



13th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Autumn Term Week 2 Headteacher Update

Firstly, I have been thoroughly impressed with how all our children have been since the start of school last week. They have been engaged, enthusiastic and have worked really hard in their first few days. All children have already begun to demonstrate our school values of Family, Faith and Excellence. Can I take the opportunity to thank you as parents and carers for your support and ask that you continue to pray for our school family as we move through the school year.

At St James' we aim to always keep parents and carers informed of what is going on in school and if you don't already do so, we recommend you follow our school Twitter account which uses the Twitter handle @StJamesCheadle. We regularly update our website and all letters can also be found at <http://www.stjamescheadle.co.uk/letters>. As way of a summary, key dates for parents to note for the first half of the autumn term are listed below. More information around each event will follow in due course.

- Monday 20th – Wednesday 22nd September: Year 7 CATS
- Thursday 23rd September: School closes at 1:15pm and Open Evening 5-8pm
- Monday 27th September – Monday 4th October: Year 7 SAVIO trips
- Thursday 30th September: Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening
- Wednesday 6th October: Year 11 group photo and Year 10 portrait photos
- Thursday 7th October: Year 7 Welcome Mass
- Tuesday 19th – Wednesday 20th October: Year 7 retreat
- Thursday 21st October: Year 10 & 11 Careers Convention
- Friday 22nd October: School closes at 3pm

Attendance last week was extremely impressive from all Year groups and as a reminder the **only time a child should not be in school due to Covid-19 is if they personally have tested positive**. Mrs Hanley, our Attendance Officer, must be informed and your child will then be able to access Zoom lessons whilst they are isolating.

Yesterday at Mass the readings challenged us to open our minds and truly see how Jesus is both human and divine. In the Gospel, Peter identifies Jesus as the Messiah, and Jesus foretells his suffering and death. It is interesting to note that St Peter's profession "You are the Messiah" happens in the very middle of the Gospel of Mark. The previous chapters focus on the preaching of Jesus and his ministry. After this profession, the Gospel moves in the direction of Jerusalem and the suffering and death of Jesus. So too, our profession of Jesus as Lord of all should enable us to move forward in our own lives, despite the cost.

I hope your child is looking forward to their second week of the 2021/22 academic year. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to get in touch headteacherpa@stjamescheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher