

Procedure:

1. The Chairperson of the Awards Committee collates nominations and calls a meeting.
2. The nominator may be called in to further motivate a nomination.
3. The Awards Committee makes their recommendations.
4. Records are kept by the Committee.
5. Academic awards are calculated by the Head of Academics.
6. Awards may be presented at the end of a term, end of season for sports, and June and November for other awards.

Designation:

Junior Colours: Thick braid on top blazer pocket and cuffs. (5cm from edge of cuff.) A “straight” scroll under the blazer pocket.
Junior Half Colours: Thick braid on top blazer pocket.

Senior Colours: Thin braid on blazer pockets, cuffs (5cm from edge of cuff) and blazer. A “curly” scroll under the blazer pocket.
Senior Half Colours: Thin braid on top blazer pocket and cuffs. (5cm from edge of cuff.) A “straight” scroll under the blazer pocket.

Colours Cum Laude: Wear the school Coat Of Arms on the cherry – red blazer pocket. Thin braid on blazer pockets, cuffs (5cm from edge of cuff) and blazer.

Honours: Wear a black blazer. There will be the school Coat Of Arms on the blazer pocket. Thin braid on blazer pockets, cuffs (5cm from edge of cuff) and blazer.
The Honours candidate will have their name put on the honours board in the hall.

Certificate:

A certificate with appropriate designation will be issued to all candidates receiving an award.
A certificate with a frame will be issued to each pupil awarded Colours Cum Laude.
A certificate with a frame will be issued to each pupil awarded Honours.

1. SPORTS AWARDS

Juniors: (Grade 8 and 9)

- Colours:** Provincial representation in a school activity. And / or
Exceptional achievement, or exceptional talent, combined with service and dedication in a school activity.
- Half Colours:** District and zonal representation e.g. P.A.D.S.S.A. (Dependent on the number of players attending these trials.)
Performance of a high standard in a school activity with above average service to that activity throughout a school career.
- Merit Certificate:** For winning a league or being unbeaten in a season where the season consisted of a minimum of four matches.

Seniors: (Grades 10, 11 and 12, or U16 to U19)

- Colours:** Provincial representation.
Exceptional achievement, or exceptional talent, combined with service and dedication in a school activity, throughout a school career.
- Half Colours:** District and zonal representation e.g. P.A.D.S.S.A. (Dependent on the number of players attending these trials.)
Performance of a high standard combined with service and dedication in a school activity throughout a school career.
- 1st Team Award:** Attend 75% of fixtures and practices in the 1st team in a calendar year – automatic qualification. Less than 60% - does not qualify.
If a player has played between 60% and 75% the coach may make a recommendation motivating 1st team status. Eg. if the player was committed but there were extenuating circumstances such as injury etc.
- Merit Certificate:** For winning a league or being unbeaten in a season where the season consisted of a minimum of four matches.

NB. The awards committee will only recognize mixed teams in Equestrian Events.

2. CULTURAL AWARDS

General Criteria applicable to all Cultural categories

Awards are NOT automatic and are awarded at the discretion of the TMC Awards Committee. In addition to this, a pupils' involvement will be considered CUMULATIVELY and therefore qualify them for a higher award if they have participated fully, substantially and with commendable ability in subsequent or consecutive years.

Except for exceptional and unusual circumstances, Cultural Awards are usually made at the end of Term 4.

The following qualities & attributes will be given consideration when making a cultural award:

- Positive attitude
- Loyalty
- Dedication & Enthusiasm
- Respect for all members of the performance & production teams
- Co-operation with leaders
- Noteworthy commitment
- Responsibility & Punctuality
- Leadership potential
- Talent

If a pupil performs in one Cultural Discipline/ Category, they will be nominated for that discipline. If, however, the pupil performs in more than one discipline, they may be nominated for a Cultural award. In both these cases, nominations are made at the discretion of the Cultural Department and will only be awarded at the discretion of the Awards Committee.

Categories/ Disciplines

Cultural Performance and involvement in Culturally-related activities fall within the following categories:

- Performing Arts which includes the following activities/ type of involvement:
 - ✓ One Act Plays – Performer, Director, Stage Manager, Backstage Crew, Sound or Lighting Technician, Make-up artist
 - ✓ Supper & Song – Performer, Stage Manager, Backstage Crew, Sound or Lighting Technician, Make-up artist
 - ✓ Annual High School Play – Performer, Stage Manager, Backstage Crew, Sound or Lighting Technician, Make-up artist
 - ✓ Cultural Period – Performer, MC, Stage Manager, Backstage Crew, Sound or Lighting Technician
 - ✓ Outside Production (Eg: Rainbow Young Performers Project. This activity would be a contributing factor towards a pupils' involvement.)
 - ✓ Local Performing Arts Festivals (Eg: Kearsney Arts Festival)
- Art & Photography
- Vocal Tenacity
- Music and Dance
- Debating
- Public Speaking

PERFORMING ARTS

- Colours:** For outstanding, exceptional, significant and/ or unusual talent and contributions in at least four of the above areas or one area on four occasions, which have brought credit to both self and school. Commitment, performance energy, attitude and ability should be of an exemplary level.
- Half Colours:** For excellent contributions in at least four of the above areas or one area on four occasions; which has brought credit to self and school. In addition to this, the candidate would have displayed talent and ability of an excellent standard in their performance/s.
- Merit Certificate:** Pupils may be nominated for this award if they have made valuable contributions in the Performing Arts, in at least three of the areas listed above or one area on three occasions. In addition to this, the candidate would have displayed meritorious talent and ability in their performance/s.

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

- Colours:** For outstanding, exceptional & significant contributions to Art & Photography for TMC. Commitment, attitude and artistic ability should be of an exemplary level.
- Pupils involved in the following examples and/ or combinations of activities may also be eligible for nomination:
- Participation in a major exhibition at a well-recognised Art Gallery
 - For finishing in the top 3 of a Provincial competition
 - For representing KZN in any National competition
- Half Colours:** Pupils may be nominated for this award if they have made excellent contributions to Art & Photography for TMC.
- Pupils involved in the following examples and/ or combinations of activities may also be eligible for nomination:
- Taking part in making set/ prop and/ or backdrops for a school play or musical for 4 years
 - For consistent and active participation in school exhibitions and competitions for 3 years or 6 occasions.
 - A prize-winner in a local competition
- Merit Certificate:** Pupils may be nominated for this award if they have made valuable contributions to Art & Photography for TMC.
- Pupils involved in the following examples and/ or combinations of activities may also be eligible for nomination:
- Taking part in making set/ prop and/ or backdrops for a school play or musical for 2 years
 - For consistent and active participation in school exhibitions and competitions for 2 years or 4 occasions.
 - For designing the tickets used for a school play for 3 years

MUSIC or DANCING (Please note: Awards in this category are also dependent on the pupils' school participation & involvement, as well as the degree to which the activity is a school extra-mural.)

Colours: For outstanding, exceptional, significant and/ or unusual talent and contributions to school productions/ events which have brought credit to both self and school. Commitment, performance energy, attitude, musicality and ability should be of an exemplary level.

Examples and combinations of activities, for potential nominations, could include:

- Membership of the KZN Youth Orchestra
- Membership of the KZN Youth Choir
- Membership of the KZN Youth Wind Band or equivalent
- Dancing with the KZN Youth Dance Company
- Music Exams passed with distinction (Gr 6 + or an equivalent)
- Major and highly significant solo or group performance in a school musical. E. g.: Lead instrument or Lead dancer
- Performance (Solo or accompaniment) in a Festival and/ or Eisteddfod
- RAD/ Cecchetti: pass Advanced 1

In addition to this, the candidate would have displayed talent and ability of an outstanding standard in their performance/s for TMC.

Half Colours: Pupils may be nominated for this award if they have made excellent contributions in any of these specialised categories (or a combination of) on five occasions which has brought credit to self & school.

Examples and combinations of activities, for potential nominations, could include:

- Solo performances on the piano or other instrument on a regular basis for school events/ functions for 2 years running
- Membership of School Ensemble or Orchestra for 2 years running
- Solo or Group performance(s) in a school musical
- Performance (Solo or accompaniment) in a Festival and/ or Eisteddfod
- Music Exams passed with distinction (Grades 4 – 5 or an equivalent)
- RAD/ Cecchetti: pass Intermediate

In addition to this, the candidate would have displayed talent and ability of an excellent standard in their performance/s for TMC.

Merit Certificate: Pupils may be nominated for this award if they have made valuable contributions in any of these specialised categories on four occasions. E. G.: 4 S/ Songs

In addition to this, the candidate would have displayed meritorious talent and ability in their performance/s.

DEBATING

- Colours:** For outstanding, exceptional, significant and/ or unusual talent and contributions to debating plus:
- To be awarded to a member of the team who progresses to the finals of the league competition and is chosen for provincial representation.
 - To be awarded to a pupil who has progressed to the final round of a league debating competition and has been given the title of best speaker on at least five occasions within the league debate.
- Half Colours:** For excellent contributions to debating plus:
- being awarded to the members of the team who have progressed to the final round of a league debating competition.
- Merit Certificate:** Pupils may be nominated for this award if they have made valuable contributions to their debating team, AND are:
- A regular and committed member of the debating team, who has participated for at least 2 years at any level.
 - A regular and committed member of the debating team who has participated for one year, but has received 3 best speaker titles within that year's league debate.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- Colours:** To be awarded to a pupil who is placed in the top 10 of a national speaking competition.
- Half Colours:** To be awarded to a pupil who has achieved KZN Representation or
To be awarded to a pupil who is selected for a national public speaking competition.
- Merit Certificate:** To be awarded to a pupil who progresses to the semi-finals of a recognized provincial public speaking competition or
To be awarded to a pupil who progresses to the finals of a locally recognized public speaking competition.

VOCAL TENACITY

General Note:

- A valuable member of Vocal Tenacity is someone who sings with confidence, strives for excellence, is quick and committed to learning their parts, shows a good sense of pitch, is a 'team player' and who contributes positively to the overall calibre of the ensemble.
- Service includes but is not limited to the following: conducting, instrumental accompaniment and/or fulfilling a leadership role.
- All Vocal Tenacity awards will be made at the end of the school year with the exception of awards for competitions and festivals. These awards will be made at the end of the term in which the competition or festival takes place.

Colours:

This pupil

- combines exceptional and/ or outstanding talent and/ or exceptional achievement combined with service and dedication throughout their school career.
- is an outstanding member of their voice section who shows exceptional commitment and dedication for a minimum period of **four years**.
- is an outstanding member of their voice section who shows exceptional commitment, dedication **and service** for a minimum period of **four years**.
- has performed commendable **solo work** within the period of **three years** where exceptional commitment and dedication has also been shown. Additionally they need to be an exceptional member of the ensemble.
- has been a performing member of Vocal Tenacity in a national festival or competition, where they have been awarded an individual accolade.

Half Colours:

This pupil

- is a valuable member of their voice section who shows excellent talent, commitment and dedication for a minimum period of **three years**.
- is a valuable member of their voice section who shows excellent talent, commitment, dedication **and service** for a minimum period of **two years**.
- has performed commendable **solo work** within the period of **two years** where excellent talent, commitment and dedication has also been shown. Additionally they need to be a valuable member of the ensemble.
- has been a performing member of Vocal Tenacity in a festival or competition where they have been awarded an individual accolade.

Merit Certificate: This pupil

- is a valuable member of their voice section who shows commitment and dedication for a minimum period of **two years**.
- is a valuable member of their voice section who shows commitment, dedication **and service** for a minimum period of **one year**.
- has performed commendable **solo work** during the course of a **school year** where commitment and dedication has also been shown. Additionally they need to be a valuable member of the ensemble.
- has been a performing member of Vocal Tenacity in a festival or competition where Vocal Tenacity has won a competition.

MARIMBA BAND

General Note:

- A valuable member of the Marimba Band is someone who plays with confidence, strives for excellence, is quick and committed to learning their parts, shows a good sense of rhythm, is a 'team player' and who contributes positively to the overall caliber of the ensemble.
- Service includes but is not limited to the following areas: teaching, arranging, composing, instrumental accompaniment and/or fulfilling a leadership role.
- All Marimba Band awards will be made at the end of the school year with the exception of awards for competitions and festivals. These awards will be made at the end of the term in which the competition or festival takes place.

Colours: This pupil

- combines exceptional and/ or outstanding talent and/ or exceptional achievement combined with service and dedication throughout their school career.
- is an outstanding member of their instrumental section who shows exceptional commitment and dedication for a minimum period of four years.
- is an outstanding member of their instrumental section who shows exceptional commitment, dedication and service for a minimum period of three years.
- has performed commendable solo work within the period of three years where exceptional commitment and dedication has also been shown. Additionally they need to be an exceptional member of the ensemble.
- has been a performing member of the Marimba Band in a national festival or competition, where they have been awarded an individual accolade.

Half Colours:

This pupil

- is a valuable member of their instrumental section who shows excellent talent, commitment and dedication for a minimum period of three years.
- is a valuable member of their instrumental section who shows excellent talent, commitment, dedication and service for a minimum period of two years.
- is a valuable member of their instrumental section who shows commitment, dedication and service (in two areas) for a minimum period of one year.
- has performed commendable solo work within the period of two years where excellent talent, commitment and dedication has also been shown. Additionally they need to be a valuable member of the ensemble.
- has been a performing member of the Marimba Band in a festival or competition where they have been awarded an individual accolade.

Merit Certificate:

This pupil

- is a valuable member of their instrumental section who shows commitment and dedication for a minimum period of two years.
- is a valuable member of their instrumental section who shows commitment, dedication and service (in one areas) for a minimum period of one year.
- has performed commendable solo work during the course of a school year where commitment and dedication has also been shown. Additionally they need to be a valuable member of the ensemble.
- has been a performing member of the Marimba Band in a festival or competition where the Marimba Band has won a competition.

Cum Laude:

Performing Arts: Where a candidate has performed with a professional body (Rainbow Young Performers) or theatre company AND continues to maintain a high level of involvement in aligned activities at TMC. If a pupil has received 3 sets of Cultural Colours. In addition to this, their commitment, performance energy, attitude and ability should be of an exemplary level.

Debating: To be awarded to a member of the debating team who is selected for the highest Provincial Senior school level(KZN Senior A Team) and who has competed at this level.

Public Speaking: To be awarded to a pupil who is selected to represent SA at an international competition and who has competed at this level.

Art & Photography: Awarded to a pupil for the publication of their photograph in a National magazine or the equivalent. For an artist who has exhibited at a National Gallery or equivalent.

Music and Dance: Performance (solo and/ or accompaniment) in a National or International Competition AND continues to maintain a high level of involvement in school-aligned Cultural activities.

Marimbas: To be awarded to a pupil who has composed and/or arranged a piece of music which they have scored in musical notation for a National or International competition **on more than one occasion OR on one occasion** in which the band/composition **has been placed** in the competition. A pupil of this calibre **MUST** have taken an active role in assisting the coach during the teaching process, and therefore it is understood that the pupil would be able to play any of the four parts. Moreover, the pupil continues to maintain a high level of involvement in school-aligned Cultural activities. It is understood that in order to compose or arrange, the pupil's playing ability, their knowledge of the instrument as a whole, their knowledge of the separate parts as well as their understanding of music theory is exceptionally advanced. Only pieces of an exceptionally high technical and creative level are considered worthy of being competition pieces.

3. SERVICE AWARDS

1. In order for a candidate to be awarded a service award, they will have to be in their matric year.
2. The service award is a cumulative award.
3. The Awards Committee, therefore, will look back over the nominee's entire College career.

The award will be based on the following:

- A candidate who serves the school over and above anything that would be considered reasonable service. The areas of service would include but not be limited to the following: Outreach, Sports Scorer, Event Venue Organizer, Host Person, Pianist, Backstage Assembly 'Crew', Spring showcase, Gala, Carols, JP and SP Cultural Events, Cultural showcase, Library Monitor, Umpiring / Refereeing, Coaching.
- The candidate's spirit in which they have given of themselves in serving the school; selfless dedication, commitment and positive contribution to the school are paramount.
- The candidate must have attained the sub minimum Outreach points, as per annual grade requirements.
- A candidate's total annual participation points (Grade 8 – 11) and total term 1 participation points (Grade 12) will also be reviewed. Any points gained above the sub minimum requirement will contribute towards the candidate's service award. The more points gained above the sub minimum then the greater the benefit to the candidate due to the fact that the candidate would have given much more than expected in extracurricular activities.
- A candidate's service contribution in their MLC portfolio/s will also contribute towards a service award. The underlying principle of the MLC is servant leadership. The manner in which the nominee for the service award conducts themselves and the selfless contribution towards their duties will be considered.
- A candidate may be nominated by a staff member, Grade 12 contemporary or Grade 11 contemporary in Term 4 of their Grade 11 year.
- An evaluation sheet will be required to be completed by:
 - the nominator/s.
 - the teacher/s in charge of the area/s of involvement
- If a candidate has served the school in more than one area of service, their overall scores from the evaluation sheets would not have to be at the same level as a candidate who has served in one area only. The Awards Committee can, at their discretion award a Half colours / Colours award to this candidate.

Colours:

Has met the requirements to an excellent level, and in the evaluation sheet has achieved a rating of not less than 2 years' service and at least ratings of Excellent in Categories 2 and 3 of the evaluation sheet.

Half Colours:

Has met the requirements to a very good level, and in the evaluation sheet has achieved a rating of not less than 2 years' service and at least ratings of Very Good in Categories 2 and 3 of the evaluation sheet.

4. ACADEMIC AWARDS

Academic awards will be made at the end of the academic year only.

Calculation of Aggregates:

GRADES 8 AND 9 All subjects will be used including Life Orientation

GRADES 10,11 and 12 Compulsory 4 subjects (English, Core Mathematics/Mathematical Literacy, Afrikaans/Zulu, Life Orientation) with the next 3 best subjects

Junior Colours and Half Colours (Grades 8 and 9)

(All figures quoted relate to Pupil Aggregates)

		Full	Half
Grade 8	Nov	85%	80%
Grade 9	Nov	85%	80%

Senior Colours and Half Colours (Grades 10 to 12)

(All figures quoted relate to Pupil Aggregates)

		Full	Half
Grade 10	Nov	85%	80%
Grade 11	Nov	80%	75%
Grade 12	Trials	80%	75%

TERMLY ACADEMIC AWARDS

Grades 8 to 12: Top 10 Award: Made to the top 10 achievers based on the aggregate.

END OF YEAR ACADEMIC AWARDS

Merit Certificates: Grades 8 to 10: Pupils who achieve an aggregate between 70% - 79% will be awarded a Merit certificate.
Grades 11 and 12: Pupils who achieve an aggregate between 65% - 74% will be awarded a Merit certificate.

Dux: Calculated using the aggregate

Progress Awards: Pupils will be awarded a certificate if they have achieved a significant increase in their aggregate from June to the end of the year.

Diligence Awards: Pupils will be awarded a certificate for diligence at the discretion of the staff.

OLYMPIADS

Colours: Achieves a top 50 position in the final round of a reputable / National Olympiad

Half Colours: Achieves position 51st to 100th in the final round of a reputable / National Olympiad

Merit Certificate: Qualifies for and participates in more than the second round of a reputable/National Olympiad

5. SPECIAL AWARDS

Colours Cum Laude:

- A The candidate must be a Senior (Grades 10, 11 and 12, or U16 to U19)
- B Must fulfill at least one of the following conditions:-
1. This award may be made to a person who obtains national representation in a school activity, even if he/she is not actively and directly involved in many other areas of school life (ie. recognition of excellence but the candidate does not meet the Honours criteria).
 2. Academics: where a candidate achieves an aggregate of 90% or more following end of year academic calculations.
 3. Where a candidate is awarded provincial 'A' team colours for highest Provincial Senior school level in that activity / sport ie: U17/U18/U19.
 4. Where, in the case of cultural activities, a candidate has achieved representation in a Provincial or Professional body as well as maintaining a high level of involvement in aligned activities at Thomas More College.
- C The Cum laude candidate must achieve at least a sub-minimum of the required Participation Points.

Honours:

The Criteria for Honours is in two parts. In order to be considered for Honours the potential candidate:

- A Must fulfill at least one of the following conditions:-
1. National representation in a school activity, at the highest National Senior school level in that activity / sport ie: U17/U18/U19.
 2. Have at least 3 sets of colours in at least 2 of the four categories (Sport/Cultural/Academics/Service), where one must be Colours Cum Laude. Re-awards of colours and / or colours Cum Laude will not be taken into account or used in the calculation.
 3. Have at least 3 sets of colours in one category (Sport/Cultural/Academics/Service), where 2 must be Colours Cum Laude. Colours Cum Laude may be in the same code; re- award of Colours will be not be taken into account or used in the calculations. The 3 sets of colours must be from 3 different codes within a category.
 4. Have 4 sets of colours in at least 2 of the possible four categories (Sport/Cultural/Academics/Service). Re- award of Colours will be not be taken into account or used in the calculations. The 4 sets of colours must be from 4 different codes within a category.

- B Furthermore, and most important, the Honours candidate must be an outstanding example of active involvement in, and positive contribution to, the life of the school. Also, the ethos of Thomas More must be evident in the character of the Honours candidate.

School activities are essentially based on teamwork, so the Honours candidate must be an example to others in this regard. The Honours candidate therefore must achieve at least a sub-minimum of the required Participation Points.

The Honours candidate must be in Grade 12. They may be nominated for an honours award in term 4 of their Grade11 year.

- NB. It is assumed that a person who obtains an award before grade 12 will continue with that activity in grade 12. If a person were to withdraw from the activity, such previous award will not be considered as counting towards an Honours award.

As Honours is one of the highest accolades awarded by Thomas More College, the Awards Committee, following discussions within the committee, will table a potential candidate's nomination with the High School Management for final ratification and acceptance.

Framed Certificate:

This award is made for outstanding performance in an outside activity i.e. in an activity not officially offered at Thomas More College.