ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Horse Shoes Lane, Sheldon, Birmingham, B26 3HU

Principal: Mr M McLoughlin

T: 0121 743 3289

E: enquiry@stm-lumenchristi.org.uk

www.sttommor.bham.sch.uk

Christ is the centre of our school community where we live, love and learn together

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Family,

Alton Castle Residential 2026

We are overjoyed to offer current year 4 pupils the opportunity to enjoy a residential trip to Alton Castle, the Diocesan Youth Retreat Centre, from 16th – 18th September 2026.

The trip is a wonderful opportunity for children to further their personal, social and spiritual development and is fantastic preparation for Year 6 and Confirmation. Alton Castle is surrounded by the beauty of the countryside, allowing children to explore nature first hand through a range of activities. These activities provide the chance for personal and spiritual growth while allowing children a great deal of fun. It is also a wonderful opportunity for the children to gain independence in preparation for transfer to secondary school. We encourage every child to take part in this residential visit**.**

The cost for this visit is £225 per child which includes their stay at Alton Castle, all activities, food and travel. As always, we have added a day retreat at the castle to our visit. This means we are able to arrive at the castle at approximately 10:30am, enabling the children to fully benefit from the castle activities and surroundings.

This year, spaces are limited. To secure a space for your child please log on to ParentPay to make payment for the deposit for the trip. The remainder of the cost has been split into 5 payments as follows;

Deposit: £45 due by 28.02.2026
Instalment 2: £45 due by 31.03.2026
Instalment 3: £45 due by 30.04.2026
Instalment 4: £45 due by 31.05.2026
Instalment 5: £45 due by 30.06.2026

Parents are able to pay as little or as much as they like towards the cost of the trip at any time on ParentPay by simply overwriting the amount shown or selecting multiple instalments at once. Staff will be in touch around these dates to ensure payments are up to date. Dates shown in **red** above are the 'points of no return'. Payments must be clear by these dates and, should your child change their mind, no refunds can be made. This is due to the centre requiring staged payments in advance which are also non-refundable.

More information regarding the trip (e.g. kit lists) will issued closer to the time. Your child (or their older siblings) will most likely already have most of the items needed on the kit list – please don't worry about buying all brand-new items!

Should you have any queries or concerns, please contact the school office.

Sincerely,

Mr M McLoughlin
Principal