



ST JAMES'
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

19th May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Summer Term Week 4 Headteacher Update

I cannot quite believe we've already reached the final week of this half term. It's been a short but incredibly full and rewarding four weeks. I hope your child has had a fantastic half term and has taken full advantage of the many opportunities made possible by the dedication and hard work of our staff.

A gentle reminder that our Year 11 children are now fully immersed in their GCSE examinations, which continue this week. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they navigate this important and challenging time.

A reminder that our rewards trips are fast approaching. Year 7 to 9 will be heading to Blackpool Pleasure Beach, while Year 10 will be visiting Alton Towers. Please note that the deadline for payment is final; unfortunately, we are unable to accept any late submissions.

Advanced notice that on Thursday 5th June, the first week back after half term, our Apprenticeship Evening takes place for Year 10 in school at 6pm. If your child is in Year 10 and considering an apprenticeship or is unsure of what they want to do for their next steps, then this is a great opportunity to get some of the latest information about applying for apprenticeships locally. You will also be able to speak to Mrs Rarity about how to access additional support in applying for apprenticeships as your child moves into Year 11.

Yesterday in the Gospel, Jesus tells us, "*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another.*" This simple yet profound message lies at the heart of all we strive for at St James'. In our daily interactions; whether in the classroom, on the yard, or in the wider community. We encourage our children to show compassion, kindness, and respect for one another. Love, in its many forms, underpins the strength of our school family, guiding our actions and shaping the character of our young people as they grow into thoughtful, responsible global Catholic citizens.

Wishing you a fantastic week and a restful half term break when it arrives. Our staff will also be taking a well-earned break to spend time with their families and will not be available via email during this time. Thank you in advance for respecting this. If you need any support during the final five days of term, please do not hesitate to contact us at headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher