



OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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

## **WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK TWELVE**

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.

The School Community would like to extend hearty congratulations and special blessings to the Class of 2024 as they attend their Graduation Ceremony this evening.

**THE 11<sup>th</sup> OF NOVEMBER IS A HOLIDAY. The school office will be closed from the 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (inclusive).**

### **NEW UPDATES:**

- **11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER IS A HOLIDAY - All year groups.**
- **GRADUATION FOR THE CLASS OF 2024.**
- **NOVEMBER 2024 CALENDAR.**
- **FIRST TERM EXAMS –TIMETABLES/ PORTIONS/ RULES AND REGULATIONS - sent on 6<sup>th</sup> November.**
- **DHA EYE CHECKUP ON 14<sup>TH</sup> AND 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER FOR YEARS 2, 5, 8 and 11.**
- **FRIDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER – Coloured Clothes Day–All year groups.**
- **FIRST REPORT DAY (PARENT TEACHER MEETING) - 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER – See separate circular.**
- **DC BOOK FAIR IN SCHOOL: 21<sup>ST</sup> -23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER.**
- **READING CHALLENGE @ SAINT MARY'S: ALL YEAR GROUPS**

**1 ) GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE CLASS OF 2023-2024 (Current Year 12 students and parents) 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 evening ceremony** : Parents are reminded to please remember to carry the invitation card with you. **The invitation card admits TWO ADULTS ONLY.**

**2) NOVEMBER CALENDAR:** We have attached a simple calendar for the month of November to help you keep track of important events. Please note that this is a working document and if any changes are anticipated , we will notify you.

**3) FIRST TERM EXAMINATIONS-TIME TABLES/ PORTIONS/ RULES AND REGULATIONS/ COPING WITH EXAM RELATED STRESS ( All year groups ) :** We have sent out a separate circular on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2024. Please go through this very carefully.

**4) FIRST REPORT DAY & PARENT-TEACHER MEETING 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 7:30 TO 11:30 AM ( ALL YEAR GROUPS ):** Please check the attached circular.

**5) DC BOOK FAIR @ SAINT MARY'S , 21<sup>ST</sup> TO 23<sup>RD</sup> November :** As part of our ongoing efforts to cultivate a love of reading in our students, St. Mary's Catholic High School is collaborating with the leading book seller of the region, DC books , to organise a book fair for our children. The fair will take place from November 21-23 on school premises. Students will get a chance to browse their favourite titles and buy books on these days. On Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November , parents will also have a chance to attend and pick up books for their children as we have the first PTM scheduled for the same day.

**6) DHA EYE CHECK UP :** Please be informed that students in years 2, 5, 8 and 11 will have their annual DHA eye check up on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Please ensure that your child is present in school on that day. If any parent has any concerns regarding the same, you may email the school clinic.

**7) READING BINGO ( READING CHALLENGE FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS ) :** An exciting new reading challenge for students of all year groups. Please see attached flyer for details.

**8) SIMS PARENT APP REGISTRATION – IMPORTANT UPDATE :** St. Mary's is committed to providing parents with a secure and reliable way to stay connected with their child's education. To achieve this, we're implementing some enhancements to the SIMS Parent App registration process.

To streamline the app and ensure everyone has access to the latest features, we'll be re-registering all parents for the SIMS Parent App. You might have already received an email from the school's IT department sent with instructions on how to re-register.

Activate Your Account (Parents Only): Parents will receive a separate email with an invitation code from [noreply@sims.co.uk](mailto:noreply@sims.co.uk). Use this code to activate your parent account within the app. Complete the Registration: Follow the steps outlined in the email to complete the re-registration process.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to providing a more secure and informative experience through the SIMS Parent App.

**For any questions, please contact the school IT department at [itsupport-smchs@smgeducation.org](mailto:itsupport-smchs@smgeducation.org)**

**9) FIRST TERM FEES TO BE PAID WITHOUT DELAY :** All parents please note that the deadline for the First Term Fees was September 20<sup>th</sup>. 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 corrected assessment papers, report cards and any other official documents.

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

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

**12) 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.

**13) DHA HEALTH & HAPPINESS CHALLENGE (For Years 7-13 only):** This is a wonderful initiative to encourage healthy habits in our children and your support would be greatly appreciated. .Let's support our children in being active.

**14) 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.

**15) 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.

**16) 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.

**17) 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.**

**18) 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.

**19) 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.

**20) 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.

**21) 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 long weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
( Principal )



## Links:

- [FIRST TERM EXAMINATIONS – TIMETABLE, PORTIONS AND RULES](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEARS 1-10](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEAR 11](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEAR 12](#)
- [FIRST TERM EXAMS JAN 2025 YEAR 13](#)
- [SMCHS ANNUAL SPORTS MEET SCHEDULE 2024-2025](#)
- [LIONS CLUB PEACE POSTER CONTEST \(AGES 11-13\)](#)
- [ASTER CANVAS PAINTING COMPETITION \(AGES 4-16\)](#)
- [COLLECTION OF GCSE / IGCSE / IAL / GCE CERTIFICATES SUMMER 2024](#)
- [DHA Health & Happiness Challenge – SMCHS Link](#)
- [SAINTZ MUN TRYOUTS](#)
- [DHA Health and Happiness Schools Challenge](#)
- [Youth Leadership Programme](#)
- [Graduation Ceremony for the class of 2023-2024 – 8TH NOVEMBER 2024](#)
- [IBT ARABIC EXAMINATIONS – ARABIC A](#)
- [IBT ARABIC EXAMINATIONS – ARABIC B](#)
- [KOMODO WELLBEING PLATFORM 2024-2025](#)
- [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](#)



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

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OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

**To: Parents ( Year One to Year Thirteen ) :**  
**First Parent-Teacher Meeting / First Report Day /**  
**PARENT - TEACHER MEETING DAY FACE-TO-FACE**

Dear Parents,

**Greetings from St. Marys.** The first Parent-Teacher Meeting / Report Day of the academic year will be a wonderful opportunity for you and your children's class teachers to share insightful information about them. The First Parent -Teacher Meeting has been **SCHEDULED ON *Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024 from 7:30am until 11:30am.***

Parents who wish to meet their children's class teachers may attend. Meeting slots are as follows.

**Class SIMS ROLL ORDER LIST:**

- **Numbers 1-10 (7:30 - 8:30 am) ,**
- 11-20 (8:30-9:30 am),**
- 21-30 ( 10:00-11:00 am).**

A-Level students will be given a different schedule in class, and they will explain to you how that will work.

**Report cards will be published on the SIMS PARENT APP in advance.**

Parents are asked to kindly jot down important points you wish to discuss with your child's class teacher and to not spend more than five minutes with the teacher as a courtesy to other parents. However, if you feel you need to spend a longer time with the class teacher, then it is advisable to make a private appointment with the class teacher at a later date by contacting them via email so they will schedule an appointment based on their availability.

Please send a similar email to any particular subject teacher that you feel you might need to meet personally, and a private appointment can be made on another day.

Yours sincerely,

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







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# NOVEMBER 2024 CALENDAR (PARENT COPY)

## VERSION 1.0

Fri, 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>
Sat, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Office Closed/ No team training
Sun, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	
Mon, 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	IBT ARABIC A EXAM Years 5-10 @ Main Hall
Tue, 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	ZERO PERIOD: WELL-BEING SESSIONS WITH ALL CLASSES
Wed, 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>WELLBEING WEDNESDAY</b>
Thu, 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	
Fri, 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>GRADUATION CEREMONY</b> 5:00 pm onwards
Sat, 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Office closed / No team training
Sun, 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	
Mon, 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>
Tue, 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>KOMODO WELL BEING SURVEY-YEARS 7, 8 &amp; 9 in the Zero Lesson.</b> <b>Lion's International Peace Poster Contest</b>
Wed, 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>WINNING CLASS PICNICS FOR SIMPLY BOTTLES: YEAR 10D, YEAR 8A</b> and YEAR 4D of last year.
Thu, 14 <sup>th</sup> NOV	<b>DHA Mandatory Eye Test</b> (Years 1,2,5, 8 & 11)
Fri, 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>DHA Mandatory Eye Test</b> (Years 1,2,5, 8 & 11) <b>Coloured Clothes Day</b>
Sat, 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Office Open YLP 8:00 to 10:00 am TUFF RETREAT

Sun, 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	<b>TUFF RETREAT</b>
Mon, 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>IBT ARABIC B YEAR 5 -Bring a fully charged device SAINTZ SPORTS FESTIVAL (After school hours) YEAR 1 MMR VACCINATION</b>
Tue, 19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>IBT ARABIC B YEAR 7 &amp; 9 -Bring a fully charged device SAINTZ SPORTS FESTIVAL (After school hours) YEAR 1 MMR VACCINATION</b>
Wed, 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>WELLBEING WEDNESDAY SAINTZ SPORTS FESTIVAL (After school hours) YEAR 1 MMR VACCINATION</b>
Thu, 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	<b>SAINTZ SPORTS FESTIVAL (After school hours) YEAR 1 MMR VACCINATION DC BOOK FAIR</b>
Fri, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	<b>DC BOOK FAIR Coloured Clothes Day</b>
Sat, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	<b>FIRST REPORT DAY-PARENT-TEACHER MEETING 7:30 - 11: 30 am (Staff leave at 12:15 pm) DC BOOK FAIR</b>
Sun, 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	
Mon, 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>YEAR 2, 3 and 4 Vaccinations</b>
Tue ,26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>YEAR 2, 3 and 4 Vaccinations</b>
Wed, 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>YEAR 2, 3 and 4 Vaccinations</b>
Thu, 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>YEAR 2, 3 and 4 Vaccinations</b>
Fri, 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>NATIONAL DAY ASSEMBLY AND EVENTS COLOURED CLOTHES DAY-UAE FLAG COLOURS</b>
Sat, 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>



Invites you to play the:

# Reading Bingo!

11/11/2024 - 11/12/2024



Read a book that makes you laugh	Read a book of poems	Read a book by an Asian author	Read a book with a character who is a person of determination	Read a book which you chose for its cover ;)
Read a book by a female author	Read a thriller or a suspense book	Read a book with animal characters	Read five books	Write a book review
Read a book that has a yellow cover	Read a book on history or historical fiction	Read a book that was adapted for the screen	Read a book set in a fantasy world	Read a Sci-Fi adventure book
Read book by an African author	Read book that from NYT best seller list	Read a book by a male author	Read a graphic novel or a comic	Read a book about well being
Read a spooky book	Read a mythology book	Read a book that got published this year	Read a book with a blue cover	Read a book with a space theme

**Please note:**

- Reading bingo is open to all students of St. Mary's and is intended to foster their love for reading.
- The challenge runs from 11/11/24 - 11/12/24
- Students are required to read and complete one full row of challenges (diagonally, vertically or horizontally) to gain entry into the leaderboard
- For every book that they read, students may tick every challenge that it satisfy.
- Once a student enters the leader board, their claim will be assessed for authenticity.
- They will need to bring the books that they have read for the challenge and they might be asked a few questions about these books.
- From the students who qualify, the top 3 from each year group who has completed the most number of challenges will win prizes.

Let the reading begin!

