



OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

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

**WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK FOURTEEN**

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 their year group.

**THE UAE NATIONAL DAY HOLIDAYS WILL RUN FROM 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 UNTIL 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2025. WE RETURN TO SCHOOL ON 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2025. This is a slight change from the approved KHDA calendar. Kindly go by the current dates released by the KHDA with the Government of Dubai. Saint Mary's Catholic High School extends its best wishes and blessings on the occasion of Eid Al Etihad.**



**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

**روح الاتحاد**  
**SPIRIT OF THE UNION**  
**اليوم الوطني**  
**NATIONAL DAY**  
**دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة**

# GCE PEARSON EXCELLENCE AWARDS



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

**PEARSON EDEXCEL**  
  
**GCE/IAL**  
**JUNE 2025**

**EXCELLENCE AWARDEES**

Jovin Louie Julian Prabakaran

Ritvik Gupta Bundhun

Ananya Olive Castelino

Oshadhi Marissa Weeramanthri

Nabiha Fatima

Adrien Geoff Winston Klint

Caleb Dwayne Kamalanathan

Michael Rafik Nashaat Naguib Ayad

***Congratulations***

Criteria : Students who have secured A/A\* in three subjects

## **NEW UPDATES:**

- **BUILDING OUR FUTURE STARS (YEARS 5-10)**
- **LAST DATE FOR APPLYING FOR ANY DOCUMENTS FROM SCHOOL BEFORE THE WINTER BREAK WAS 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025. APPLICATIONS FOR DOCUMENTS MUST BE MADE AFTER 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026.**
- **TEDxAl Diyafah High School External Speaker Application – Please check attached flyer.**

**1) BUILDING OUR FUTURE STARS:** We are happy to announce the extension of our Building Our Future Stars Programme to include Years 5-10. Parents are invited to kindly read the attachment to this circular.

**2) OUTSTANDING FIRST TERM FEES:** All parents please note that the deadline for the First Term Fee payment has well passed. 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 any official documents in this case.

**3) WINTERFEST, 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER (YEARS 1-4):** Students in Years 1-4 will have their Winterfest programme on 4<sup>th</sup> December. Class teachers will send you relevant information via the class group email.

**4) NO BARTERING / EXCHANGE OF GOODS OR SHARING OF FOOD FOR THE GOOD OF ALL CHILDREN:** We have recently come across a few cases of children across various year groups bringing in items from home to exchange with their classmates for food or a snack item. These items have included but are not limited to small toys, gift cards, collectible cards, stickers, etc. We are certain that as parents you understand that many children suffer from food allergies and in the excitement could consume something that has ingredients to which they are allergic. The act of trading has many potential implications that are beyond the maturity of

young children to deal with. It has the potential to cause arguments and fights. Often, children are trading for an item that you as parents do not allow them to consume, for example chewing gum. We are urging all parents to kindly ensure that children are not bringing any items to school other than what is required for their learning in lessons.

**5) 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 2026. Please send the empty plastic water bottles collected with your child each day. This campaign will run until December 2025. Last Year our school won the **FIRST PRIZE** among all other participating schools for this.

**6) 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.

**7) 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.

**8) 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 its 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.

**9) INAPPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBERBULLYING:** Please see the link to the circular.

[https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/CYBERBULLYING-BULLYING-SANCTIONS-AND-CONSEQUENCES-REMINDER-CIRCULAR.pdf#new\\_tab](https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/CYBERBULLYING-BULLYING-SANCTIONS-AND-CONSEQUENCES-REMINDER-CIRCULAR.pdf#new_tab)

**10) 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.

**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. Link here.

[https://stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/ADMISSION-TO-A-LEVELS-for-the-ACADEMIC-YEAR-2025-2026.pdf#new\\_tab](https://stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/ADMISSION-TO-A-LEVELS-for-the-ACADEMIC-YEAR-2025-2026.pdf#new_tab)

**12) UNIFORM INFRACTIONS:** Parents are hereby notified that we have been very 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.

**13) 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 everyday for important updates. New students will receive their school email IDs on Monday.

**14) 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.**

### **15) 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 Skiplly and will be advised as these come up.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

| YEAR GROUP | NGRT | CAT-4 | GL  | IBT ARABIC A | IBT 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.**

**16) PREDICTED GRADES POLICY FOR YEARS 12 & 13:** We would like to remind all parents and students to carefully go through this Policy that is available on our school website. The situation that unfolded over the last 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.

**17) SUBJECT CHANGE POLICY, YEARS 9 TO 13:** We would like to request all parents of children in these year groups to please go through the Subject Change Policy which is available in the Parents' Info section of the school website.

**18) 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.

**19) 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.

**20) 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.

**21) 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.

**22) URGENT QUERIES AND CONCERNS:** If you have any urgent queries and concerns, kindly send an email to our Vice Principal , Ms. Lise-Ann on [lpinto-smchs@smgeducation.org](mailto:lpinto-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 one of you a safe and happy long National Day weekend.

We trust that you will all spend some quality and meaningful family time together.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
(Principal)





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SPIRIT OF THE UNION  
عيد الاتحاد  
الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
EID AL ETIHAD  
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES





OUR REF : .....

TRN : 104153998000003

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

**To: Parents / Guardians of Students in Year 5 -10**  
**After School Sports Program Enrolment**  
**“Building Our Future Stars”**

Dear Parents,

We are excited to announce the launch of “Building Our Future Stars” our after-school sports program, designed to promote physical health, teamwork, and discipline among our students. The program will offer structured training and play in:

- Football
- Basketball
- Volleyball



**ProgramDetails:**

- Start Date: Term2 – 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 to 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2026
- Location: School Grounds
- Fee Structure: Term1– AED540/-  
Term2– AED540/-
- No. of Sessions For Second Term: 8
- No. of Student's Per Session: 20 Per Session

| Day      | Activity<br>Choose anyone(A or B or C) | Year                    | Timing                                                                                                       |
|----------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday   | A. Football                            | Years 5,6 & 7           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group A:5:00pm to 6:30pm</li> <li>Group B:6:30pm to 8:00pm</li> </ul> |
| Friday   | B. Basketball                          | Years 5,6 & 7           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group A:5:00pm to 6:30pm</li> <li>Group B:6:30pm to 8:00pm</li> </ul> |
| Friday   | C. Volleyball                          | Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 only | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group A:5:00pm to 6:30pm</li> <li>Group B:6:30pm to 8:00pm</li> </ul> |
| Saturday | A. Football                            | Years 5,6 & 7           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group C:5:00pm to 6:30pm</li> <li>Group D:6:30pm to 8:00pm</li> </ul> |
| Saturday | B. Basketball                          | Years 5,6 & 7           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group C:5:00pm to 6:30pm</li> <li>Group D:6:30pm to 8:00pm</li> </ul> |
| Saturday | C. Volleyball                          | Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 only | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group C:5:00pm to 6:30pm</li> <li>Group D:6:30pm to 8:00pm</li> </ul> |

### **Benefits of Participation:**

- →Improve physical strength, agility and endurance
- →Learn team work, leadership and sportsmanship
- →Receive professional coaching and guidance
- →Stay active and engaged after school hours

### **Registration / Payment:**

The payment facility is open in SKIPLY from 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025 and the deadline for registration and payment would be 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Interested parents are kindly requested to complete the registration form (attached) and return it to the Sports coordinator Mr. Christopher Chandra.

Let us work together to keep our children active, healthy, and motivated!

Yours Sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
(Principal)





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

## **REGISTRATION FORM** **“Building Our Future Stars”**

### **Student Information:**

Full Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Year/Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent / Guardian Information:**

Name of Parent / Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name & Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Program Selection:**

Please tick the activity /activities your child will participate in:

- Football ☐ Group A ☐ Group B ☐ Group C ☐ Group D
- Basketball ☐ Group A ☐ Group B ☐ Group C ☐ Group D
- Volleyball ☐ Group A ☐ Group B ☐ Group C ☐ Group D

### **Medical Information:**

Does your child have any medical conditions or allergies?

☐ No ☐ Yes (If yes, please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Is your child currently on any medication?

☐ No ☐ Yes (If yes, please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parental Consent:**

I hereby give permission for my child to participate in the “Building Our Future Stars-After-School Sports Program.”

I understand that my child must adhere to the school’s behavioural and safety guidelines and that the School will take necessary precautions for their safety.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**TEDx**

Al Diyafah High School LLC

# CALL FOR EXTERNAL SPEAKERS 2026

## **Between Here and Becoming**

We're looking for bold ideas worth spreading.

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**DEADLINE: 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

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