



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

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OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 7th June 2024

To: The Parents of students in Years 1-13
WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK 36

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. We trust that this update finds you and your families safe and healthy. We send our prayers for all our students sitting their GCSE / GCE Edexcel Examinations.

NEW AND URGENT

- **26TH AUGUST IS THE RE-OPENING DATE FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025 FOR ALL STUDENTS.**
- **Due to a change in KHDA policy, re-exams which are usually held in August will be held in the second week of June. Students will be notified individually with a letter to parents.**
- **A-LEVEL ADMISSION TO YEAR 12 (2024-2025)-check attachment with admission link.**
- **REGULAR LESSONS ARE TAKING PLACE WITH ALL CLASSES AND NEXT YEAR'S CONTENT IS BEING TAUGHT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EVERY CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL DAILY. THOROUGH GL PREPARATION IS ALSO ONGOING.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY FEES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PAID ARE NOW CONSIDERED OUTSTANDING. ANY STUDENT WHOSE FEES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID WILL BE CONSIDERED OUTSTANDING AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ISSUE ANY OFFICIAL SCHOOL DOCUMENTS, EXAMINATION ANSWER SCRIPTS, REPORT CARDS, ETC.

Please note: In cases of outstanding fees, RE-REGISTRATION MUST NOT BE PAID, even if paid, it is not considered as a re-registration but will be adjusted towards the outstanding fees. We urge parents to please be responsible and settle ALL OUTSTANDING fees without any further delay.

The RE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE WAS 21ST APRIL 2024. Any student who has not re-registered will be considered as not returning for the next academic year. This also applies to students with outstanding fees.

1) RE-EXAMINATIONS TO BE HELD IN THE SECOND WEEK OF JUNE

2024: We would like to inform parents that due to a change in KHDA policy, we will conduct re-examinations (that are usually conducted in August) in the second week of June 2024. This will be done during regular school hours. Students will be notified individually via a written letter to parents.

2) PLEASE SEND SUFFICIENT WATER DURING THESE SUMMER DAYS:

Parents of all students, especially primary students are reminded to kindly send enough water with your child as we do not have facilities to fill up water bottles on the premises. Alternatively, you may send a dirham coin for them to avail water from the water dispenser.

3) A-LEVEL APPLICATION TO YEAR 12: A link for admission form as well as a letter regarding admissions has been sent out with this circular. Please go through it carefully.

4) LITCON: Please see attached circular.

5) MODEL UNITED NATIONS: Please see attached circular.

6) PRIMARY CLASS EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS: Primary classes have various educational outings next week. A reminder going out to parents to please send enough water and a cap or sunhat. Snacks and juices will be provided. Children not attending must stay at home on the day of their class outing.

7) GL EXAMINATIONS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE, MATHS & SCIENCE YEARS 4 -10 IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM GL EDUCATION – THE GL PT SERIES WILL WORK ONLY ON A DESKTOP OR A LAPTOP therefore parents will be required to send a fully charged laptop on the scheduled days of a GL exam: The timetable for these exams has also been included. **ALL STUDENTS MUST BE PRESENT ON THE DAY OF A GL EXAM WITH A FULLY CHARGED LAPTOP. Any absence will require a medical certificate to reschedule the exam, even if the absence is only for ONE DAY.**

8) FEE INCREMENT: Please see the separate circular. Please note that we are currently only seeking approval from KHDA for a fee increment for the overall sustainability of the school.

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

KEY DATES IN THE APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR

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

17 th & 18 th JUNE 2024	Eid Al Adha (subject to government declaration)
28 th JUNE 2024	Report Day & Last working day for students and teachers

10) SOCIAL MEDIA FREQUENT CHECKS BY PARENTS FOR SECONDARY & UPPER PRIMARY CHILDREN: Please refer to our circular of 16th September 2022.

11) IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS, PARTICULARLY BY STUDENTS IN YEARS 9-11: Parents are requested to carefully read the separate circular issued in this regard on 16th September.

12) URGENT QUERIES AND CONCERNS: If you have any urgent queries and concerns, kindly send an email to our Vice Principal , Ms. Lise-Ann on lpinto-smchs@smgeducation.org and she will get back to you. Please include your telephone number in case she needs to call you.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)





OUR REF :

DATE: Friday, 10th May 2024

**To: Parents of Year Eleven Students Applying for
GCE A-Level Two Year Course (YEAR 12 and 13)**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School Dubai. We are writing to inform you that the A-LEVEL APPLICATION FORMS are available via the link attached. The last day to submit these forms online is the 16th of June 2024 **PLEASE NOTE THAT NO FORM WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.**

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

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** and a high-grade average in the same.
- **Admissions will be MERIT-BASED.**
- 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. The portion for the entrance exam is all content covered from Year 9 to Year 11.**

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

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 making your decision. 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 students should ensure that they have a back-up plan. This would include applying to other institutions besides St. Mary's.**

The final deadline for the return of the A-LEVEL application forms is 16th June 2024. Forms will not be accepted after this date, nor will any calls be accepted for the same. Please respect this final deadline.

The list of students selected for VIRTUAL interviews will be posted on the school website after results have been released by Pearson Edexcel in August 2024 and so we advise you to check the school website at that time.

PLEASE USE THE LINK BELOW & SELECT YEAR 12.

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

Thank you for your kind co-operation.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



ST. MARY'S *Catholic Highschool, Dubai*
proudly presents

Saintz
LitGon 24

June 20 & 21, 2024

Get ready for two days filled with exciting competitions, quizzes, fun and laughter!

Here's a sneak peek of what to expect.
Further details will be provided by class teachers next week.
Last date to register is 20th May 2024.



LitCon 24

Years 1-4, 5-6



Poetry Recitation

Pick your favorite poem and perform it on stage. Bring the poem to life with your imagination!

Drawing Competition

Inviting all our young artists to give free rein to their imagination. Paint the picture that comes to mind when you think of “Fairytale” or “Friendship”

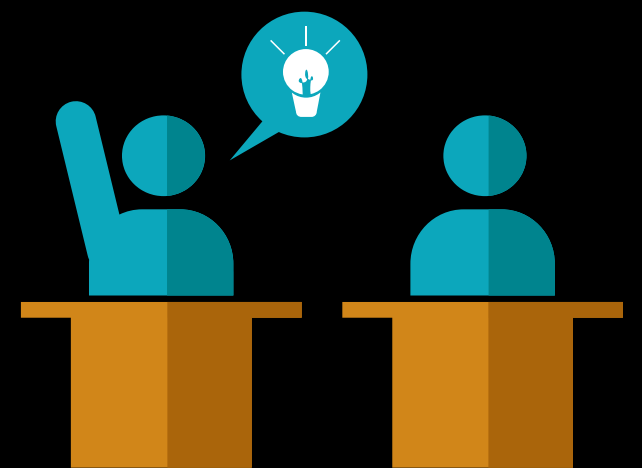


Short Story Writing

Have a “fantasy” story just waiting to be told? Or a story about “School life” perhaps? well, here’s your chance! Put pen to paper and let your stories flow!

Quiz

Are you one of those children who have an eye for general knowledge and trivia? Now is your time to shine! Sign up and go head to head with others who pride themselves on the trivia game!



One Minute Acts

Casting call for all young actors! Dress up as your favorite literary character and be prepared to go on stage and bring the character to life!

LitCon 24

Years 7-8, 9-12



Haiku (7-8)

Have 17 syllables that would express much and suggest more with the least number of words? We want to hear you recite it!



Monologue (9-12)

Remember that character that touched your soul with the most heart touching dialogue ever? You are invited to take to the stage and say that piece for us!



Short Story Writing

Calling all our young wordsmiths to sign up and write that story that's been taking up space in your head and heart. Give life to your characters on paper!

One Minute Acts

It's time to give all the teen drama in school a rest. Do you think you and your friends can condense a whole book into a one minute act on stage? If you are up for the challenge, gather up the other drama queens (or kings) and show us what you got!



Stand Up Comedy

Consider yourself quite the comedian, do you? The stage and the mic is yours! Say your piece, show us what you got, coz we are ready to LOL and ROFL! That is, IF you can make us laugh 😄

Quiz

Proud of all those “interesting facts” you know? This is your golden chance! Coz we want to see just how much you do know. Sign up and find out. But know this, you will be going up against many other “interesting facts” aficionados!



SAINTZ MUN'24



SAINTZ MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Get ready to embark on a journey of diplomacy, debate, and collaboration at the upcoming SaintzMUN'24.

Expect electrifying discourse, food and drinks, merch and most importantly, an enriching conference you wouldn't want to miss!

Committees:

UN Office of Drugs
UN Security Council
UN International Children's Fund
UN Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization
Economic & Social Council
Specialized Committee(exclusively reserved)

Delegate Applications open for Yrs 7 and onwards:



24 - 25 June 2024

7:30 AM to 5:00 PM | AT SMCHS DUBAI



PRIMARY GL EXAMINATION TIME TABLE MAY-JUNE 2024

DATE	DAY	YEAR FOUR	YEAR FIVE	YEAR SIX
24 th May	Friday			ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device
30 th May	Thursday		ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device	
31 st May	Friday	ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device		
3 rd June	Monday	SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device		
4 th June	Tuesday	MATHS Bring a fully charged device		
5 th June	Wednesday		SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device	
6 th June	Thursday		MATHS Bring a fully charged device	
7 th June	Friday			SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device
10 th June	Monday			MATHS Bring a fully charged device



SECONDARY GL EXAMINATION TIME TABLE MAY-JUNE 2024

DATE	DAY	YEAR SEVEN	YEAR EIGHT	YEAR NINE	YEAR TEN
13 th May	Monday			ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device	
14 th May	Tuesday				ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device
22 th May	Wednesday	ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device			
28 th May	Tuesday		ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device		
10 th June	Monday		SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device		
11 th June	Tuesday	MATHS Bring a fully charged device	MATHS Bring a fully charged device		
12 th June	Wednesday			MATHS Bring a fully charged device	SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device
13 th June	Thursday			SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device	MATHS Bring a fully charged device



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+٩٧١ ٤ ٣٣٦٨١١٩ : فاكس

OUR REF :

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE: Friday, 1st March 2024

To: **Parents of students in Years 1-12 –
PROPOSED FEE INCREMENT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. It is at this time that we wish to provide you with the following information pertaining to a proposed **8%** increase in Tuition Fees, subject to KHDA approval, for the Academic year 2024-2025.

We would like to thank our parent community for your constant support and collaboration. Our mission has always been to provide good quality education that is affordable. Our fee level remains the lowest when compared with other schools that provide the UK Curriculum, a good number of which charge significantly more than St. Mary's.

Cost pressures apply to St. Mary's as much as they do to many other entities and in fact rising costs have impacted our school significantly due to our extremely low fee structure. In spite of diligent financial stewardship and control of expenses, we continually face huge challenges with rising costs with respect to staffing, resources and operational expenses.

We hope you will recognise that our decision to propose an 8% increase in the tuition fees is to sustain the operational needs of the school in supporting its expenses while continuing to provide a good quality education to our children.

You are welcome to send any concerns or feedback to Lise-Ann via email. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)**

