ST JAMES'
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

13th October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Autumn Term Week 7 Headteacher Update

A reminder that this evening, 13th October, at 5pm our Parental Forum takes place. All information has previously been sent by Mr Maidment. If you wish to attend or pass on any feedback, please email Mr Maidment at r.maidment@stjamescheadle.co.uk.

On Thursday last week we celebrated our Year 7 Welcome Mass at St Ann's, Cheadle Hulme. It was lovely to see so many parents and families at this event supporting their child's formal induction to the St James' family. Fr. Samuel spoke about the first reading saying that our children needed to have courage, be strong and do the work! What a simple but powerful message. We look forward to seeing the children develop and grow over the next five years.

We are delighted to continue our partnership with the wonderful charity Bare Necessities, who have previously supported some of our Year 11 pupils by providing prom packs. They are now generously extending their support by donating monthly toiletry packs for our disadvantaged children. To show our appreciation and give something back, we are setting up a short-term collection box in school so that families can donate toiletries. If you would like to contribute, please ask your child to bring any donations to Mrs Rarity.

Bare Necessities Toiletry Bank is a grassroots, volunteer-led charity dedicated to tackling hygiene poverty. Each month, they support 32 charities across five sectors — women, youth and schools, mother and baby, food banks, and street homeless — ensuring that help reaches those who need it most. From their base in Wilmslow, their work extends across Stockport, Macclesfield and Manchester, providing 155 tailor-made tote bags every month containing essential hygiene products for men, women, and teenagers. The charity welcomes donations of full-size, everyday toiletries, feminine hygiene products, dental and baby care items, hotel miniatures, and unused beauty products — all unopened, of course. Your generosity will help Bare Necessities continue their vital work supporting families and individuals in our local communities. You can find more information from the links to Instagram, Facebook and Linkedin.

In yesterday's Gospel, Jesus heals ten lepers, yet only one, a Samaritan, a foreigner, returns to give thanks and praise to God. This moment reminds us of the importance of gratitude, humility, and inclusion. At St James', we strive to live out this message every day by recognising and valuing the gifts and kindness we receive, no matter how small, and by welcoming everyone into our family with open hearts. Just as Jesus highlighted the faith of the one who returned, we are called to notice goodness around us, to say thank you, and to celebrate the diversity that enriches our school family. It is through gratitude and appreciation that our faith deepens, and our school family grows stronger.

Have a fantastic week and if you need anything, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us via email at headteacherpa@stjamescheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher