



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

14th June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Summer Term Week 9 Headteacher Update

I hope you have had a lovely weekend and managed to enjoy the sunshine. Last week was a fantastic week at school with all four Year groups displaying excellent attitudes towards their final half term of the academic year. They all seem to be back into the routine and rhythm of school life and are meeting our high expectations.

I am pleased to report that we had no positive cases of Covid-19 in school last week. You may have seen from various press releases that schools in the Greater Manchester areas are to receive an “enhanced support package” in order to help reduce the increasing spread of the Delta Covid-19 variant. This increased support could be various measures such as the reintroduction of testing on site and/or the reintroduction of compulsory face mask wearing. I will keep you updated if more information comes to light. As we are yet to see an increase in cases at St James', we are going to maintain our current risk assessment as is but keep it under constant review should the situation change. A huge thank you to parents for their continued support in ensuring that your child continues 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.

As we move towards Curriculum Excellence Week (CEW), can I take this opportunity to remind you that our Year 7 and Year 8 children may participate in our visit to Chester Zoo and Years 7 to Year 10 may attend Alton Towers, unless they have been excluded this academic year. The Alton Towers deadline for payment and consent was Friday 11th but this has been extended for a week to allow all parents/carers the opportunity to pay. Please use ParentPay and submit by this Friday, 18th June. This will assist greatly in the planning. Staff are busy planning a wide range of activities for CEW and more details about this will be provided in the coming weeks.

With the G7 summit taking place there was a lovely link to the readings we heard yesterday at Mass which celebrate God's creation. As followers of Jesus, we are called to plant the seeds of faith, hope, forgiveness, justice and peace. We are called to plant the “seeds” of the Gospel message that each of us have, wherever and whenever we can and we need to believe and have faith that in God's own time, not ours, those seeds will become a fruitful harvest for God's Kingdom. Jesus also goes further in yesterday's Gospel and uses the humble mustard seed as an example of the Kingdom of God. This is a tiny, almost impossible to see seed, yet, when it is sown, watered and cared for, it grows into a great tree. All of the children at St James' are “mustard seeds”, each of them having the ability to accomplish great things for God's Kingdom.

I hope you have an excellent week and if you need us, you know where we are
headteacherpa@stjameschadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher