



OUR REF :

TRN : 1041539980000

Friday, 13 February 2026

To: The Parents of Students in Years 1-13

WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK TWENTY-ONE

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. Please read on to find out important information that is relevant to your child and their year group.

NEW UPDATES:

- **FIRST TERM EXAMINATION ANSWER SCRIPTS:** Years 1-10 & Year 12.
- **RAMADAN TIMINGS:**
 - Monday to Thursday 7:10 am to 12:10 pm.
 - Friday 7:10 am to 11:15 am.
- **RAMADAN OFFERING:** All year groups-Please see attached circular.
- **ADMISSIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027:** Please check all attachments/school website.
<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/admission/>
- **SECOND REPORT DAY, 21ST FEBRUARY-** All year groups.
- **PARENT AWARENESS SESSIONS, 21ST FEBRUARY (Years 7 to 13):**
Awareness on Narcotics, Drugs, Tobacco and Vaping - more information in the circular.
- **DENTAL CHECK UP, 20TH FEBRUARY:** Years 2, 3, 4 and 5.

ACHIEVEMENTS:



- Tavia Shrestha, Year 2E

Champion, 15th International Brainobrain Abacus Competition (1800+ kids from 16 countries!)



- Ava Seprado, Year 5D

9th place, 50-meters Butterfly Swimming, Dubai Open Swimming Competition



- Dwayne D'souza, Year 6C

Finalist among 108 kids out of 850, The Spelling Bee Championship sponsored by Emirates Islamic

1) ADMISSIONS TO YEAR ONE, YEAR TWO and YEARS THREE TO TEN FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026- 2027: We would like to inform all parents that the admissions notices for the Academic Year 2026 – 2027 have been uploaded to the school website and we have attached them to this circular as well. Please go through them carefully.

<https://www.stmarysdubai.com/admission/>

2) DENTAL CHECK UP, 13TH AND 20TH FEBRUARY , YEARS 2, 3, 4 and 5: Drs. Nicolas and ASP Centre will be conducting a complimentary Dental Screening for students in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 and a Topical Fluoride Application for students in Years 2, 3 and 4 only, at Saint Mary's Catholic High School only on 13th and 20th February 2026. The procedures will be carried out by DHA- licensed dentists following strict Dubai Health Authority Infection Control Guidelines, using sterile instruments for each child. The deadline for the submission of the Opt-Out and Topical Fluoride Application Forms was on 5th February 2026.

3) RAMADAN OFFERING TO THE MOSQUE (WHOLE SCHOOL): As we do every year, we will be inviting all our children to bring in a small package of food which we will be sending to the mosque daily during Ramadan. This is optional of course, but we would like to teach ALL children the values of charity and generosity and inculcate in them a deeper sensitivity for those who are less fortunate. A schedule for each class is attached to this circular.

4) FIRST TERM EXAMINATION SCRIPTS (YEARS 1-10 AND YEAR 12): All Parents are requested to kindly note that we have begun sending Examination Answer scripts for the above-mentioned year groups. Parents MUST acknowledge each answer script by signing on it. Kindly note that ALL answer scripts MUST be sent back with your child no later than 19th February 2026. Please note that once returned, answer scripts will no longer be available for your reference.

5) SECOND REPORT DAY –SATURDAY, 21st FEBRUARY 2026 (7:30 am – 12:30 pm): Please see the link below:

https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/SECOND-REPORT-DAY-21-FEBRUARY-2026.pdf#new_tab

6) AWARENESS SESSIONS FOR PARENTS ON NARCOTICS/ DRUGS/ TOBACCO AND VAPING (YEARS 7-13). We have organised three sessions on these topics to raise awareness among parents so that we can keep our children safe. Sessions have been organised at 8:00 am, 9:00 am and 11:00 am and parents are warmly invited to attend any one of these sessions. We have arranged these sessions on the Report Day since most of you will already be at the school on Saturday, 21st February 2026.

7) MOCK EXAMINATIONS YEARS 11 AND 13 AND SERIOUS TIME FOR STUDY NOW: Please note that the Mock Examinations for Years 11 and 13 will run from the 9th to the 13th of March before the Spring Break and the 30th and 31st of March 2026 and the 6th to the 9th of April 2026. Students must report to school at sharp 7:00 am. No leave will be sanctioned during Mock Examinations. **Any medical illnesses even for one day will require a medical certificate.** The Mock Exam Timetables have been uploaded to the school website and have been attached to this circular.

We urge parents to please monitor students doing board examinations as we have found a lack of seriousness among many students. This is a critical time for solving past papers, clearing doubts and undertaking intensive revision. We still find that many students are not displaying a responsible attitude towards their studies and this will impact them negatively in the long run. Parents will need to be more active in monitoring their social media use and any other time that is not spent fruitfully. We urge children to use this short time left to maximise their revision and preparation for the Pearson Edexcel Exams in May-June 2026.

8) ONLINE SCHOOL ON THE 2ND AND 3RD OF APRIL 2026 , YEARS 1-13: All parents are requested to kindly note that we have received permission from KHDA to have two days of online school on the 2nd and 3rd of April 2026. This is to ensure the safety of our students and staff due to the large crowds that will be accessing the area on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. More details about lessons and online lesson links will be sent before the Spring Break.

9) SCHOOL JACKET/HOODIE IDENTIFICATION: All parents of children are requested to kindly sew clear name tags on the inside of school jackets/ hoodies. This is to help clearly identify lost items especially in situations where one jacket might be claimed by more than one student as their own and without any clear identification becomes impossible to determine the rightful owner of the lost item.

10) VARSITY JACKET (INITIATIVE BY THE YEAR 12 CLASS): Parents of Year 12 students are informed that students of Year 12 arrange to have Varsity Jackets bearing the school logo that we permit them to wear instead of the regular winter jacket. Please note that this is entirely a student initiative and there is no obligation for any child to purchase the same. It is completely optional.

11) 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.

12) 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.

13) 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.

14) 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.

15) 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

16) 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.

17) 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

18) 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 .

19) 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.

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) 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 Skippy 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.

22) 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.

23) 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.

24) 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.

25) 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.

26) 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.

27) 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.

28) 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 one of you a safe and happy weekend .

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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OUR REF :

TRN : 10415399800000

DATE: Friday, 13th February 2026**To : Parents of Students from Years 1 to 13**
RAMADAN OFFERING

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. The Holy Month of Ramadan will soon be upon us, and this is a beautiful time of sharing and being charitable, especially with those less fortunate. As we do every year, we are inviting our students to bring in a simple **Iftaar** package that we send to the mosque just opposite our school. There are hundreds of workers who access the mosque daily for Iftaar and these little packages go a long way towards meeting this urgent need.

We believe that the values of charity and empathy are key values that we would like the children to imbibe from a young age. Of course this is optional. Please find below the contents for the Iftaar package: **(PLEASE SECURE ALL IN A NEATLY SEALED PLASTIC PACKET).**

- 3-4 dates (neatly wrapped in cling wrap or in a small, sealed packet.)
- Any one : Apple/ Orange / Banana
- A small bottle of juice or Laban
- A small bottle of water

Please send this only on the day scheduled for your child's class as these are perishable items.

Thursday, 19 th February 2026	YEAR 11 A, D, E and YEAR 1 A, B, C
Friday, 20 th February 2026	YEAR 11 B, C, F and YEAR 1 D, E
Monday, 23 rd February 2026	YEAR 3 A, B, C, and YEAR 13 GIRLS
Tuesday, 24 th February 2026	YEAR 3 D, E, F and YEAR 13 BOYS

Wednesday, 25 th February 2026	YEAR 4 A, B, C
Thursday, 26 th February 2026	YEAR 4 D, E, F
Monday, 2 nd March 2026	YEAR 5 A, D, E
Tuesday, 3 rd March 2026	YEAR 5 B, C, F
Wednesday, 4 th March 2026	YEAR 6 A, D, E and YEAR 9 B, C, F
Thursday, 5 th March 2026	YEAR 6 B, C, F and YEAR 9 A, D, E
Monday, 9 th March 2026	YEAR 7 A, B, C, D, E, F
Tuesday, 10 th March 2026	YEAR 8 A, B, C, D, E, F
Wednesday, 11 th March 2026	YEAR 10 A, B, C, D, E, F
Thursday, 12 th March 2026	YEAR 12

May your kindness and generosity be blessed.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)

