



18th July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Summer Term Week 13 Headteacher Update

As we enter the final week of the academic year, I wish to thank you as parents and carers for giving your child and our school your full support throughout the academic year. Staff have worked tirelessly to ensure your child receives the very best education and opportunities.

Our trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach takes place on Wednesday with the vast majority of the school opting to take part. Hopefully this will be a lovely way to conclude our final full day of the academic year.

We say goodbye to several staff this summer including Mrs Peters and Mrs Malins who are both retiring after a combined 27 years at St James', Mr Lindo and Mrs Gill who have gained promotion in other schools, Miss Todd who is moving to another school, Mrs Doherty leaves to be School Business Manager in a larger school, Miss Outhwaite who is relocating and Mr Kerkham who leaves us to begin his journey on his PGCE to become a teacher. I am sure you will join me in wishing them the very best for the future.

A reminder that Thursday 21st July is our final day and that school finishes at 12.15pm. The school buses have been ordered and will be onsite at this time ready to take children home for the summer holiday. We return to school on Monday 5th September for Year 7 only and all other Year groups return on Tuesday 6th September. GCSE results day is 25th August and children can collect their results from 9 – 10.30am. In preparation for September and following the letter from Mr Maidment last week, please can I ask that **all parents/carers ensure that they have downloaded the Satchel One app and the My Ed app**. Login details will follow Mrs Pickles in September.

On Tuesday last week our Summer Showcase took place. This was a fantastic event with the children performing various pieces of music accompanied with phenomenal singing. A huge thank you to our Music department for ensuring this event took place and it was great to see so many parents supporting.

Our summer newsletter will be emailed out tomorrow. I would ask that you read all the information it contains, as it really does showcase what has gone on in each Year group and at a whole school level over the summer term. The newsletter also contains information about our charitable activities which have taken place throughout the year. As a sneak preview we have raised £3627 for charities throughout this academic year including £2631 for Christian Aid (our chosen school charity for this year), £514 for Caritas and £482 for Cafod. A huge congratulations to the children and a thank you to all our parents and carers for your support.

In yesterday's Gospel, we are given the two complementary sides of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We have Mary who sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to him as he spoke and Martha who prepared and served the food. Neither one is better than the other; both ways of experiencing and encountering Jesus are an essential part of daily life. We all know people who like Martha seem to be busy and active all the time. Conversely, we also know those who have the habit of letting others do all the work. Neither extreme is good for us, we cannot be busy all the time and neither should we sit back and let others do all the work. What we all need is a balance of being active and engaged but also taking time to rest and renew ourselves.



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

I hope you have a lovely final week and a great summer spending time with your children, friends and family. Our staff will be doing the same and therefore will not be responding to emails until we return to school in September.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher

| Date | Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|-----------------|
| 18 th July | Chester Zoo Alternative activities in school | Spain Trip Chester Zoo Alternative activities in school | RE activities | Work Experience |
| 19 th July | English activities | Spain Trip Humanities activities including a trip to Stanley Green | Expressive Arts Trip PE activities | |
| 20 th July | Blackpool Pleasure Beach Alternative activities in school | Spain Trip Blackpool Pleasure Beach Alternative activities in school | Expressive Arts Trip Blackpool Pleasure Beach Alternative activities in school | |
| 21 st July | Spiritual reflection, assembly and Form time activities. School closes at 12.15pm | | | |