



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

5th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Summer Term Week 12 Headteacher Update

We begin this week, which will actually be our final full teaching week before we move to Curriculum Excellence Week (CEW) on 12th July. Mrs Pickles will be sending out a letter tomorrow which will give further details and key information as to what CEW will look like this year. Obviously, due to the current Covid-19 pandemic there will be a shift from the norm.

It was fantastic to be able to welcome many of the newest members of our St James' family on Thursday at school. The children were so excited to witness first-hand the excellent teaching and learning, facilities and ethos of St James'. Unfortunately, some Year 6 children were unable to join us due to bubble closures or self-isolation periods. To this end, when we return in September, **Monday 6th will be for our new Year 7 children only**. All other children will return to school at 8.40am on Tuesday 7th September.

We have had several reports this week that children who are travelling home on the buses are not wearing a face covering. Please can I ask you to speak to your child about the importance of wearing a face covering in order to keep themselves and others around them safe. A reminder if your child, or anyone in the household, has any of the symptoms: a temperature of 37.8°C or above, a new persistent cough or loss of, or change to, sense of taste or smell, they do not come into school, and you book a PCR test.

In yesterday's Gospel we heard about Jesus returning to his hometown and the people in the synagogue being astounded by his preaching and questioned where a man of such humble origins had acquired his teachings. How often have we heard, or asked, that question "Who does he think he is?". It speaks of jealousy and a begrudging and small heart. Instead, the question should be, "Who am I to judge my neighbour?". Jesus was "amazed" at His neighbours' unbelief. He had lived among them for thirty years and all they saw was "the carpenter, the son of Mary". As we reflect on this, we ask for the grace to know Jesus better and to live our lives as witnesses to his power and glory.

Have a lovely week and if you need us, you know where we are headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher