



23rd October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: End of Term Update

Firstly, let me take this opportunity to thank all of the St James' family for making this first half term back a success. Our pupils have returned to learning both in the classroom and virtually with enthusiasm and have shown how dedicated they are to their own learning, it truly is a pleasure to have them back in school.

Despite all the new ways of working, pupils have responded well and have displayed our three values of family, faith and excellence. We have made a good start to our fundraising efforts for CAFOD having raised over £500 so far, please continue to support this great cause. Sports practices have continued in Year group bubbles, the library has had lots of events taking place and we have seen great engagement from our Year 7 students in particular. We had European Day of Languages with students showcasing their baking skills with imaginative, language themed cakes. Year 11 showed great commitment in their applications for prefect positions and are proudly wearing their prefect ties. We are very proud of the many ways St James' students engage with school life and this has been particularly noticeable during these challenging times.

After the half term break, online Zoom lessons will be available for any pupil who is absent due to Covid related issues such as testing positive or self-isolating. This will allow students to continue with their studies at home to reduce any impact on their progress and learning. More information about how students can access these lessons will be provided shortly. In particular, this will be vitally important for the Year 10 and Year 11 students who will be sitting their mock GCSE exams after the half term break. Also, for the wellbeing of our pupils, essential homework will only be set for KS4 over the half term break.

I would also like to remind you that in order to keep as many students in school as possible, it is essential that you do not send your child into school if they are unwell. If they, or any members of their household, have any of the symptoms listed below, please do not send them into school and book a test and inform school of the result:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Finally, we hope that you will not need to contact school however, if your child **tests positive for Covid-19 during the half term break** please email coronavirus@stjamesheadle.co.uk and include:

1. Symptom start date
2. Last date in school
3. Test date
4. Result date
5. The names of any children they have been in contact with at break/lunchtime up to 48 hours before the onset of symptoms
6. The names of any children they have been in contact with during travel to and from school up to 48 hours before the onset of symptoms



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

7. The names of any children they have been in contact with during extracurricular or PE activities up to 48 hours before the onset of symptoms including outside of school

Please note this email address will only respond to confirmed positive cases of children. For all other enquiries please contact office@stjamesheadle.co.uk

For clarity contact is defined as:

- face-to-face contact (within one metre)
- coughed on
- face-to-face conversation within one metre
- skin-to-skin physical contact
- contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- been within 2 metres for more than 15 minutes
- travelled in a vehicle

Thank you for your continued support throughout this unprecedented time, I wish you a peaceful and restful break over half term.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher