



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

10th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring Term Week 1 Headteacher Update

Firstly, I hope that you have had a wonderful Christmas with friends and family, and I would also like to wish you a very Happy New Year. Over the coming half term, we will watch with anticipation as the mornings and nights begin to get lighter and the days get longer. This is a crucial period for our children, in any Year group, to ensure that their learning is effective, productive and that progress is enhanced. We have several events coming up over this spring term including Year 11, 9, 8 and 7 Parents' Evening, Year 9 Options Evening, termly data two and reports for all Year groups to name but a few. As always, a letter detailing the key information for events will be sent this week for half term three.

As we begin our Spring term our on-site testing takes place during an extended Form time today. All information has been sent out by Mrs Doherty and only those children with consent will be tested. Any children who test positive will need to be collected and isolate as per Government guidelines. Following the announcement from the Government, face coverings must now be worn in classrooms as well as in communal areas. As a school, we are very much looking forward to getting back to the normal routines and rhythms of school life. Within our lessons we continue to follow our broad, balanced and diverse curriculum in order to educate and develop our children to become global Catholic citizens.

Our local parish of St Ann's have said they will be running a new Confirmation programme starting in February. This will be open to anyone in Year 9 (and above) who has not yet been confirmed. Those who missed Confirmation for whatever reason are particularly welcome. If you would like to register for the new programme, please email the parish to let them know (stannsheadleholme@gmail.com). The sessions will be on Friday evenings, from 7 – 8:30pm.

Yesterday, we celebrated the Baptism of Jesus which also marks the beginning of his public ministry and echoes the theme of the Epiphany. The Baptism of the Lord is another manifestation announcing Jesus' divinity to all of his first followers and to the disciples of John the Baptist. Yesterday also marks the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God - the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. As baptised Catholics, we too have God's life and Spirit within us. But because we have been baptised into the life and ministry of Jesus, we are also called to action. Pope Francis tells us: 'Because of their baptism, all members of the People of God have become missionary disciples.' In other words, we are called to put our faith into action.

I hope you have a fantastic week. If you need anything please do not hesitate to get in touch headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher