



# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

## Re: Summer Term Week 1 Headteacher Update

Welcome back, I hope you had a restful and refreshing Easter break and found time to relax with family and friends.

As a Catholic Voluntary Aided school, we must contribute 10% of capital building work costs. To help meet this requirement, the Diocesan School Building Fund asks parents for a voluntary contribution of £15 per pupil per year. These contributions have funded important improvements to the school estate previously, including new LED lighting, ceiling tiles, a fire-suppression system, and will soon support the replacement of our ageing temporary buildings. When there aren't enough parental contributions, the shortfall must be taken from the school's main budget, the money used for pupils' day-to-day education. The school understands that not all families can contribute, but any support makes a meaningful difference and I urge you to contribute via Parent Pay where possible. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far, it really will make a difference to our planned improvements this year.

This final term of the year is often our busiest, but also one of the most rewarding. As we start our new term, we already know so much will happen over the next three months. Our Year 11 children are now in the final run up to the examination season. Please keep all our children, but especially Year 11, in your thoughts and prayers. As we look ahead to this half term there is a Bank Holiday families need to be aware of as school will be closed on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, the early May Bank Holiday.

In the Gospel yesterday, we heard how, "Eight days later, Jesus came," and stood among His disciples, bringing peace where there had been fear and doubt. This powerful moment reminds us that even when we struggle to believe, or feel uncertain, Jesus meets us where we are and offers reassurance, hope, and understanding. Like Thomas the Apostle, we may sometimes question or seek proof, yet we are gently called to trust, to have faith, and to recognise the presence of Christ in our daily lives. As a school family, may we be encouraged by this message to support one another with patience and compassion, and to live out our faith with confidence and courage.

Have a great week 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

