to have their breakfast so early in the morning and some suffer travel illness. We would like to inform parents that it's perfectly alright to send a packed snack or breakfast with your child so that they may eat it in class first thing in the morning when they reach school. This is a much healthier option than children being on an empty stomach for long hours.
- **11) YEAR ONE PARENTS DROP OFF AND PICK UP UPDATE**: We would like to remind parents of year One students who personally drop off and pick up your children, that from Monday, 8th September 2025, you will have to drop them off at GATE number 5 and pick them up from the holding area.
- **12) INAPPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBERBULLYIING:** Please see this important circular attached.
- **13) SOCIAL MEDIA PARENT AWARENESS GUIDES:** Parents are requested to please go through the colourful infographics sent to the SIMS PARENT APP. Please spend some time with your children sharing relevant information.
- **14) 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.

15) 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. Link here.

- disappointed with the large number of uniform infractions, especially among senior students. These include very long and unruly hair of boys (kindly ensure that proper haircuts are undertaken this weekend), long hair of girls untied, coloured and highlighted hair of girls (we have specifically reminded parents at the end of last year that this is strictly not allowed), multiple ear piercings for girls, shorter than acceptable skirt lengths, long fingernails of both boys and girls, heavy make -up on girls. What is even more disappointing is the lack of collaboration from parents when we correct students for the same. Parents are requested to please check on your children before they leave home in the morning. Please refer to the uniform policy.
- 17) STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ID: Your child's school email will be a focal point for our communication to you. We will use a parent's email only to communicate outstanding fee or disciplinary issues. A CLASS GROUP EMAIL has been created using the students 'official email ID for every class. This is for the dissemination of information daily from the class teacher to the parents of this class and we request parents not to write back to this address. We recommend that every parent checks this email after 6:00 pm every day for important updates. New students will receive their school email Ids on Monday.
- 18) BOARD EXAMINATION FEES: We would like you to be informed well in advance that PEARSON EDEXCEL LONDON BOARD EXAMINATION FEES will be collected in the month of NOVEMBER 2025 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.

19) FINANCE-RELATED EMAILS:

1) fee-smchs@smgeducation.org

ALL FEES Related matters (payments): Kindly make sure to send the transaction details with the required SUBJECT Header for quick validation of your concerns and attached proof of payment.

(Mode of Payment / Particulars/ Amount / Student ID)

SKIPLY/ TERM 1 FEES/ 4,800 Dhs / 002563 / Kiandra Smith / 11A

SIMS Student Registration Number Request must also be sent to the email above.

2) <u>finance-smchs@smgeducation.org</u> ALL INVOICE, ACCOUNTS RECONCILIATION, TC and other related matters.

Kindly make sure to send the transaction details with the required SUBJECT Header for quick validation of your concerns and attached proof of payment.

(Particulars/ Student Details)

Request for Pro-Forma Invoice / 002536 / Kiandra Smith / 11A

20) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026: Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2025-2026 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 / bereavement 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.

21) SIMS PARENT APP/ ACTIVE LEARN/ LEARNING LADDERS: Please note that these are still in process and our IT Support will be sending out the invitation and credentials for the same in some time. We will let you know via a circular when that process gets rolled out. Kindly do not email IT Support for this at the moment. Login details for ACTIVE LEARN and LEARNING LDDERS will be sent by the second week of September.

Please note that the SIMS PARENT APP must be checked on a regular basis and not just at the time of report cards as when it is inactive for more than a month, APP access automatically gets disabled.

22) INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025- 2026 AND APPLICABLE PAYMENTS: Parents are requested to kindly go through this table carefully so that you will be aware of which International Benchmark tests are applicable

to your child. Payments will be via Skiply and will be advised as these come up.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR	NGRT	CAT-4	GL	IBT	IBT
GROUP				ARABIC A	ARABIC B
YEAR 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 2	YES	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 3	YES	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 4	YES	YES	YES	NA	NA
YEAR 5	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 6	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA

SECONDARY SCHOOL

YEAR GROUP	NGRT	CAT-4	GL	IBT ARABIC A	IBT ARABIC B
YEAR 7	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 8	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA
YEAR 9	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 10	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA
YEAR 11	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 13	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

PLEASE CHECK ERRATUM CORRECTED NOW IN BOTH RED BOXES ABOVE.

- 23) 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.
- **24) 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.
- **25) 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.
- **26) PARENTS TAKING PICTURES AND VIDEOS ON SCHOOL PREMISES**: All Parents are reminded that taking pictures and videos of children on the premises is a strict violation of Child Protection Policies. We understand that as parents it is exciting to capture memories but when other children are involved, it goes against all Child Protection Policies. We will do our best to send you all memories of various activities captured in school.
- **27) GATE ACCESS TO THE PREMISES**: Parents are requested to kindly not use the church gates to access our premises for drop off and pick up. GATE 4 and GATE 5 are the school gates to be accessed.
- **28) 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.

29) PARENTS' WHATSAPP GROUPS: While a WhatsApp group maybe very useful for sharing important information that can be very helpful – sometimes essential – for busy parents, it has increasingly been noticed that these groups seem to have become breeding grounds for gossip, Chinese whispers and criticism. We are noticing more and more that a personal experience of a child or a staff member has become fodder for public comment, and this has extended to even the very private medical information of children being openly discussed on parent groups. There's a broader societal issue here. This is all very new to us adults. We must reflect on the example we're setting. We talk about what our children are doing online, but we don't reflect on our own behaviour; we don't have an agreed etiquette. We would like all parents, especially those in primary school to do some reflection on the unchecked chatter and quite often the vilifying of staff members in the parents' WhatsApp groups over the past year and ask yourself if that is truly helping you or rather creating unwanted stress. As a school, we would like you to reach out to the teachers or to Ms. Lise-Ann (in more urgent cases) rather than allow what could be one parent's opinion or perspective or misinterpretation in many cases, cloud the perspectives of all the rest. Let us try not to micromanage the children but have more faith in their capacity for resilience and courage.

While we continue to encourage you to use emails as the official channels for communication, we would like to offer some useful guidelines for the ethical use of WhatsApp groups should parents still feel the need for them.

Groups can be used to share:

- Reminders about deadlines, school activities, and events.
- Questions about school activities or special events e.g. what date the science project is due in, uniform or non-uniform day, when the deadline to pay for something is, etc.
- Sharing important information already posted in a circular to help reach more parents e.g. alerts about sickness, school policies, etc.
- Sharing information which can be useful to the other parents in the group e.g. where to buy costumes for dressing up days, ideas for projects, etc.
- Foster a sense of community.
- Sharing relevant community notices e.g. road closures or new traffic lights in the local area, etc.

We **STRONGLY discourage** the use of the groups to:

- Gossip.
- Voice grievances.
- Share personal problems.
- Point out another child's behaviour.
- Discuss the work of teachers: if a parent has a concern regarding the teacher, that parent should speak with him or her directly.

- Raise individual concerns or complaints: if a parent has a particular concern or complaint regarding the school or any member of the Staff, that issue should be raised directly with the school.
- Share political or religious posts or discussions.

30) 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.

P.O. BOX 52232

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية صب. ٢٣٢٧، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

DATE: Friday 12th September 2025

To: Parents of Native Arabic speaking students in Years Five through Ten

IBT ARABIC (A) EXAMINATIONS

STUDENTS MUST BRING A FULLY CHARGED LAPTOP OR TABLET TO SCHOOL ON THE 18TH OF NOVEMBER 2025 FOR THE TEST.

Dear Parents.

Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai. You will be pleased to learn that our school has been invited to participate in *International Benchmark Tests for Improving Learning 2025*. The Australian Council for Educational Research, one of the leading research organizations in the world, develops this test and provides a range of Assessment services in many countries and works in close tandem with the KHDA here in Dubai. The *International Benchmark Test in Arabic* will be held on the following day.

TUESDAY	18 TH November 2025	ARABIC A	YEARS 5-10

The entry fee is AED 45/- for this exam, the exact amount of which must be paid ONLY THROUGH THE SKIPLY APP NO LATER THAN 22nd SEPTEMBER 2025.

The International Benchmark Tests are designed to give an International benchmark of your child's performance vis-à- vis the participating countries in the world and in the region. Students will be able to see their intrinsic abilities and potential for learning, identifying their strengths and weaknesses on skills and concepts related to their class level and helps clarify concepts, making them very valuable as a remedial instrument. Questions are interesting and thought provoking and encourage students to develop skills related to problem solving, data interpretation, reasoning and critical thinking in the global context.

THE INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS (IBT) PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH:

- A comprehensive assessment of student performance and ability
- High quality test items that engage students across all ability levels.
- Individual reports that highlight skills, strengths and weaknesses.
- Reports that include a clear description of skills and concepts that have been mastered.
- A Scale Score to measure their progress over time
- Students and schools with high quality feedback that can be used to improve learning
- School, regional and international percentiles to compare and benchmark student performance.
- Recognition of student performance

Since the Tests will be delivered on ACER's Online Assessment and Reporting System (OARS), please refer below to the system requirements for your computers/devices in the school. This will check suitability for conducting the Tests on this online interface. Technical Requirements and Browser Check Normally, standard PC's /devices meet the below requirements:

- Minimum screen resolution: 1024 x 768
- Minimum DSL or cable internet connection: 56 kbps
- Compatible computers and devices:
 - PC or laptop
 - Apple Mac
 - iPad
 - Other tablet devices

- Compatible browsers:
 - Google Chrome (latest version)
 - Mozilla Firefox (latest version)
 - Safari (version 10 or above)
 - Edge (latest version)
 - Internet Explorer (version 11 or above with compatibility mode disabled)

'Browser Check'. We recommend that a browser check is done on all devices that will be used by following these steps:

Open your preferred browser, click/copy and paste this link https:/oars-z3.acer.org/browserexam/#/ and a browser examination will run. This will check whether your internet browser is compatible, and you will also receive a recommendation for how many students you can test at a given time with your technical set up if testing in school. We request you to advise students to also do the browser check at home on their devices before these are used by them in school for the test.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)

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



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية صب. ۲۲۲۲، دبي – الإمارات العربية المتحدة

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OUR REF: TRN: 104153998000003

DATE: Friday, 12th September 2025.

To: Parents of Non-Native Arabic speaking students in Years Five, Seven & Nine.

IBT ARABIC (B) EXAMINATIONS

STUDENTS MUST BRING A FULLY CHARGED LAPTOP OR TABLET TO SCHOOL ON THE DAY THEY HAVE THE TEST.

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai. You will be pleased to learn that our school has been invited to participate in *International Benchmark Tests for Improving Learning 2025*. The Australian Council for Educational Research, one of the leading research organizations in the world, develops this test and provides a range of Assessment services in many countries and works in close tandem with the KHDA here in Dubai. The *International Benchmark Test in Arabic* will be held on the following days.

WEDNESDAY	19 TH November 2025	ARABIC B	YEAR 5
THURSDAY	20 TH November 2025	ARABIC B	YEARS 7 & 9

The entry fee is AED 45/- for this exam , the exact amount of which must be paid ONLY THROUGH THE SKIPLY APP NO LATER THAN 22nd SEPTEMBER 2025.

The International Benchmark Tests are designed to give an International benchmark of your child's performance vis-à- vis the participating countries in the world and in the region. Students will be able to see their intrinsic abilities and potential for learning, identifying their strengths and weaknesses on skills and concepts related to their class level and helps clarify concepts , making them very valuable as a remedial instrument. Questions are interesting and thought provoking, and encourage students to develop skills related to problem solving, data interpretation, reasoning and critical thinking in the global context.

THE INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS (IBT) PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH:

- A comprehensive assessment of student performance and ability
- High quality test items that engage students across all ability levels;
- Individual reports that highlight skills, strengths and weaknesses.
- Reports that include a clear description of skills and concepts that have been mastered;
- A Scale Score to measure their progress over time
- Students and schools with high quality feedback that can be used to improve learning
- School, regional and international percentiles to compare and benchmark student performance;
- Recognition of student performance

Since the Tests will be delivered on ACER's Online Assessment and Reporting System (OARS), please refer below to the system requirements for your computers/devices in the school. This will check suitability for conducting the Tests on this online interface. Technical Requirements and Browser Check Normally, standard PC's /devices meet the below requirements:

- Minimum screen resolution: 1024 x 768
- Minimum DSL or cable internet connection: 56 kbps

- Compatible computers and devices:
 - PC or laptop
 - Apple Mac
 - iPad
 - Other tablet devices
- Compatible browsers:
 - Google Chrome (latest version)
 - Mozilla Firefox (latest version)
 - Safari (version 10 or above)
 - Edge (latest version)
 - Internet Explorer (version 11 or above with compatibility mode disabled)

'Browser Check'. We recommend that a browser check is done on all devices that will be used by following these steps:

Open your preferred browser, click/copy and paste this link https:/oars-z3.acer.org/browserexam/#/ and a browser examination will run. This will check whether your internet browser is compatible, and you will also receive a recommendation for how many students you can test at a given time with your technical set up if testing in school. We request you to advise students to also do the browser check at home on their devices before these are used by them in school for the test.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)

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مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية صب. ٢٢٣٢م، دبي - الإمارات العربية المنحدة

هاتف : ۴۳۷۰٬۲۵۲ (۱۹۹۰ بَرِيد اِلكتروني : maryscol@emirates.net.ae هاكس : ۴۳۲٬۸۱۱۹ (۱۹۹۰ موقع ویب : www.stmarysdubai.com

OUR REF: 104153998000003

Friday, 12th September 2025

To: Parents of students in Years 5- 13 -

CYBERBULLYING / BULLYING / INAPPROPRIATE USE OF OR BULLYING ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. I am sure that every child is precious to every parent, and it is our duty to safeguard every child in the school. We at St. Mary's hold this sentiment close to our hearts, and we strive to offer all students a hazard free and emotionally safe environment in which they can achieve their full academic and personal potential. In light of this it has been a rather disappointing experience to have learned that some students have been resorting to Cyberbullying with the intention of emotionally and psychologically hurting another child or other children.

We have noticed that many students are using their SOCIAL MEDIA accounts very inappropriately which could get them into serious trouble as they are flagrantly disobeying UAE cyber and cultural laws.

Please review your children's social media accounts, so you may advise them appropriately.

We would like every parent to carefully go through the KHDA Parent-School Contract over the weekend with your child as well as this letter to be well reminded of the school's zero-tolerance policy for bullying in all its forms and the potential consequences that might arise from any behaviour that constitutes bullying. We will be updating our Anti-Bullying and Behaviour Policies and shall make these available to you shortly.

FROM THE KHDA PARENT-SCHOOL CONTRACT

The school has a zero-tolerance policy for bullying in all its forms. Bullying is the intentional and deliberate intimidation of another person through emotional, physical. Psychological and / or cyber means. Instances of proven and intentional bullying may result in immediate suspension of the aggressor from the school. The matter will be referred to KHDA for ratification.

Aligned with the above, the school will not tolerate any form of defamation or intentional harm practiced through social media forums. The school has set clear policies for parents and students about the use of and participation in social media outlets and/or forums and these centre around UAE guidelines and protocols such as:

- 1) Parents and students in all year groups using any social media forum, must at all times, demonstrate respect for the members of the school community (including all students and personnel)
- 2) Parents and students must not breach confidentiality, defame or make threats to any person in the school community. Instances of proven and intentional breach of the above will result in sanctions which may include SUSPENSION from school.

WARNING LETTERS WILL BE ISSUED IN CASES WHERE ANY FORM OF BULLYING HAS BEEN OBSERVED: These letters will be also sent to KHDA and will be placed on the students' personal file.

- 1) The First Warning letter will be issued with clear cut details of consequences that will follow should the behaviour in question be repeated. (For more serious forms of bullying, suspension will occur in the first instance)
- 2) The Second Warning letter will result in a one-day suspension from school along with details of further consequences.
- 3) The Third Warning letter will result in a three-day suspension from school with the potential permanent suspension from the school after consultation with the KHDA.

The school also reserves the right not to re-enroll students for the following Academic Year when behavioural issues are repeated. This will be documented by the school through the issuance of dated warning letters supported with evidence and after obtaining KHDA approval.

We appeal to ALL parents to kindly make frequent checks on your children's use of Social Media as well as checking the statutory age limits for holding certain Social Media Accounts . While some parents may feel that checking on their Children's social media is intrusive, evidence that we have seen of many children's use of social media strongly points to the age-old adage 'It is better to be safe than sorry."

We trust that this reminder will be taken seriously by ALL parents and that you will set up a dedicated time this weekend to go over this letter with your children.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)



FIRST ASSESSMENT OCTOBER 2025

(YEARS 2 – 4)

DATE	DAY	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE	YEAR FOUR
1st Oct 25	Wed	English Reading	English Reading. & Geog.	English Lang. & Geog.
2 nd Oct 25	Thu	Arabic	Maths	Maths
3 rd Oct 25	Fri	English Writing	English Writing	English Lit.
6 th Oct 25	Mon	Science	Science	Science & French
7 th Oct 25	Tue	History & Moral Ed.	History & Moral Ed.	History & Moral Ed.
8 th Oct 25	Wed	UAE SST.	UAE SST.	UAE SST.
9 th Oct 25	Thu	Maths	Arabic	Arabic
10 th Oct 25	Fri	Values Ed. / Islamic Stu./ Ctz	Values Ed. / Islamic Stu./ Ctz	Values Ed. / Islamic Stu./ Ctz



FIRST ASSESSMENT OCTOBER 2025

(YEARS 5 - 8)

DATE	DAY	YEAR FIVE	YEAR SIX	YEAR SEVEN	YEAR EIGHT
1st Oct 25	Wed	English Lang. & Geog.	English Lang. & Geog.	English Lang. & Geog.	English Lang. & Geog.
2 nd Oct 25	Thu	English Lit.	English Lit.	English Lit. & French	English Lit. & French
3 rd Oct 25	Fri	History	History	History	History
6 th Oct 25	Mon	Arabic & Values Ed./ Islamic. Stu./ Ctz	Moral Ed. & Values Ed./ Islamic Stu./ Ctz	Arabic & Values Ed./ Islamic Stu./ Ctz	Moral Ed. & Values Ed./ Islamic Stu./ Ctz
7 th Oct 25	Tue	Maths & Moral Ed.	Maths & UAE SST.	Science & Moral Ed.	Science & UAE SST.
8 th Oct 25	Wed	Science	Science	Maths	Maths
9 th Oct 25	Thu	UAE SST.	Arabic	UAE SST.	Arabic
10 th Oct 25	Fri	French	French	Computing	Computing



FIRST ASSESSMENT OCTOBER 2025 (YEARS 9 & 10)

DATE	DAY	YEAR NINE	YEAR TEN
1st Oct 25	Wed	English Lang.	English Lang.
2 nd Oct 25	Thu	Biology / Accounting	Physics/Business Studies
3 rd Oct 25	Fri	Physics/Business Studies	Chemistry/Economics
6 th Oct 25	Mon	Maths & Geography	Maths & ICT/Computer Science
7 th Oct 25	Tue	Arabic & Eng. Lit/ History/ Psychology	Values Ed./ Islamic Stu & Eng. Lit/ History / Psychology
8 th Oct 25	Wed	Values Ed./ Islamic Stu & ICT/Computer Science	Biology / Accounting
9 th Oct 25	Thu	Moral Ed. & UAE SST	Moral Ed. & UAE SST
10 th Oct 25	Fri	Chemistry/Economics	Arabic

Art assessments take place during the art lessons for this week.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية صرب. ٢٣٣٧، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتعدة

maryscol@emirates.net.ae: برید اِلکترونی +۹۷۱ ۴ ۳۳۷،۲۵۲ موقع ویب www.stmarysdubai.com فاکس: +۹۷۱ ۴ ۳۳۲۸۱۱۹

OUR REF:TRN: 104153998000003

Date: Thursday, 4th September 2025.

To: Parents of Students from YEAR ONE to YEAR THIRTEEN

RE: Assessments for OCTOBER ASSESSMENT WINDOW towards November 2025 Report

Dear Parents.

Greetings from St. Mary's. Please read the information carefully with regard to your child's Assessments ahead of the November 2025 report.

This is what Assessments will look like.

YEARS 11, 12 and 13 - Assessments for the November 2025 report

ASSESSMENT WINDOW: Ongoing until 30th October 2025 – NO MORE THAN TWO ASSESSMENTS PER DAY

Internal Assessment marks 100% (Within set Deadlines)

YEARS 2 to 6 - Assessments for the November 2025 report

ASSESSMENT WINDOW: 1st to 10th October 2025- NO MORE THAN TWO ASSESSMENTS PER DAY

(Music, Art & Sport- Continuous AFL) YEAR 3 FRENCH - ORALS ONLY

Values Ed/ PSHE/ CITIZENSHIP / Geography - In-class reading based assessment. (No memorization)

SUMMATIVE-ASSESSMENT	AFL	
ONE TEST including MENTAL	Presentations/ Skits/	
MATHS	Oral Role play / Group	
<u>visibly evidenced</u>	Work/ Pair work / PROJECT WORK/RESEARCH	
20 marks	FORMATIVE FEEDBACK WITH STRENGTHS AND AREAS	
20 MARKS	FOR IMPROVEMENT/ LEARNING LADDERS	

YEARS	7 to 10 -	Assessments for the November 2025 report
	/ LU LU -/	Assessinents for the november 2023 report

ASSESSMENT WINDOW: 1st to 10th October 2025- NO MORE THAN TWO ASSESSMENTS PER DAY

(Sports Continuous AFL) (Art years 7 and 8 AFL)

(operational and an analysis)				
SUMMATIVE-ASSESSMENT	AFL			
ONE TEST including	Presentations/ Skits/			
MENTAL MATHS (7 & 8)	Oral Role play / Group			
<u>visibly evidenced</u>	Work/ Pair work / PROJECT WORK/RESEARCH			
25 marks	FORMATIVE FEEDBACK WITH STRENGTHS AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT/ LEARNING LADDERS			
25 MARKS	TORIMI ROVEMENT/ LEARNING EADDERS			

YEAR 1 - Assessments for the November 2025 report

ASSESSMENT WINDOW: September to End October 2025 - Continuous AFL and Ongoing assessments as

part of ongoing class work.

AFL

PROJECT WORK/HW / IN-CLASS ASSESSMENTS PORTFOLIOS / Oral Role play / Group Work/ Pair work

Mental Maths for Mathematics

FORMATIVE FEEDBACK WITH STRENGTHS AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT/ LEARNING LADDERS

All Assessments will be paper- based. Corrected Assessments will be given to students in the second week of November and will only be given to students who have completed all First Term Fee Payments. We urge parents to respectfully make timely fee payments and respect the fee payment deadlines.

Assessment Timetable will be sent to your child's class group email or posted in your child's GC by 4th September by your child's class teacher. For Years 11, 12 and 13, their subject teachers have already begun class tests.

ABSENTEES: If your child is sick, please email the class teacher and inform him/ her if your child is going to or has missed an assessment/s. Some re-assessments <u>might be</u> scheduled over the weekend or on a regular school day, depending on the number of assessments missed. If it is the weekend, you will be informed of the day and time to bring your child in for the same. However, children must be prepared to take a missed assessment as soon as they return to school given that they should have already been prepared in advance.

Any absence will require a medical certificate to reschedule the assessment, even if the absence is only for ONE DAY. In the absence of a medical certificate, an assessment will not be rescheduled and no marks will be credited for that missed assessment.

Assessments will not be credited for leave that is not justified. This will impact children's academic progress, and we urge parents not to schedule holidays during working days.

Students must not have any unauthorised material during an assessment – notes, chits of paper with written notes, any written notes concealed in the desk or on the person. If any of these are found with a student during an assessment, they will be given a zero. Students must not resort to any form of malpractice during an assessment, and they must not speak to any other students during an assessment. Any form of malpractice will lead to being given a zero for that particular assessment.

We would like our children to understand the importance of developing study habits that are consistent and productive and undertaken on a daily basis and not at the last minute.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)



AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2025 CALENDAR FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

VERSION 1.0

Mon, 25 th Aug	School re-opens for all classes
Tue, 26 th Aug	
Wed, 27 th Aug	
Thu, 28th Aug	
Fri, 29th Aug	
Sat, 30 th Aug	Year 13 Extra classes: PHYSICS AND MATHS
Sun, 31st Aug	
Mon, 1st Sep	
Tue, 2 nd Sep	ZERO PERIOD-Well being for all classes years 1-11-PPTs sent /
	Orientation for year 12 &13 Main Hall
Wed, 3 rd Sep	STAFF EVENT-Onam celebration after school
Thu, 4 th Sep	COLOURED CLOTHES DAY WHOLE SCHOOL
	UNIVERSITY FAIR -YEARS 11-13 (9:00-11:00 am)
	First Assessment portions & timetable to parents/students.
Fri, 5 th Sep	PUBLIC HOLIDAY- Prophet Mohammed's birthday.
Sat, 6 th Sep	Office closed.
Sun, 7 th Sep	
Mon, 8 th Sep	
Tue, 9 th Sep	ZERO PERIOD-Well being for all classes years 1-11
Wed, 10 th Sep	

Thu, 11 th Sep	SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS DOCUMENTS TO PARENTS –
	PARENT APP-Raising Parent awareness on various Social Media
	Apps.
Fri, 12 th Sep	COLOURED CLOTHES DAY WHOLE SCHOOL
	SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS TO PARENT APPS
Sat, 13 th Sep	Office working/ Year 13 Extra classes: CHEMISTRY & BIOLOGY
Sun, 14 th Sep	
Mon, 15 th Sep	NGRT YEAR 4E , YEAR 5F, YEAR 7A & 7B, YEAR10B , 10 E & 10F
Tue, 16 th Sep	ZERO PERIOD-Well being for all classes years 1-11-PPTs sent.
	NGRT- YEAR 4D & 4F, ,YEAR5C, YEAR6B,YEAR 8A and 8B & 8F
	YEAR 9B , 9C & 9F
Wed, 17 th Sep	NGRT- YEAR 4A & 4C, YEAR 5A, YEAR 6D, YEAR 7D, YEAR 8C, YEAR 9E
Thu, 18 th Sep	NGRT- YEAR 5B & 5E, YEAR 6A , 6C & 6F, YEAR 7E & 7F, YEAR 8D
	YEAR 9D
Fri, 19 th Sep	NGRT- YEAR 4B, YEAR 5D, YEAR 6E, YEAR 7C, YEAR 8E, YEAR 9A
	YEAR 10A , 10C & 10D
Sat, 20 th Sep	Office closed. Year 13 Extra classes: MATHS & ACCOUNTING
Sun, 21st Sep	
Mon, 22 nd Sep	NGRT YEAR 2 – All classes
	OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY COMMENCES commence (Prayer,
	Thought & National Anthem only. All admin staff to attend the
	assembly in either quadrangle.
	OUTDOOR BREAK COMMENCES
	YEAR 12 SCIENCE BOYS' VACCINATION
Tue, 23 rd Sep	NGRT YEAR 3- All classes
	YEAR 12 SCIENCE GIRLS' VACCINATION

Wed, 24th Sep	YEAR 12 COMMERCE GIRLS & BOYS VACCINATION
	INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FAIR (organized by IDP)@
	St. Mary's - Parents and students of years 11, 12 and 13-
	11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Thu, 25 th Sep	YEAR 12 VACCINATIONS
Fri, 26 th Sep	Building our future stars commences
Sat, 27 th Sep	Office working. Extra classes: PHYSICS & BIOLOGY
	Building our future stars
Sun, 28 th Sep	
Mon, 29 th Sep	
Tue, 30 th Sep	PREFECT INVESTITURE CEREMONY (SENIORS)-ONLY
	PREFECTS

WHOLE SCHOOL ART COMPETITION 8TH TO 12TH SEPTEMBER 2025 -YEARS 1-8 IN THEIR RESPECTIVE ART LESSONS





THE YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE UAE COMPETITION 2025



Piano | Bowed Strings | Woodwinds & Brass | Voice

Registration period

1st September - 1st October 2025



















Register here: www.nyo.ae/young-musician-of-the-uae2025

Contact: ymuae@nyo.ae Follow us @ymouaecompetition

Young Musician of the UAE (YMOUAE) Competition 2025

a new national platform celebrating the exceptional musical talent of young people across the Emirates.



This prestigious competition has been created to:

- Champion excellence in music performance and education
- Inspire the next generation of artists
- Provide meaningful opportunities for growth and recognition
- Strengthen the UAE's vibrant music community

Competition Overview

- Dates: 24th October 8th November 2025
- Registration: 1st September 1st October 2025
- Categories: Piano | Bowed Strings | Woodwinds & Brass | Voice
- Ages: 5 to 18
- Levels: From Grade 1 ABRSM or equivalent to advanced

Why Participate?

Students will:

- Perform before an esteemed international jury
- Gain valuable performance experience in a supportive environment
- Compete for awards, prizes, and the title of Young Musician of the UAE 2025
- Broaden their skills, confidence, and artistic appreciation

We warmly encourage educators, schools, and parents to nominate and support talented students for this exciting new competition

Registration & Further Information

Competition guidelines and the online registration form are available

at: https://nyo.ae/young-musician-of-the-uae2025/

Young Musician of the UAE 2025

CONTACT: ymuae@nyo.ae FOLLOW US : @ymouaecompetition

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

maryscol@emirates.net.ae : بريد الكتروني www.stmarysdubai.com : موقع ويب

هاتف : ۳۳۷۰۲۵۲ ۱۹۷۱+ فاکس : ۳۳٦۸۱۱۹ ۱۹۷۲+

OUR REF:....

TRN: 104153998000003

Date: Friday 29th August 2025.

To: Parents of Students in Years FOUR, SIX EIGHT & TEN ONLY -

GL CAT4 EXAMINATION- OCT - NOV 2025

Dear Parents.

Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai. It is that time of the year for our students to complete the GL Cognitive Ability Test CAT4 which is mandated by KHDA for the year groups mentioned above. As part of our commitment to the National Agenda targets, and with a view to tracking progress and identify gaps in learning, our school will participate compulsorily in the GL-CAT4 exams. GL Education, one of the leading research organizations in the world, develops this test and provides a range of Assessment services in many countries and works in close tandem with the KHDA here in Dubai. These are mandatory assessments by KHDA and feature in your Parent-School Contract as well.

The entry fee is AED 75/- for the test, the exact amount of which must be paid ONLY VIA THE SKIPLY APP NO LATER THAN 8th SEPTEMBER 2025.

Please email a copy of the SKIPLY receipt to your child's class teacher. This amount has been included in the Parent Contract as well. CAT4 is designed to assess the four main abilities that underpin intellectual development and influence attainment. It measures four areas of reasoning:

- Quantitative
- Verbal
- Non-verbal and
- Spatial, a skill important for success in STEM subjects and an ability that is not measured by any other reasoning test for schools.

CAT4 is an assessment of reasoning that helps identify pupils' developed abilities and likely academic potential. *CAT4* is not about knowledge recall and requires no preparation, offering all students the same opportunity to show their underlying ability.

What is CAT4?

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4) is a diagnostic assessment that is designed to help students, and their teachers understand how they learn and what their academic potential might be. It assesses how students think in areas that are known to make a difference to learning.

While many tests focus on a child's attainment in core subjects, CAT4 is designed to give schools a much broader, more rounded view of each child, their potential and how they learn. Results help teachers decide about the pace of learning that is right for a student and whether additional support or challenge is needed.

Tasks involve thinking about shapes and patterns (Non-Verbal Reasoning), words (Verbal Reasoning), numbers (Quantitative Reasoning) and some questions are answered by mentally generating and transforming visual images (Spatial Ability).

CAT4 is based on years of research and development. The current edition took five years to develop and the involvement of 25,000 students across the UK. It is a well-known assessment in schools; teachers value its ability to provide an understanding of what a child is capable of rather than defining them by their understanding of a body of knowledge in particular subjects.

How are CAT4 Results used?

CAT4 provides teachers with information that can form the basis for discussions about how best a student can learn and reach his or her potential in school.

Teachers are provided with an individual profile of learning preference along with a range of indicators of likely future performance. Used with other information (such as results from Key Stage 2 SATs, for example), these data can support teaching and learning for all children.

Can students practice for CAT4?

GL strongly advises against any kind of practice ahead of a CAT4 test as this will alter the reliability of test scores. The point of CAT4 is that it is not a test of learnt knowledge and it needs to be as unaffected as possible by any external factors, such as practice. Think of it like an eye test; if you practice ahead of an eye test and memorise the card, your diagnosis may not be correct, and valuable information may be missed.

CAT4 is a timed assessment and is administered under formal conditions. However, each section of the assessment includes introductory information with practice examples, and these will familiarise the children with the style and format of the questions. These sections are not timed and may be repeated.

Is additional time allowed for children with SEND?

CAT4 is a timed assessment, and additional time is not permitted as this will affect the reliability of the results. CAT4 is not just about what and how it tests but how the questions are answered within a set timeframe. The timed element makes it diagnostically very powerful.

CAT4 subtests are generously timed, and most children reach the final questions, however there may have been a minority of students during the standardisation process who would have obtained higher scores if they had been given more time. Therefore, giving extra time to a particular student could give an inflated view of their relative ability when comparing their results with the CAT4 norms.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF QUESTION TYPES

https://www.tests.com/practice/cognitive-abilities-practice-test

SCHEDULE FOR CAT-4 EXAMINATIONS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN THE MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ۲۲۲۳، دبی – الإمارات العربية المتحدة هاتف : ۴۳۷۰۲۵۲ ؛ ۴۳۷۰ — برید إلکترونی : maryscol@emirates.net.ae فاکس : ۴۳۲۸۱۱۹ ؛ ۷۱۰+ — موقع ویب : www.stmarysdubai.com

Date: Friday, 29th August 2025

To: Parents of Year Eleven Students – ADMISSION TO TWO-YEAR A-LEVEL GCE PROGRAMME

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School Dubai. We invite you to read this circular very carefully as it has important information for parents regarding admission to the two-year A-Level GCE Programme.

We would like to point out very clearly that admission to A-Level is not automatic and is a completely new process.

We would also like to bring to your attention that under the British system, a student completes high school with the completion of YEAR 11. Hence the admission to A-Level is then a process of a 'NEW ADMISSION'.

YEAR 11 students must not re-register for the next Academic year when re-registration comes up for other year groups.

The conditions for a student to be considered for a place in A-Levels are as follows.

- SHOULD HAVE AN EXCELLENT BEHAVIOUR RECORD
- 4 SUBJECTS TO BE OPTED FOR
- Admissions will be MERIT-BASED ACROSS ALL GCSE SUBJECTS
- Hold a high-grade average in all subjects (Internal Exams) in Year Eleven.
- Should have not had any serious or repeated disciplinary issues over Years Nine through Eleven.
- Should not have engaged in activities, in or out of school, which tarnish the reputation of the school.
- Hold a minimum attendance record of 95%
- Be prepared for an entrance exam in the subject opted for that has not been taken at O-Level

Those students who take Arabic as a First language and Islamic Studies in A-Level will have to maintain a minimum aggregate attendance percentage of 95% for Arabic and / or Islamic Studies lessons, FAILING WHICH STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ISSUED A SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE/ATTESTED CERTIFICATES OR RECOMMENDATION LETTERS. Students who do not reflect this 95% aggregate attendance after the first month of enrollment might not be allowed to continue the A-Level programme.

Please note that St. Mary's Catholic High School offers the GCE Advanced Levels Linear Programme which means that we DO NOT OFFER **AS LEVEL CERTIFICATION** at the end of Year 12. This is a standalone qualification, and results are declared only at the end of Year 13.

The whole two-year Programme has to be completed for any equivalency certification.

Please consider all the criteria above while planning ahead with the next phase in your child's educational journey. Parents should also be aware that even if all criteria are met, competition for places remains very stiff as seats are limited and therefore, we strongly recommend that all parents should ensure that their children have a back-up plan. This would include applying to other institutions besides St. Mary's well in advance.

Thank you for your kind co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية صب مصب ٢٣٢٠م، ببي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

هاتف : ۹۹۷۱ ۴ ۹۷۱ ۹۹۱۱ موقع ویب : maryscol@emirates.net.ae فاکس : ۹۹۷۱ ۴ ۳۳٬۸۱۱۹ موقع ویب : ۹۷۱ ۴ ۳۳٬۸۱۱۹

Date: Friday, 29th August 2025

To Parents of Students in Years TWO to TEN:

NGRT-NEW GROUP READING TEST YEARS TWO TO TEN

Dear Parents,

Warm greetings. Our school as mandated by KHDA, has to undertake the NGRT for students in Years Two to Ten. The government of Dubai has mandated that all students from ages 6-16 undertake a standardized reading literacy test thrice a year. This year we have to undertake the test thrice. We invite you to read on for further information.

NGRT is a fully adaptive, standardised, termly reading assessment. As it's adaptive, it offers a personalised experience for each student, ensuring it's accessible for those who are struggling and challenging for those who need to be stretched, so you can get to the root of any problems identified precisely and quickly.

There is no more crucial skill for success in any subject than reading, so being able to accurately assess and monitor this is essential. NGRT is proven to deliver a reliable assessment of reading comprehension, set against national benchmarks. Using it regularly helps to quickly spot problems that will hold back a child's progress, with customised practical classroom solutions for each student and the ability to demonstrate the impact of the interventions you put in place.

The amount to be paid for the NGRT is **AED 115/-** ONLY. This amount must be paid only via the **SKIPLY APP**, and a soft copy of the receipt must be emailed to the class teacher. **The deadline for payment is 8th SEPTEMBER 2025**.

The schedule for the tests will be sent with the next weekend circular but will tentatively be in September 2025.

Please note that results will go towards part of the English Language assessment for the FIRST REPORT IN NOVEMBER 2025 and students must undertake the tests seriously as this will count towards attainment in English.

P.O. BOX 5222

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph (Principal)

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

﴾ ۹۷۱+ ب بريد إلكتروني : maryscol@emirates.net.ae ب ۱۹۷۱+ موقع ويب : www.stmarysdubai.com

هاتف : ۳۳۷۰۲۵۲ ۱۹۷۱+ فاکس : ۳۳٦۸۱۱۹ ۱۹۷۱+

Date: Friday, 29th August 2025

To Parents of Students in Years 11, 12 & 13 - IDP STUDY ABROAD EXPO 2025



Dear Parents,

We are excited to invite you and your students to the IDP Study Abroad Expo 2025 — the UAE's largest International Education Fair! This premier event offers students an exclusive opportunity to explore global academic pathways and connect with top universities from around the world.

Event Details:

Date: Sunday, September 21, 2025

Time: 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Venue: Grand Hyatt Dubai

US/Canada: Al Ameera Ballroom

UK/Ireland/Australia/New Zealand: Baniyas Ballroom

Registration: Click Here to Register

Special Sessions:

IELTS Masterclass: 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Medicine Insights Session: 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

What Awaits You at the Expo:

Meet 100+ World-Class Universities: Explore programs from the UK, Australia, Canada, the US, Ireland, and New Zealand.

Expert Guidance:

Receive personalized advice on courses, admissions, tuition fees, scholarships, and more.

Application Fee Waivers:

Eligible students can enjoy fee reductions on the spot.

Fastlane Service:

Accelerate applications and receive preliminary offers instantly.

IELTS & Medicine Insights:

Attend the dedicated sessions to gain specialized guidance from experts.

Why Attend?

This free event is the perfect platform for students to explore opportunities, gain expert advice, and take concrete steps toward achieving their academic dreams.

Promotional materials for schools are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Let us know if your school would like to receive these. We look forward to welcoming you and your students at the Expo!

UNITED STATES & CANADA Grand Hyatt Dubai - Al Ameera Ballroom CANADA # Dalhousie University Huron University University of Guelph Kaplan International Pathways Kwantlen Polytechnic University MacEwan University # University of Manitoba # University of Ottawa # University of Saskatchewan # University of Waterloo • Alexander College • Columbia College • Columbia College • Theissersity * MacEwan University • Navitas North America • Ontario Tech University • Sheridan College • St. Francis Xavier University • The University of Winnipeg # University of Alberta University of Lethbridge University of Prince Edward Island University of Regina Vancouver Island University Wilfrid Laurier University York University UNITED STATES Northeastern University Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology St. George's University Green River College University of Cincinnati Iowa State University Kaplan International Pathways Shoreline Community College Kings Education UNITED KINGDOM, IRELAND, AUSTRALIA Grand Hyatt Dubai - Baniyas Ballroom UNITED KINGDOM * Cardiff University > Kingston University London University of Greenwich, London Lancaster University * Durham University University of Kent University of Leicester * Newcastle University * Queen Mary University of London * Queen's University Belfast * The University of Manchester * University of Birmingham * University of Nottingham * University of Sheffield * University of Sheffield * University of Glasgow * University of Glasgow * University of Glasgow * University of Leeds * University of Sheffield * Study Group UK * Swansea University * University of Leeds * University of Sheffield * University of Sheffield * University of Sheffield * Study Group UK * Swansea University * University of Sheffield * University Newcastle University Leeds Beckett University University of Plymouth ▶ University of Portsmouth ▶ University of Reading University of South Wales University of Staffordshire University of Strathclyde University of Surrey University of Sussex * University of Leeds * University of Liverpool . University of Sunderland * University of Liverpool * University of Southampton * University of Southampton * University of Bath * University of Bath . University of the West of England . University of Westminster * University of Warwick • Brunel University London University of Brighton IRELAND Coventry University University of Birmingham Dubai University College Dublin De Montfort University Edinburgh Napier University INTO University Partnership International Pathways University of Bradford University College Cork University of Chester University of Galway University of Dundee University of East Anglia University of Limerick Technological University Keele University University of Essex of the Shannon AUSTRALIA The Australian National University La Trobe University The University of Queensland > Curtin University Macquarie University The University of Western Australia Monash University Trinity College University of Adelaide Deakin University • Deakin College Murdoch University Navitas RMIT University Swinburne University of Technology Swinburne University of Technology . University of New South Wales Edith Cowan University University of WollongongUP Education Flinders University · James Cook University