



28th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Autumn Term Week 8 Headteacher Update

I hope you have had a lovely half term break and spent some quality time as families.

As we look ahead to the next eight or so weeks and the build up to Christmas, there is so much happening at St James'. Firstly, we look forward to celebrating our second whole school Mass of the year on All Saints' Day, a Holy day of obligation, on Friday this week. A huge thank you in advance to Father Mark for giving up his time and celebrating for us. Parents/carers are welcome to attend, please email h.purkiss@stjamescheadle.co.uk if you would like to take up this offer, places are limited and are on a first come first served basis.

Miss Bowers will be writing to you this week to share our events for Half-Term Two however three particular events to highlight; on Thursday 7th November our Year 7 Parent/Tutor evening takes place in school, giving parents/carers the opportunity to discuss how their child has settled into the St James' family. Mr Maidment has already written to all parents/carers, with children in Year 7, to outline this event. Also, on Thursday 14th November we invite our Class of 2024 back to school for the final time in order to recognise their achievements and present them with their GCSE certificates. I would finally like to remind you that school will be closed on Friday 22nd November for our INSET day.

At the start of November, Year 11 have the opportunity to explore their faith with their annual Retreat. This is always a worthwhile and uplifting experience. Year 11 also have their mock exams beginning at the end of November. These are an invaluable experience and provide meaningful feedback to focus them on what they need to work on during their limited remaining time at St James'. Please do encourage your child to follow their revision plan and to speak to their teacher if they have any questions or difficulties.

In yesterday's Gospel from St Mark, Jesus says, "Go; your faith has saved you." This powerful message reminds us of the transformative power of faith and belief in ourselves. At our school, we strive to instil this same sense of faith in our children—faith in their abilities, their potential, and the strength to overcome challenges. Just as the person in the Gospel was healed through their belief, we encourage our children to approach their learning and personal growth with confidence and trust in their journey. With the support of our staff, we hope each child feels empowered to face obstacles, knowing that with faith and effort, they can achieve great things.

I hope you have a brilliant week. As always, if you need anything this week, please do not hesitate to get in touch headteacherpa@stjamescheadle.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher