



20th May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Summer Term Week 6 Headteacher Update

I cannot believe the final week of half term is upon us. I hope your child has had a wonderful half term and enjoyed all of the opportunities that have been afforded to them due to the hard work of our staff. I am really looking forward to interviewing the applicants for our Senior Prefect positions with Mr Maidment and Mr Reid this week and I look forward to updating parents on our successful applicants after half term.

As we reflect on the Gospel reading from yesterday for Pentecost, we are reminded of the powerful moment when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, filling them with courage and wisdom. This pivotal event, often considered the "birthday of the Church," highlights the transformative power of the Spirit in guiding and inspiring us. Just as the apostles were empowered to speak in many languages and spread the message of love and unity, each of the children at St James' possess unique gifts and talents that can contribute to our school family and the wider world. Let the spirit of Pentecost encourage them to embrace these gifts with confidence, to support one another, and to pursue their goals with determination and faith. The Holy Spirit is with them, guiding them on their journey, and empowering them to make a positive impact in all they do.

A reminder that our Year 11 children are well into the thick of their GCSE examinations which continue this week. Please continue to keep all of our Year 11 children in your thoughts and prayers.

Over the weekend Miss Hewson, along with several staff, led our Duke of Edinburgh Silver final expedition. The children were once again an absolute credit to their school and their families. These kinds of events do not happen by chance so a huge thank you to all staff involved, but in particular Miss Hewson.

A reminder about the CEW trips to Chester Zoo and Blackpool Pleasure Beach. Please be aware that **anyone who misses the deadline of this Friday will not be able to attend the trips and this deadline cannot be extended.**

I want to inform you that we will be conducting a practice lockdown procedure on 21st June. This exercise is a vital part of our commitment to ensuring the safety and security of all our children and staff. I understand that this may raise questions or concerns, and I want to provide you with ample notice so that you have the opportunity to discuss any queries you may have. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions in the coming weeks. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work together to keep our school community safe.

Have a super week and a lovely half term break when it comes. Our staff will also be taking a well-deserved break too, spending time with their families, and as such will be unavailable via email, thank you in advance for not contacting them. If you need anything in these final five days, please do not hesitate to get in touch headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher