



29<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Spring Term Week 4 Headteacher Update**

Today, our Year 11 Football team is set to compete against St Ambrose College, Trafford, in the sixth round of the English Schools FA Under 16s Arnold Clark Schools' Cup. The match against St Ambrose College will be hosted there and is scheduled to commence at 2 pm. Having triumphed over Wickersley School & Sports College with a 2-0 victory in the previous round, a win today would mark the furthest our school has progressed in this competition in recent years.

This week our Year 11 Parents' Evening takes place via School Cloud. If you have not already made an appointment, I would encourage you to do this as a matter of urgency. You will receive your child's termly data before the evening and I would suggest that you read it before the Parents' Evening on Thursday to aid your discussions with class teachers. Please pay particular attention to your child's Current Working Grade, Attitude to Learning and their current attendance. Dr Guscott has already written to Parents of Year 11 about the forthcoming mock examinations in March. As always, we ask for your continued support in encouraging your child to prepare thoroughly for these assessments and please do encourage them to attend the catch-up sessions.

A final reminder of our upcoming production of "Annie," which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. The dedication and enthusiasm of both our children and staff have been truly inspiring as they work diligently to bring you a spectacular showcase of talent and entertainment. I invite you to witness the culmination of their hard work and creativity in this delightful performance. To ensure you do not miss out on this exciting event, I kindly remind you to purchase your tickets through ParentPay. Your support will undoubtedly contribute to making our production of "Annie" a memorable experience for everyone involved. We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you.

This week we have an upcoming assembly for our Year 9 children, where they will have the opportunity to learn about T Level qualifications from representatives of Cheadle College. This assembly aims to provide valuable insights into the various educational pathways available to our children as they approach the crucial decision-making phase for their future endeavours. Additionally, I would like to extend an invitation to parents/carers who might be interested in volunteering to speak at our Careers Cafe event scheduled for the 11<sup>th</sup> March. Your experiences and insights could greatly benefit our children as they explore potential career paths. If you are interested in participating, please feel free to email [d.rarity@stjamescheadle.co.uk](mailto:d.rarity@stjamescheadle.co.uk) for further details. Your involvement is highly valued, and we appreciate your support in enhancing the career awareness initiatives for our children.

As we gather for another week of learning and growth, we reflect upon the Gospel message of the fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time yesterday. The scriptures invite us to ponder the authority of Jesus as he teaches with power and conviction. In a world filled with competing voices, our Catholic school seeks to provide a grounding in the enduring truths found in the teachings of Christ. It is a call for us to recognise the authority of love, compassion, and justice in our lives. As we guide our children in their academic pursuits, let us also nurture within them a deep understanding of the values that underpin their education. Together, may we embrace the transformative power of knowledge guided by faith, preparing our children to navigate the complexities of the world with wisdom and grace.



**ST JAMES'**  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Have a great week and if you need anything, please do not hesitate to get in touch  
[headteacherpa@stjamescheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamescheadle.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex  
Headteacher