



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

26th January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring Term Week 4 Headteacher Update

As we move into Week 4 of the term, I would like to thank you for your continued support and partnership with the school. There is a strong sense of focus and purpose across St James', and it has been a pleasure to see children fully engaged in both their learning and wider school life.

I would like to commend our pupils for the positive attitudes they are demonstrating in lessons. Classrooms remain calm and purposeful environments, and children are responding well to high expectations around behaviour, presentation of work, and engagement with feedback. These routines are essential in supporting strong progress, and your continued support at home in reinforcing these expectations is greatly appreciated. Attendance remains a key priority for us. Being in school every day has a significant impact on learning, confidence, and wellbeing. Thank you to the vast majority of families who ensure their child attends regularly and arrives punctually. Where attendance is more challenging, please do contact the school so that we can work together to provide appropriate support.

Looking ahead, our Year 11 Parents' Evening will take place this week via School Cloud. If you have not yet made an appointment, I would encourage you to do so as a matter of urgency. You will receive your child's termly data in advance of the evening, and I would recommend taking time to review this beforehand to support meaningful discussions with subject teachers. In particular, please pay close attention to your child's Current Working Grade, Attitude to Learning, and attendance.

As a Catholic community, we are reminded in yesterday's Gospel that "Jesus went to Capernaum so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled." This moment reminds us that Jesus deliberately steps into places of uncertainty and darkness to bring hope, light, and renewal. Capernaum, an ordinary and often overlooked place, becomes the setting where God's promises are realised. As a school family, we are called to recognise this same mission in our own daily lives: to be people of faith, compassion, and light, ensuring that through our words and actions we reflect Christ's presence to those around us, especially when it is needed most.

Have a fantastic week, and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any support at headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher

