



# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

24<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Summer Term Week 7 Headteacher Update**

I cannot believe the final week of half term is upon us. I hope your child has had a fantastic half term and enjoyed all of the opportunities that have been afforded to them due to the hard work of staff.


This week we say a final goodbye to our Year 11 students. Our current Year 11 have spent the last five years striving for excellence in all that they have done and as parents I hope you are as proud of them as we are. Obviously, like all students, their last 18 months have been significantly impacted by Covid-19 nevertheless, we have ensured that they have been able to celebrate their time with us. We will be celebrating with a Leavers Mass to take place at Christ Church 24<sup>th</sup> June 7pm and a Prize Evening in November in school. Following the email from Mrs Pickles, please can you complete the Google form for the Leavers Mass at this link <https://forms.gle/WXVQF4sJ6nCAci6h6>. As a Catholic school, with our first value of Family and second of Faith, these are fitting ways to say goodbye to our Year 11 children and will support their spiritual well-being. We have also ensured that they are able to celebrate as a Year group family on the last day with an assembly led by their Heads of Year, Ms Woods and Dr Nye, an opportunity to sign shirts after the leavers' assembly and finally they will receive a bespoke keyring from their Form Tutor which will serve as a keepsake and reminder of their last 5 years at St James'. A reminder that our Year 11 children will leave site at approximately 12.15pm and they will need to make their own arrangements to get home as the buses will not be here. We wish them all the very best for the future and look forward to celebrating their results on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

As our current Year 11s leave us, we have successfully appointed our new Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl and our Family, Faith and Excellence prefects who will pick up the mantle from our outgoing prefect team. The senior prefects will be presented with their new ties this week which they can wear with pride. Our remaining prefects will be presented with their new ties and badges after half term. I want to congratulate each and everyone of our Year 10 students who put themselves forward and took part in the interview process. They were an absolute credit to themselves and their families.

Yesterday was the feast of Pentecost when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace and then commissions them to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. This week and during half term let us be guided by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our everyday lives.

I hope you have a great final week of the half term and a lovely half term break when it comes. A reminder that no homework will be set over half term for Key Stage 3. To support our staff wellbeing, staff will not be on their emails to ensure that they are refreshed for the final seven weeks of the academic year. As always thank you for your continued support and if you need anything please do not hesitate to get in touch [headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

  
Mr A Pontifex  
Headteacher