



28th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring Term Week 7 Headteacher Update

As you are aware we had a Section 8 Ofsted Inspection last week. Inspectors focused on the curriculum within several faculty areas. They also looked at our Personal Development offer and the behaviour of our children amongst numerous other things. Thank you to all those Parents/Carers who completed the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire and a special thank you to those who filled in the free text answers. It is clear from the answers how much our Parents/Carers value and support all that is on offer at St James'. We are extremely proud of our whole school Family. Unfortunately, I am unable to share the outcome of the inspection with you, as it is currently undergoing quality assurance. As soon as it is published, I will be sending a copy to all.

This week mock examinations begin for our Year 11 children. All of our Year 11s have been made aware that in the highly unlikely event that examinations do not go ahead in the summer of 2022 then these mock examinations will form part of their Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG). We wish our children all the very best over the next two weeks and please do keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

As part of our commitment to our Faith, each Year group are having their own retreat during the academic year. This week our Year 8 children will be taking part in their retreat on Monday or Tuesday. All information has been previously sent by Mr Cawley on 12th January and is available [here](#).

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, an important time in the Church's year and indeed in our school, as we begin the journey through Lent. We will therefore be having Ash Wednesday services on Wednesday 2nd March in our Main Hall. Each Year group will be brought to the Main Hall to take part in the service and receive ashes. As our Year 11 children are in mock examinations this week, they are invited to join the staff at 8.15am. In addition, Pope Francis has decreed Wednesday as a day of fasting and prayer for peace in Ukraine. We will join together as a school family to pray for peace.

Towards the end of March, Christ Church, Heald Green are leading a Parish Mission within the Church and all are cordially invited, you can see more information about this on our Twitter feed. Fr Tony, the Parish Priest, has kindly invited our school to be involved and we will be hosting one of the guest speakers, John Pridmore, to share his incredible story with some of our children in school.

A final reminder that our bike storage is being upgraded this week. To that end I would ask that your child does not ride their bike to school this week as unfortunately there is nowhere for them to securely store their bike. Hopefully the works should be completed by the end of this week.

In the Gospel yesterday, Jesus is teaching us to evaluate ourselves and our actions, before turning judgement to those around us. We must look at ourselves, and apply the scriptures to ourselves, before we seek to help others. When it comes to sin it can often be easier to point out somebody else's shortcomings, rather than to focus on our own. Although it can be a difficult task to focus on times we ourselves have not acted in accordance with God's will, reflecting on our own actions will ultimately allow us to be closer to God, and also allows us to serve those around us better. Let us use this week as a period of reflection on our own actions.

Have a great week and thank you for your continued support. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to get in contact headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Yours faithfully

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With God
all things are possible

Matthew 19:26