



OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

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

## **WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK NINE**

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:**

- **NGRT CYCLE A REPORTS - YEARS 2 ~ 10.**
- **DESIGN A SUSTAINABLE COFFEE SHOP COMPETITION (Ages 11-16) - Please check flyer.**
- **DHA HEALTH & HAPPINESS CHALLENGE INTERSCHOOL LEADERBOARD - ST. MARY'S IS CURRENTLY AMONG THE TOP 10. We can move still higher by supporting our students as they embrace a more active lifestyle in their journey to fitness, health & wellbeing. - Please check the flyer.**

**1) NGRT CYCLE A REPORTS ( YEARS 2-10 ):** We will be sending the NGRT Cycle A reports to your child's email. Please do check these.

**2) SIMPLY BOTTLES - DESIGN A SUSTAINABLE COFFEE SHOP COMPETITION (STUDENTS AGED 11-16):** Please check the attached flyer. **Students who are interested MUST meet Ms. Bindu Harikumar.**

**3) COLLECTION OF GCE/ IAL/ GCSE/ IGCSE CERTIFICATES :** Please see the separate circular.

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

**Winning classes of last year ( currently year 10D, 8A and last year's 4D) will have their winner's picnic on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024.** A separate letter will follow to these parents later. We would greatly appreciate if these bottles could be smashed before sending them to school.

**5) DHA HEALTH & HAPPINESS CHALLENGE (For Years 7 to 13):** Please see the separate circular attached. This is a wonderful initiative to encourage healthy habits in our children and your support would be greatly appreciated.

**6) YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME :** We have created a group email with the school email ID of those students who have registered for the programme. The first session was conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> October from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. Students have to report to the Boys' Quadrangle on the following Saturdays by 7:45am sharp.

**7 ) GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE CLASS OF 2023-2024 ( Current Year 12 students and parents ) 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 evening ceremony :** Parents are requested to kindly save this date and check the separate attachment. .

**8) PEARSON EDEXCEL EXAM REGISTRATION FORMS FOR YEARS 11 & 13:** Parents of students in Years 11 and 13 are reminded to please check the Pearson Edexcel Exam Registration forms that have been sent with the children. Payment for London Board Exams must be made through Skiplly. Please send the forms with the relevant documents ( mentioned on the form ) and the printed Skiplly receipt.

**9) IBT ARABIC A & B ( ARABIC A- Years 5-10 ) ( ARABIC B – Years 5, 7 & 9 ) :** Please see attached circulars that were issued on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

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

**11) GL CAT-4 TEST FOR YEARS FOUR, SIX, EIGHT AND TEN ONLY: 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.**

Tue, 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2024	YEAR 8 A B C D E & F
Tue, 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	YEAR 10 A B C D E & F

**12) ADMISSION TO A-LEVELS ( PARENTS OF CURRENT YEAR 11 STUDENTS ):** Parents of Year 11 students are requested to kindly go through the separate circular on A-Level admissions attached to this weekly notice.

**13) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025:** Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2024-2025 that has been attached to this circular for your easy reference. This will help you plan ahead. If the regulators make any changes to the same, we will inform you immediately. Please note that only emergency medical leave will be approved during school days. Leave for family holidays and celebrations must coincide with the school holidays as per the KHDA calendar. **Leave for events like graduations, weddings, parties etc will not be granted during school days and if absences like this occur during exams, there will be no re-exams in that case. We expect parents to respect these dates and not request leave during school days.**

## **KEY DATES IN THE APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR**

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

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

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

**14) 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.

**15) 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.

**16) 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.

**17) 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.

**18) 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.

**19) 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](mailto: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.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
( Principal )



# Links:

- [COLLECTION OF GCSE / IGCSE / IAL / GCE CERTIFICATES SUMMER 2024](#)
- [DHA Health & Happiness Challenge – SMCHS Link](#)
- [SAINTZ MUN TRYOUTS](#)
- [DHA Health and Happiness Schools Challenge](#)
- [OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR VERSION 1.0](#)
- [Youth Leadership Programme](#)
- [Sustainable Photography Competition](#)
- [ASSESSMENT FOR THE NOVEMBER 2024 REPORT](#)
- [MID-TERM OCT 2024 ASSESSMENT TIMETABLES YEARS 2-10](#)
- [Graduation Ceremony for the class of 2023-2024 – 8TH NOVEMBER 2024](#)
- [IBT ARABIC EXAMINATIONS – ARABIC A](#)
- [IBT ARABIC EXAMINATIONS – ARABIC B](#)
- [GL CAT4 EXAMINATION](#)
- [KOMODO WELLBEING PLATFORM 2024-2025](#)
- [International Essay Writing Competition '24](#)
- [Letter Writing Story Writing Competition 2025](#)
- [PERSONAL APPEARANCE](#)
- [CYBERBULLYING/ BULLYING / INAPPROPRIATE USE OF OR BULLYING ON SOCIAL MEDIA](#)
- [ADMISSION TO TWO YEAR A-LEVEL GCE PROGRAMME](#)



# مسابقة صحة وسعادة HEALTH & HAPPINESS STUDENTS CHALLENGE



## Health & Happiness Challenge

91 Days Challenge











14/10/2024 - 12/01/2025

5 / 91

Participants: 6497

### Leaderboard

### Challenge Information

Ranking	Company Name	No. of Participants	Total Points	Avg Points
Rank 01	 The School of Research Science	5	199	39.8
Rank 02	 United International Private School	50	1094	21.9
Rank 03	 Collegiate International School	3	50	16.7
Rank 04	 GEMS Founders School - Dubai South	38	592	15.6
Rank 05	 Next Generation School	52	784	15.1
Rank 06	 International School of Choueifat - DIP	6	81	13.5
Rank 07	 The Sheffield Private School	47	608	12.9
Rank 08	 Safa Community School	24	298	12.4
Rank 09	 Scholars International Academy	19	222	11.7
Rank 10	 St. Marys Catholic High School	127	1449	11.4



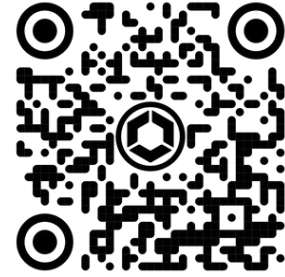
مسابقة  
صحة وسعادة

HEALTH & HAPPINESS  
STUDENTS CHALLENGE



# St. Marys Catholic High School

Scan or click the QR code to join your schools' challenge and leaderboard. Earn points through the Core Direction app and help your school find a place on the podium



Scan or click the QR code to view the school leaderboard.

## WIN an iPhone 13!

50 iPhone 13s up for grabs! Join the Challenge & you could be a winner!





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

## OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR - FOR PARENTS

### VERSION 1.0

Tue, 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	ZERO PERIOD
Wed, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	NGRT YEAR 2 / WELLBEING WEDNESDAYS COMMENCE GEMA International Story Writing Competition Assembly awarding.
Thu, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	NGRT YEAR 4 Business Challenge Cup @ SP JAIN UNI. Year 13 ( fifteen students ) Art Competition Awarding ceremony @ morning assembly
Fri, 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Sports Teams training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM <b>COLOURED CLOTHES DAY - PINK DAY FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS.</b>
Sat, 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Office closed. Year 13 Extra classes: <b>MATHS , ACCOUNTS &amp; PHYSICS</b> Sports Teams Training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM
Sun, 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	
Mon, 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Outdoor break commences Community Service commences
Tue, 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>CAT-4 EXAM YEAR 4 ZERO LESSON &amp; FIRST</b>
Wed, 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Sports Teams Training for GIRLS commences ( 2:00 -4:00 pm )
Thu, 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>OCTOBER ASSESSMENTS COMMENCE. YEARS 2-10</b> <b>Zero lesson - Whole school on Monday's timings</b> <b>WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY-COLOURED CLOTHES DAY -THEME GREEN</b> <b>ENDERUN COLLEGE ( PHILIPPINES )</b> visit 10:30 am Main Hall- interested students from years 10 -13. Sports Teams Training for GIRLS ( 2:00 -4:00 pm )
Fri, 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Sports Teams Training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM
Sat, 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	OFFICE OPEN <b>YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME</b> commences today Year 13 Extra classes: <b>BIOLOGY &amp; CHEMISTRY</b> Sports Teams Training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM
Sun, 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	
Mon, 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	



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

## OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR - FOR PARENTS

### VERSION 1.0

Tue,15 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>Zero lesson – Whole school on Monday's timings</b> Years 2-10 – tests run through ZERO & first lesson <b>WELLBEING SURVEY-Years 7,8 &amp; 9</b> <b>CAT-4 YEAR 6</b>
Wed, 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>WELLBEING WEDNESDAY</b> Sports Teams Training for GIRLS ( 2:00 -4:00 pm )
Thu,17 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	<b>Zero lesson – Whole school on Monday's timings</b> Sports Teams Training for GIRLS ( 2:00 -4:00 pm )
Fri,18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	The FIRST and SECOND lessons of the day are for testing Sports Teams Training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM
Sat, 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	OFFICE CLOSED. Extra classes: <b>MATHS , ACCOUNTS &amp; PHYSICS</b> Sports Teams Training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM
Sun,20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	
Mon,21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	
Tue,22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	DPS Sports Tournament begins. <b>CAT-4 YEAR 8</b>
Wed,23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	<b>WELLBEING WEDNESDAY</b> <b>OCTOBER ASSESSMENTS END. YEARS 2-10</b> Sports Teams Training for GIRLS ( 2:00 -4:00 pm )
Thu,24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Sports Teams Training for GIRLS ( 2:00 -4:00 pm )
Fri, 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>COLOURED CLOTHES DAY</b> Sports Teams Training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM
Sat,26 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	Office Open. Extra classes: <b>MATHS , BIOLOGY &amp; CHEMISTRY</b> Sports Teams Training for BOYS- 5:00-7:00 PM
Sun,27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	
Mon,28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	
Tue,29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>CAT-4 YEAR 10 –Zero lesson</b>
Wed,30 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>WELLBEING WEDNESDAY</b> Sports Teams Training for GIRLS ( 2:00 -4:00 pm ) Rehearsal for Graduation Ceremony
Thu,31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	<b>COLOURED CLOTHES DAY for DIWALI</b> <b>NO SPORTS TEAM TRAINING FOR GIRLS</b>



**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

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**مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية**

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

هاتف : ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ ٤ ٩٧١ +

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فاكس : ٣٣٦٨١١٩ ٤ ٩٧١ +

موقع ويب : www.stmarysdubai.com

OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

Date : 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

## **COLLECTION OF GCSE/ IGCSE / IAL / GCE CERTIFICATES SUMMER 2024**

Dear Parents,

**Greetings from Saint Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai.** Please read the information below regarding the collection of **ORIGINAL GCSE/ IGCSE / IAL / GCE CERTIFICATES SUMMER 2024 SERIES.**

**DATE FOR COLLECTION:** 18<sup>TH</sup> October 2024 onwards , strictly between 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM ON SCHOOL DAYS OR BETWEEN 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM on working Saturdays (Second and Fourth Saturdays) - ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES for PARENTS' OF GCSE / IGCSE / IAL / GCE CANDIDATES of JUNE 2024.

**TIME:** 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM.  
Please anticipate some waiting time.

**WHO CAN COLLECT?** ONLY A STUDENT, PARENT OR AN AUTHORIZED ADULT OVER THE AGE OF 25 (When authorizing another person to collect the certificates, kindly send a signed authorization letter clearly stating the person's EMIRATES ID NUMBER and the person must be able to produce the Emirates ID to validate.

**WHICH ENTRANCE?** ONLY BOYS GATE NUMBER 4  
➤ PLEASE HAVE YOUR VALID EMIRATES ID

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
( Principal )



# DESIGN COMPETITION

CREATE A  
SUSTAINABLE  
COFFEE SHOP



**Competition Deadline**

**18 NOV  
2024**

- **Design a sustainable coffee shop and social hub**
- **Create a Drawing, 3D Model, or Digital Design**
- **Win prizes for you and your school!**



OFFICIAL SPONSOR



# DGRADE x STARBUCKS SCHOOL “Sustainable Coffee Shop” COMPETITION

## Theme

Design a sustainable coffee shop that serves as a social and sustainable hub.

## Prizes

- 1st Place AED 3000 Starbucks Gift Voucher for the school
- 2nd Place AED 2000 Starbucks Gift Voucher for the school
- 3rd Place AED 1000 Starbucks Gift Voucher for the school
- 5 Shortlisted designs to receive an invitation to Award Ceremony at Starbucks store to receive a Finalist certificate and gift.

## Overview

The Sustainable Coffee Shop Design Competition invites secondary school students to showcase their creativity by designing a sustainable and eco-friendly coffee shop.

This competition encourages participants to think about sustainability while crafting an innovative and functional space where people can gather, socialise, and relax but also supports the planet.

## Who can take part?

Students aged 11 to 16 from Simply Bottles Schools registered schools may submit a design.

## Judging Criteria

- 40% Sustainability. How well does the design incorporate sustainable practices?
- 30% Originality, Creativity and Innovation. Is the design unique and forward-thinking?
- 30% Functionality and presentation. Is the new coffee store a practical and usable space?

## Rules

- Submissions must be the original work of the student. It also must not breach any copyright or intellectual property rights.
- Each designer is entitled to participate in the competition with only one design.

## Deadline and Submissions

### **Deadline: 5.00pm 18 November 2024**

Each submission must include a short-written description (150–300 words) explaining the design’s sustainable features and overall concept.

- 3D Physical Models: Should be created using recyclable materials and sent as video or photos from different angles.
- Traditional and Digital Drawings: Should be submitted digitally in high resolution (acceptable formats include PDF, PNG, JPEG, and MP4).