



# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

7th June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Summer Term Week 8 Headteacher Update**

I hope you have all had a lovely half term as a family and managed to enjoy the sunshine throughout the week.

You may be aware that the numbers of Covid cases are increasing within Stockport. As I detailed in my letter from 25<sup>th</sup> May, we received our first positive Covid case for a considerable amount of time before half term. We have also received confirmation from a parent that their child tested positive over the half term period. Having spoken to a number of my Headteacher colleagues from across Stockport over the half term break it is clear they have seen a large increase in the number of children testing positive. It is therefore crucial that I remind you to continue to carry out the Lateral Flow Testing twice weekly and 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. Having seen what is happening in other schools in Stockport it is clear that we will need to ask children to self-isolate in the not-too-distant future if and when cases are detected. A reminder that if children are asked to self-isolate, they will be able to access Zoom lessons, following their normal timetable, whilst the other children are in school.

As we enter the last half term of what has been a very strange year, we remember the early stages of the pandemic when our church buildings were closed; Mass continued, but only behind closed doors, live streaming became the mode of liturgical engagement, and we were offered the notion of 'spiritual communion' rather than actually receiving the sacramental Body and Blood of Christ. To find ourselves without access to Holy Communion, was for many a feeling of dislocation from the Church. As we celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi this year, and with the easing of restrictions, it is apt that we are reminded that the Eucharist is not something to be taken for granted. Yesterday's feast does not just remind us about what we receive every time we celebrate the Eucharist - it is fundamentally about who we are - we are the Church, the Body of Christ.

Thank you for your continued support and as we enter our final half term of the academic year if you need anything please do not hesitate to get in touch [headteacherpa@stjameschadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjameschadle.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex  
Headteacher