



28<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Autumn Term Week 12 Headteacher Update**

Following a successful round of recruitment, I am delighted to let you know that we have been successful in appointing our new Pastoral Manager. Mrs McCarthy starts with us on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 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'. Mrs McCarthy joins our Emmaus team which already includes Miss O'Hara, our Emmaus Manager, and Miss Houghton, our Mental Health and Well-being co-ordinator.

This week our mock examinations begin for our Year 11 children. Dr Guscott has delivered an assembly to these children to highlight the importance of these mock examinations. Please ensure that your child comes to these examinations fully equipped, on time and follows the exam regulations shared last week in assembly. All of the children have been made aware that their scripts from the mock examinations will be retained by school in the highly unlikely event that the 2023 examination series does not take place. In addition, it is vital that your child continues to revise and follows the personalised revision plan provided earlier this month. We wish our children all the very best over the next two weeks and please do keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

A reminder that our Year 10 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday this week from 4pm to 7pm. As per Dr Guscott's letter this event will be held virtually. Please do be aware that staff may be conducting this from home so there could be some background noise and a reminder that appointment times will be tight. Thank you in advance for your co-operation and understanding. As always, following this evening there will be a parental voice questionnaire, please can I ask you to complete this as it really does help us as a school with forward planning, it should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete and will be sent to you on Google Forms.

Our Year 10 retreats take place this week with 10J, E and C attending on Tuesday and 10A, M and S attending on Wednesday. They are being led by the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team at the Ladybridge Connect Club in Cheadle Hulme. It is a wonderful opportunity for our children to pause and reflect and give some time over to God, as we begin Advent. I am sure they will be enriching days for our children and staff involved, as they live out their school value of Faith.

Yesterday we celebrated the first Sunday of Advent; we were given the opportunity to focus our thoughts on hope. This is so appropriate given everything that is currently going on in our world. We continue to remember the people of Ukraine in our thoughts and prayers even though sometimes it is no longer headline news. We now have the opportunity to reflect, pray and eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth this Christmas. Our two Advent wreaths are now in school, in reception and in our Chapel. They serve as a reminder and a countdown as we build to the great feast that is Christmas.



**ST JAMES'**  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Have a fantastic week and if you need us, you know where we are  
[headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex  
Headteacher