

Honours Key Information 2024/25



Honours Timeline

September	<p>Honours student identification and analysis of cohort</p> <p>Launch of the Y8/9 Scholars Programme (Brilliant Club)</p> <p>Duke of Edinburgh application deadline</p> <p>Honours launch to families 30/09/24</p> <p>Honours Competition RE opens 30/09/24 for AW Term 2 – deadline for entries to Miss Murphy 18/10/24</p>
October	<p>Honours Masterclasses start 1st October 2024 and continue every Tuesday evening throughout the year 3.20pm-4.20pm in the 6th Form Centre</p> <p>Honours Workshop 1 04/10/24</p> <p>CREST Science qualification starts</p> <p>Charter of Opportunities given to students – work on this is ongoing throughout the academic year</p> <p>Record of Achievement discussed with students – work on this is ongoing throughout the academic year</p> <p>Launch of the Y10 Stoke Scholars Programme 04/09/24</p> <p>Stoke Scholars Y11 Programme culminates in a Revision and Celebration Event</p> <p>Y8/9 Scholars Programme (Brilliant Club) commences with an online University Launch Event on 15/10/24 followed by weekly tutorials</p>
November	<p>Honours Workshop 2 29/11/24</p> <p>Honours Competition ICT/Computing opens 05/11/24 for AW Term 2 – deadline for entries to Mr Cartlidge 06/12/24</p>
December	<p>Y10 Honours Medical Pathway Health Masterclass at Staffs Uni 18/12/24</p>
January	<p>Honours Competition BBC Young Reporter of the Year opens 13/01/25 for AW Term 2 – deadline for entries to Miss L Beasley 07/02/25</p> <p>Y9 Honours 'Careers in English' Masterclass at Staffs Uni 09/01/25</p> <p>Y10 and 12 Honours Law Pathway – Court Room Trial Masterclass at Staffs Uni</p> <p>Y7 & Y8 Honours 'Lights, Camera, Action' Film Production Masterclass at Staffs Uni</p> <p>Y8/9 Scholars Programme (Brilliant Club) assignment deadline</p>
February	<p>Analysis of student engagement in the programme alongside student performance in DP1 assessments</p> <p>'Steps into the NHS' Competition launch 24/02/25 – work ongoing prior to the competition deadline on 04/04/25</p> <p>Academic mentoring sessions with Progress Leaders for targeted students post DP1</p> <p>Y8/9 Scholars Programme (Brilliant Club) University Graduation Event</p>
March	<p>Honours Workshop 3 14/03/25</p> <p>Academic mentoring sessions with Progress Leaders for targeted students post DP1</p> <p>World Book Day Masterclass</p> <p>World Maths Day Masterclass</p>
April	<p>Honours Competition Music opens for Summer term 1 28/04/25– deadline for entries to Miss Howie 16/05/25</p> <p>Y10 and 12 Honours Law Pathway + Y7 and Y8 Honours– Performing Arts Oracy Masterclass at Staffs Uni</p> <p>Pitch Perfect Business Masterclass Y10 09/04/25 Mrs Kerr</p>
May	<p>Analysis of student engagement using data pre-interviews</p> <p>Honours Workshop 4 16/05/25</p> <p>Charter of Opportunities completion in preparation for final interviews</p>
June	<p>World Environment Day Masterclass</p> <p>Honours Interviews 02/06/25 - 13/06/25</p> <p>Y8 & Y9 Honours 'Exploring the Gaming Industry' Masterclass at Staffs Uni</p> <p>Honours Graduation Ceremony 30/06/25</p> <p>Honours End of Year Reward Trip – 11/07/25</p> <p>Alton Towers Rewards Trip, all students who Graduate will be invited</p>

All Honours students will be invited to attend a range of Honours Workshops throughout the year. Your teachers will be aware that you are missing a specified lesson.

Reading Lists

You have been provided with an Honours Reading List and this is also available on Teams.

Students are not expected to read all of these books – this is a guide to help to broaden thinking around each subject. **Students should aim to read at least 3 books from this list this year.**

At KS3, you will need to write 3 book reviews for 3 books that you have read this year in order to fulfil your Charter of Opportunities – these could be books from the Honours Reading List or books of your own choice. Guidance on how to write a successful book review is available on the Honours Team.

Charter of Opportunities

You should aim to complete all of the actions in the top row and choose one of the actions in each of the columns in the second row. When you have completed these opportunities, you must log your evidence on the back of your Charter and keep any paper evidence in your Record of Achievement. In order to Graduate from the Honours Programme in the summer, you must have completed your Charter of Opportunities.

The Honours Team

You have been added to the Honours Team on Microsoft Teams. There is a wealth of Honours resources available on the Honours Team, including interesting cultural opportunities, virtual visits, workshops and events, and additional stretch and challenge work and materials including reading lists.

Departments will regularly update each year group Honours Team with resources that may include:

- Stretch and challenge resources/ materials
- interesting videos
- Virtual tours or visits

There is a channel for each year group and all Honours students can access all channels!

Honours Competitions

Key Departments will set a **competition** for all Honours students to enter once a half term– there is a prize for the winner in each year group!

	HALF TERM 1	HALF TERM 2	HALF TERM 3	HALF TERM 4	HALF TERM 5
Competition Led by	PHSE	Computing/ ICT	Literacy	Social Sciences	Music
Lead Teacher	Miss Murphy	Mr Cartlidge	Miss L Beasley	Miss Richards	Miss I Howie
Date competition to be set on the Honours Team	30/09/2024	05/11/2024	BBC Young Reporter of the Year Competition (<i>Masterclass launch 14/01/25</i>) 13/01/2025	Steps Into the NHS Competition (<i>Masterclass launch 25/02/25</i>) 24/02/2025	28/04/2025
Deadline for entries to be returned to Lead Teacher	18/10/2024	06/12/2024	07/02/2025	04/04/2025	16/05/2025
Date winners to be announced during the Reward AOW	w/c 21/10/24	w/c 16/12/2024	(<i>external competition</i>) w/c 10/03/2024	w/c 07/04/2025	w/c 19/05/2025

CREST

The national CREST Science Award is available for Y7, 8 and 9 Honours students to get involved with.

Fridays – Bronze Award for Y7 and Y8 Room 101 3.20pm-4.20pm with Mrs Bussell

Mondays - Silver Award for Y9 and Y10 Room 101 3.20pm-4.20pm with Mrs Bussell

We would love you to get involved! If you would like more information, please speak to Mrs Bussell or your Science Teacher.

Honours Masterclasses

You should attend at least 5 masterclasses this academic year to fulfil your Charter of Opportunities (Y11 only need to attend 2 Honours Masterclasses during the year, as we acknowledge that many of our Y11 students will attend Booster and Revision sessions for their GCSEs).

They always take place on Tuesdays 3.20pm-4.20pm in the Sixth Form Centre.

Honours Masterclass Schedule [Autumn Term]

Date	Session Title	Delivered By
03/09/2024		
10/09/2024		
17/09/2024		
24/09/2024		
01/10/2024	Careers with Languages - European Day of Languages	Mr N Fish
08/10/2024	Artists and Designers with Protected Characteristics	Mrs M Stace
15/10/2024	Critical Theory	Miss L Beasley
22/10/2024	Scoring in the game of Golf	Mrs J Shufflebotham/ Mr S Nixon
October Half Term		
05/11/2024	Medical Physics	Miss W Smith
12/11/2024	Football Culture	Mr N Halliday
19/11/2024	Art Papermaking Masterclass	Mrs K Jones
26/11/2024	Music Technology	Miss K Findlator
03/12/2024	Literature and Culture	Mr A Blank
10/12/2024	Tunnocks Teacake challenge	Mrs C Champion
17/12/2024	Strictly Come Dancing: The History of Dance	Miss A Brown
Christmas Holidays		

Record of Achievement

All Honours students must keep their Record of Achievement up to date with relevant certificates (these can be from both in and out of school), Honours tasks and any other work or evidence that they are proud of. This will be a record of your achievements at St Thomas More and beyond, which will be invaluable when you are applying for 6th Form/ College/ University/ apprenticeship places. The Records of Achievement will be kept in school, unless parents request to keep this at home. You are very welcome to bring certificates in from home to add to your Record of Achievement.

You may borrow your Record of Achievement if you have interviews or meetings where it is required outside of school – please speak to Mrs Barker/ Miss Bucknall/ Mr Goodall.