



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

19th January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring Term Week 3 Headteacher Update

As we move into the third week of the Spring Term, it is encouraging to see children now fully settled back into school life. Classrooms are calm and purposeful, routines are well established, and children are engaging positively with their learning. This point in the term is important, as it is often consistency rather than quick wins that leads to real progress.

This week our staff are finalising the termly data two and reports for our Year 11 children. The termly data and their reports, as always, will contain information on your child's current working grade, attitude to learning, current attendance and areas for them to work on as we enter the crucial months ahead of their final external examinations. We have deliberately timed the termly data and reports to aid discussions at the Year 11 Parents' Evening which takes place on 29th January.

Across the school, there continues to be a strong focus on high-quality learning. Children are being encouraged to take pride in their work, listen carefully to feedback, and develop the resilience needed to improve. For our older children, particularly those in Year 11, this is a key period for building effective independent study habits and maintaining excellent attendance, both of which will support them as the year progresses.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in reinforcing high expectations around punctuality, uniform, homework, and behaviour. The partnership between home and school plays a vital role in helping our young people flourish both academically and personally.

In yesterday's Gospel from John, we hear the words: *"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."* John the Baptist points others towards Jesus, not drawing attention to himself, but recognising goodness, truth, and hope when he sees it. This message reminds us of the importance of recognising what is right and striving to live in a way that reflects kindness, humility, and responsibility. As a school family, we encourage our children to make positive choices each day. Choices that reflect care for one another, honesty in their work, and perseverance when learning feels challenging.

Wishing you and your family a brilliant week. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school at headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher

