



15th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Autumn Term Week 10 Headteacher Update

It is hard to believe that we are already starting the third week of our second half term. I want to begin by thanking all parents for their continued support. A special thank you to those parents who attended our parental forum meeting last week. The parent school partnership is extremely important for us all at St James'. Four items were raised at the parental forum which I would like to bring to the attention of all parents:

1. School trips; all trips which are scheduled to take place between now and October 2022 are available on the website here: <http://www.stjamesheadle.co.uk/trips/>. The individual trip leaders will share more information as each trip is advertised to the children
2. Uniform policy; the expectations of the children's uniform can be found here on our website: <http://www.stjamesheadle.co.uk/uniform/>. It would also be prudent to read this alongside our school's behaviour policy which is available here: <http://www.stjamesheadle.co.uk/statutory-information/>
3. My Ed app; some parents were unsure how to download the app. If you search on the app store for My Ed you will be able to download this as you do for any app. If you require any technical assistance please do not hesitate to contact Mr Millar at t.millar@stjamesheadle.co.uk who will be able to support you in this process. This will enable you to see when your child is awarded with reward or behaviour points
4. Bike safety; it was reported by one of our parents that they had seen a child from our school performing a "wheelie" on their bike. Please can I ask that if your child rides their bike to school that you speak to them about the importance of being sensible and adhering to the Highway Code

You may have read in the press about children targeting teachers with TikTok videos. Sadly, St James' has been no different in this respect. There have been a number of posts where children have altered pictures of teachers, created videos of teachers and then posted them on TikTok. Obviously, this is highly inappropriate and extremely distressing for the staff who are targeted. I must make it clear that the children who are posting it are involved in behaviour which could lead to them being excluded from school and, in extreme cases, being the subject of a police investigation. I strongly encourage you as responsible parents/carers to check if your child has TikTok and if they do, for you to review the content to support the school.

Following a successful round of recruitment, I am delighted to let you know that we have been successful in appointing an Emmaus Manager (Senior Pastoral Manager). Miss O'Hara starts with us today and will be supporting our Form Tutors and Heads of Year in ensuring that your child's care is paramount during their time at St James'. Miss O'Hara will initially be the Pastoral Manager for all Year groups. As we look to strengthen our Pastoral Team further we are currently recruiting for a mental health and safeguarding co-ordinator as well as further additional pastoral and SEND admin support. If you know of anyone who may be suitable for these positions, please do direct them to our website at: <http://www.stjamesheadle.co.uk/jobs/>

Last week Mrs Birch led our school Family through remembrance assemblies and yesterday we celebrated Remembrance Sunday. As we 'remember' those who have given their lives through war in service of our country we need to keep in mind that the world could have been a very different place for us without their sacrifice, which cannot and should not be forgotten. As the Lord commanded the apostles to 'Do this in



ST JAMES'
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

memory of me', we pray that we may live in the harmony for which Christ prayed; and to our fallen we say 'We will remember them'.

I hope you have a lovely week, if you need anything please do not hesitate to get in touch
headteacherpa@stjameschadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher